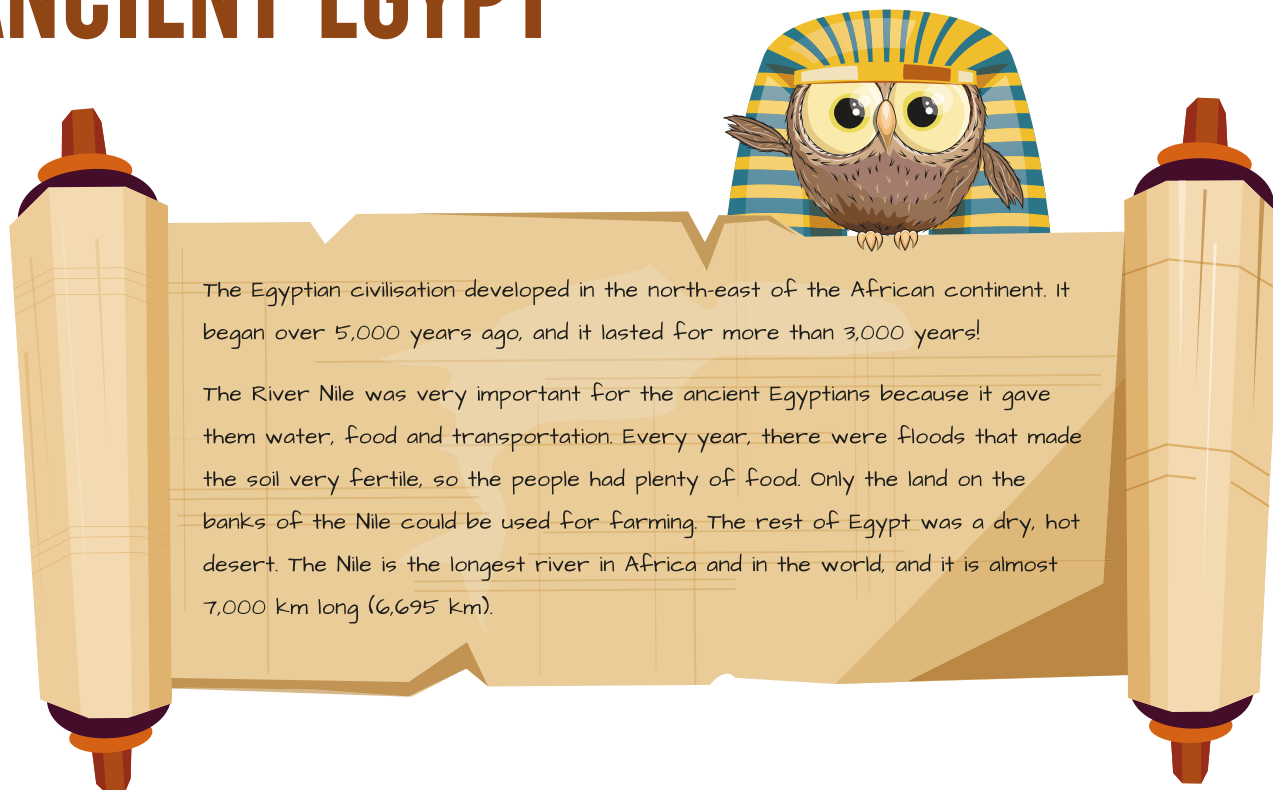


# ANCIENT EGYPT



The Egyptian civilisation developed in the north-east of the African continent. It began over 5,000 years ago, and it lasted for more than 3,000 years!

The River Nile was very important for the ancient Egyptians because it gave them water, food and transportation. Every year, there were floods that made the soil very fertile, so the people had plenty of food. Only the land on the banks of the Nile could be used for farming. The rest of Egypt was a dry, hot desert. The Nile is the longest river in Africa and in the world, and it is almost 7,000 km long (6,695 km).

## EGYPTIAN INVENTIONS

Click & watch

The ancient Egyptians were smart people and they invented many things that we still use today, such as paper, black ink, locks, keys, clocks, the calendar, makeup, wigs and even toothpaste!

The word 'paper' comes from the Egyptian word 'papyrus', which was the name of the plant used to make paper. Papyrus is still made in Egypt, but now it is only a tourist attraction.

Match the pictures with the words!



























