

# Ancient Egyptians

## Key knowledge

Egypt is situated in the northeast corner of Africa.

The Ancient Egyptian Civilisation was one of the world's first civilisation. The ancient Egyptians build huge pyramids, temples, palaces and tombs.

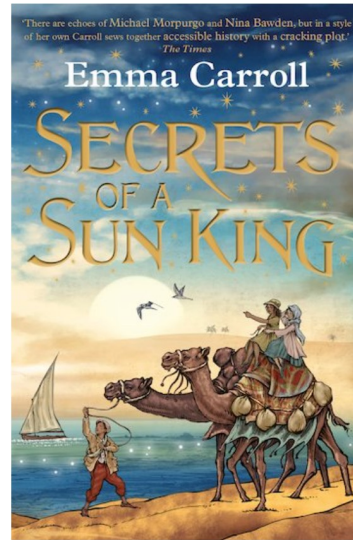
The river Nile is more than six thousand five hundred kilometres in length and it passes through eleven modern countries.

The river Nile provided ancient Egypt with fertile soil and water for irrigation, as well as a means to transporting materials for building projects.

Daily life in ancient Egypt revolved around the Nile and the fertile land along its banks. The yearly flooding of the Nile enriched the soil and brought good harvests and wealth to the land.

The Ancient Egyptians build pyramids as giant burial tombs for the most important people in their society, the pharaohs.

Inside each of the pyramid is a mummy.



**Timeline of Key Events:**  
All dates below are approximate

<b>Old Kingdom:</b>	2600 BCE - 2100 BCE
<b>Middle Kingdom:</b>	2000 BCE - 1650 BCE
<b>New Kingdom:</b>	1540 BCE - 1075 BCE
7500 BCE	First settlers in Nile valley
3500 BCE	First use of hieroglyphic symbols
3100 BCE	Narmer unites regions of Lower and Upper Egypt.
2650 BCE	First step pyramid built
2550 BCE	Pyramids at Giza built
2335 BCE	Pyramid texts written (magical spells to protect pharaohs)
1472 BCE	Hatshepsut becomes caretaker ruler. (Later declares herself pharaoh)
1336 BCE	Tutankhamen becomes pharaoh
1279 BCE	Ramses II becomes pharaoh
1100 BCE	Upper & Lower Egypt split
332 BCE	Alexander the Great conquers Egypt
196 BCE	Rosetta stone carved
1279 BCE	Ramses II becomes pharaoh
30 BCE	Egypt becomes a Roman Province
1922 CE	Carter discovers Tutankhamen's tomb

## Vocabulary

Ancient	Belonging to the distant past.
Civilisation	A group of people with their own languages and way of life.
Fertile	Able to support the growth of a large number of strong healthy plants.
Shaduf	A tool used to move water from one place to another
Achievement	A result gained by effort
Hieroglyph	A writing system that uses pictures and symbols
Archaeologist	Somebody who looks at ancient sites and objects to learn about the past
Antiquities	Ancient times
Scribe	A person who copies writing
Society	A large group of people who live together in a organised way
Sarcophagus	A stone coffin or container to hold a coffin
Excavation	To form a cavity or hole in
Inscription	Something that is inscribed
Papyrus	The first form of paper
Mummification	A process where the skin and flesh of a corpse can be preserved
Hierarchy	A body of persons graded according to rank or level
Canopic jar	Jars to hold mummified remains
Creation	The act of bringing the world into existence
Sphinx	A mythical creature with a human head and a lion's body
Pharaoh	The most important and powerful person in Egypt