

SOCIAL STUDIES / HISTORY · YEAR 3-4 / GRADE 2-3

Knowledge Organiser: Ancient Egyptians

Y3-4 history

How to use this organiser

Print at the start of the topic. Children should know everything on this page by the end. Refer to it in every lesson. Quiz children regularly. Send a copy home for families.

KEY DATES

When	What happened
c. 3100 BC	Upper and Lower Egypt united under King Narmer
c. 2600-2500 BC	Great Pyramids of Giza built
c. 1500 BC	Egypt at its most powerful and wealthy
c. 1332-1323 BC	Reign of Tutankhamun (the boy king)
30 BC	Egypt becomes part of the Roman Empire — Cleopatra dies
AD 1922	Howard Carter discovers Tutankhamun's tomb

KEY VOCABULARY

Word	Meaning
Pharaoh	The ruler (king or queen) of ancient Egypt — believed to be a god
Pyramid	A huge stone tomb built for a pharaoh



Word	Meaning
Sphinx	A statue with a lion's body and a human head
Mummy	A dead body preserved by removing organs and wrapping in linen
Sarcophagus	A stone coffin that held the mummy
Hieroglyphs	The picture-writing of ancient Egypt
Papyrus	A type of paper made from a reed plant
Pharaoh's tomb	Where the pharaoh was buried, often with gold and treasures
Nile	The huge river running through Egypt — source of life
Afterlife	The life Egyptians believed people went to after death
Scribe	A person trained to read and write hieroglyphs
Embalmer	The person who prepared the body to become a mummy

KEY GODS

God	What they ruled over
Ra	Sun god — the most powerful, drove the sun across the sky each day
Anubis	God of mummification, jackal-headed, weighed the heart of the dead
Osiris	God of the afterlife and judge of the dead
Isis	Goddess of magic and motherhood, wife of Osiris
Horus	Sky god, falcon-headed, son of Isis and Osiris
Bastet	Cat goddess, protector of the home
Thoth	God of writing and wisdom, ibis-headed

KEY PEOPLE



Person	Why they matter
Tutankhamun	Boy pharaoh who died aged about 18. His tomb was found nearly untouched in 1922.
Cleopatra	Last pharaoh of ancient Egypt. Famous for her intelligence and political skill.
Ramesses II	One of the most famous pharaohs — ruled 66 years and built many monuments.
Howard Carter	British archaeologist who discovered Tutankhamun's tomb in 1922.
Hatshepsut	One of the few female pharaohs. Wore a fake beard to look like a king.

BIG IDEAS

QUESTIONS TO ANSWER BY THE END