- PYRAMID
- MUMMY
- WIG
- PAPYRUS
- CLOCK
- BLACK INK
- TOOHTPASTE
- MAKEUP
- CALENDAR
- LOCK

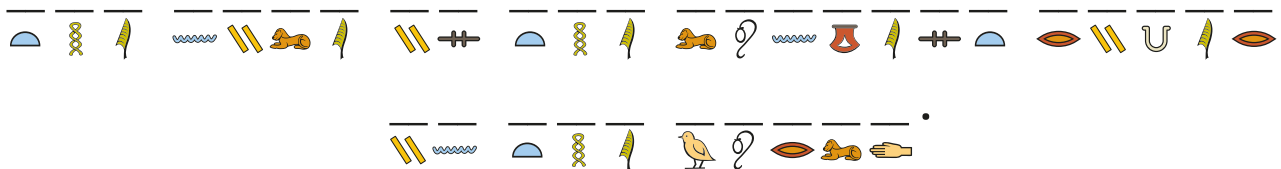


# HIEROGLYPHS

The ancient Egyptians invented their own system of writing called 'hieroglyphics', and they used more than 700 hieroglyphs. Hieroglyphs were symbols that represented different objects, actions and ideas.

**Look at the ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs and use them to read the message below.**

												
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
												
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z



# PHARAOHS

The kings of ancient Egypt were called Pharaohs. People believed they were gods and had special powers. One of the most famous pharaohs was Tutankhamun, who lived in the 14th century B.C. He was nicknamed the Boy King because he became a pharaoh when he was only nine years old!

Tutankhamun died when he was only 18, and his mummy was buried in a golden coffin in a tomb in the Valley of the Kings with lots of treasures. According to the legend, bad things happen to those who disturb the mummy of an Egyptian pharaoh. This is known as 'the curse of the pharaohs.' Indeed, when King Tut's tomb was discovered, many of the people who opened it died soon afterwards under mysterious circumstances.

Cleopatra was the Queen of Egypt during 50 to 30 B.C. She was very intelligent and could speak 9 different languages. Cleopatra was also famous for her beauty. It is said that she took baths in donkey milk to stay young and beautiful, and 700 donkeys were needed to provide the milk for her daily bath! She was the last female pharaoh of Egypt and after her death, Egypt became a Roman province.



# MUMMIES

Click & watch

When a pharaoh or a rich person died, his or her body was turned into a mummy to be preserved for a long time. The body was cleaned and wrapped in linen bandages. The bandages used to wrap a mummy could be 1.6 km long! Then, the body was put into a beautifully decorated sarcophagus.

Ancient Egyptians believed in life after death, so when they put a mummy in the tomb, they left food, furniture, gold and other objects that could be useful in the afterlife.



# PYRAMIDS

The ancient Egyptian pyramids are one of the greatest mysteries of the ancient world. People often wonder how the ancient Egyptians were able to build such gigantic structures without the machines and technology that we have today.

The pyramids were massive tombs for the pharaohs who were buried there with lots of treasures and other things they might have needed in the afterlife. Inside a pyramid there were

tunnels, chambers and secret doors. A lot of thieves were interested in the treasures hidden in the tombs, so there were also traps and curses to keep robbers out.

There are about 138 pyramids in Egypt today. The largest and the oldest pyramid is the Great Pyramid of Giza. The Pyramids are one of the Seven Wonders of the world.

Can you find the words hidden in the pyramid?

M  
U M M  
Y COFFIN  
TOMB GODA  
NCIENT EGYPT P  
APYRUS PHARAOH  
BANDAGE AFTER LIFE  
HIEROGLYPHS NILE GODD  
ESS DESERT TREASURES ARC  
OPHAGUSTRAP CIVILISATION




---

---

---

# EGYPTIAN GODS

Ancient Egyptians believed in more than 2,000 gods. That's quite a lot! In fact, they had gods for everything, and they prayed to different gods in different situations.

Some of the Egyptian gods looked like humans, some were part human and part animal, and some were animals. They looked like crocodiles, jackals, cats or birds.

Cats were sacred animals in ancient Egypt. Most families kept cats as pets, and they believed the animals would bring them good luck. Crocodiles were also popular pets and Sobek, the god of the Nile, had a crocodile head.

**Look at some of the most important Egyptian gods and their descriptions.**  
**Put the names under the correct pictures.**



**Amun-Ra**

king of the gods

head of a falcon with a sun

**Isis**

goddess of life

head of a woman

**Anubis**

god of mummification

head of a jackal

**Bastet**

goddess of protection

head of a cat

**Geb**

Earth god

head of a man with a goose

**Hathor**

goddess of love and joy

head of a cow

**Sekmet**

goddess of war

head of a lioness

**Horus**

god of the sky

head of a falcon

**Thoth**

god of wisdom and knowledge

head of an ibis bird

**Sobek**

god of the Nile

head of a crocodile

**Osiris**

god of death

green skin and white clothes