

Year 5 Autumn 1 Pharaohs - Ancient Egyptian Civilisation - Knowledge Organiser

Egypt is in the north-east corner of Africa and is well-known for its ancient history and culture. Much of Egypt is covered in desert and there is very little rain. The Nile is the main river that flows through Egypt.



Famous Pharaohs

Hatshepsut, c1473–1458 BC

Hatshepsut was one of Egypt's most successful female pharaohs and was responsible for the building of a temple at Deir el-Bahri.



Tutankhamun, c1336–1327 BC

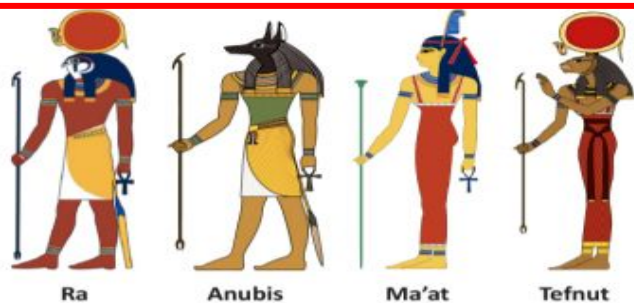
Tutankhamun became pharaoh when he was only eight or nine years old and Egypt's old religion was restored during his rule.



Howard Carter

Tutankhamun

Lord Carnarvon



Afterlife

One of the key beliefs in ancient Egypt was that when a person died, their spirit would live again in the afterlife. The ancient Egyptians had special rituals to prepare the body, and the dead were buried with possessions that would help them in the afterlife, such as food, drink, clothes and treasures. The pharaohs had huge tombs built to house their bodies and possessions. These tombs are the famous Pyramids of Giza that are guarded by a sphinx.

A wealthy Englishman, Lord Carnarvon, was interested in ancient Egypt. He paid for an archaeologist called Howard Carter and a team of workers to carry out excavations in the Valley of the Kings on the west bank of the Nile, where they discovered Tutankhamun's tomb.

Key Vocabulary

archaeologist	A person who studies the lives of people who lived in the past
afterlife	A world ancient Egyptians believed they would travel to after death
canopic jar	A vessel which contained the stomach, lungs, liver and intestines of the dead and put in their tomb
hierarchy	A system where members of society were ranked by their status
hieroglyphics	A method of writing using pictures to represent objects, sounds, actions and ideas
mummification	The dead were preserved by a method which dried the body out to prevent decay
Nile	The Egyptians used the Nile to transport goods throughout Egypt. It provided fertile soil for crops
Pharaoh	Ancient Egypt was governed by a king or queen known as the Pharaoh, who represented the gods on earth.
pyramid	A huge stone tomb built for the wealthy Pharaohs
shabti	A small carved statue buried with their master to act as a servant in the afterlife
Tutankhamun	Tutankhamun was only 8 or 9 when he became Pharaoh and died when he was about 18.
Valley of the Kings	A valley in Egypt where many tombs were built