

Year 4 History Knowledge Organiser – Ancient Egypt

Vocabulary Dozen				
Pyramid	A monumental structure with a square or triangular base and sloping sides that meet in a point at the top, especially one built of stone as a royal tomb in ancient Egypt.			
Tomb	A large vault, typically an underground one, for burying the dead.			
Pharaoh	A ruler in ancient Egypt.			
Hieroglyphs	A picture of an object representing a word, syllable, or sound, as found in ancient Egyptian.		Ancient Egyptian Timeline	
Papyrus	A material prepared in ancient Egypt from the pithy stem of a water plant, used in sheets used for writing or painting on.	6000BC	Early people settled in the Nile valley. During this time, Egyptians began to use clay and silt from the river to make pottery vessels.	
Rosetta Stone	A stone slab found near Rosetta, Egypt, in 1799. It is carved with Greek and hieroglyphic inscriptions that allowed scholars to find the meaning of ancient Egyptian writing.	5000BC	Many Egyptians farmed sheep and cattle around this time. Some Egyptians grew wheat and barley on fertile land on the Nile valley.	
Tutankhamun	King of Egypt who reigned from 1333-23BC. Mostly known for his intact tomb discovered in the Valley of the Kings in 1922.	4500BC	Sails began to be used on Egyptian ships for the first time. Boats were the main form of transport in ancient Egypt.	
Valley of the Kings	A narrow valley of east-central Egypt near the site of ancient Thebes between Karnak and Luxor. The valley contains the tombs of numerous pharaohs of the XVIII, XIX, and XX Dynasties, including that of Tutankhamun.	3500BC	Craftsmen began to create the first wall paintings using hieroglyphics symbols in the Egyptian writing system.	
Howard Carter	British archaeologist who discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun in November 1922.	3000BC	Walled towns and villages were built in Egypt. The first buildings were made of mud brick.	
River Nile	Known as the father of African rivers it is the longest river in the world. The river runs through many African countries including Egypt and was integral to life in ancient Egypt.	2500BC	Egyptians built the Great Sphinx and the Great Pyramid at Giza. 2500-2000BC was the 'Old Kingdom' period.	
Shaduf	A hand-operated device for lifting water, invented in ancient times and still used in India and Egypt and some other countries to irrigate land.	1500BC	Many royal tombs were built around this time in the Valley of the Kings. 1500BC -332BC was the period of the 'New Kingdom'.	
Irrigation	The supply of water to land or crops to help growth, typically by means of channels.	1325BC	Around this time King Tutankhamun was buried in the Valley of the Kings. When the tomb was discovered in 1922, it was found intact and full of wonderful treasures as well as the mummy of the Pharaoh covered by a beautiful gold death mask.	



Year 4 History Knowledge Organiser – Ancient Egypt