

Spring 1 Key Question:

How do we know so much about life in Ancient Egypt?

We know about ancient Egyptian life because of evidence such as pyramids, the artefacts found there and methods of communication, such as hieroglyphics.

Religion was very important in Ancient Egypt. They were polytheists – they believed in many gods and goddesses. They thought they were in charge of different parts of their lives. They believed people would live on after death in the 'after life'.

Ancient Egyptians liked to be buried with their treasures and items that were important to them, as they believed they could take them with them to the after life.

Tutankhamun was a pharaoh. He became a pharaoh at 9 years of age and ruled for 10 years. He became famous when his tomb was discovered in the Valley of Kings by Howard Carter (a famous Egyptologist) in 1922.



3100 BC – 332 BC

Key Vocabulary

Civilisation	Meander	Pharaoh
Settler	Crop	Tomb
Settlement	Trade	Cartouche
Archaeologist	Settlement	Sarcophagus
Citizen	Abundance	Rosetta Stone
Source	Scarcity	Canopic jars
Eye-witness	Resources	Pyramids of Giza
Climate	Irrigation	Tutankhamun
Weather	Environment	Mummification
Fertile	Hieroglyphics	Silt

Mummification was the process of preserving a body – this process was very important to Egyptians, as they believed this would prepare the body for the journey to the afterlife.

The bodies of important people, such as pharaohs, were placed in pyramids, which were built as tombs.

Hieroglyphics was a system of writing which used picture and symbols. It was used to keep trade records.

Spring 2 Key Question:

How important was the River Nile to the Ancient Egyptians?

Ancient Egyptians were among the first civilisations to use irrigation systems. The Nile also provided mud for bricks and pots, opportunities for fishing, papyrus reeds (for paper) and a means of transport.

An irrigation system would supply land with water so that crops would grow.

The best form of transport in Ancient Egypt was boats and ships. They travelled along the Nile all the time in order to trade goods with people in other parts of the country.

The River Nile was essential to life in ancient Egypt. Every year, it flooded, leaving behind a black silt that enriched the soil for growing crops. The river was also used to irrigate fields in other areas.

The Nile was important because it provided water for crops, but also fertile soil. People settled here because it was considered a prime location.

Most people lived along and around the Nile and still do today!

The River Nile is the longest river in the world. It is 6,695 km long! It flows into the Mediterranean Sea.

Farmers divided their year into three seasons, based on the cycles of the River Nile.
Akhet – June to September (flooding season)
Peret – October to February (growing season)
Shemu – March to May (harvesting season)