



# Ancient Egypt



Egypt is a country in Africa. The Ancient Egyptians settled around the Nile River, and built pyramids that you can still see there today. The Ancient Egyptians knew a lot about maths, medicine and farming. They also made their own paper out of reeds called papyrus, and wrote using pictures called hieroglyphics.

## Key Knowledge

### Egyptian Farming

The Egyptians had three seasons of farming, with four months in each season.

#### The first season

The first season was the summer season when the river Nile flooded the whole land. During the floods, Egyptians would mend tools or make new ones. People would go fishing for food or extra money. Egyptians would go around in boats because everything else would be under water.

#### The second season

Once the river Nile had gone down again and the ground was firm enough to walk on, the land was ploughed, usually with the help of an animal. This was the busiest season for ancient Egyptians, as the seeds needed planting and the ground needed to be maintained. Seed planting was done by hand and animals followed behind to stamp the seeds into the ground.

#### The third season

When the grain was ready for harvest, it was cut halfway up the stalk with sickles. It was then bundled together and carried to a safe place. Scribes would write how much grain had been harvested and take it to the Pharaoh. The harvest would then be taken away by chariot to be stored.

### Mummification

The ancient Egyptians had a strong religious belief that when a person died they would return to an 'afterlife' that was almost the same as the life they had when they were alive. In their belief, the body needed to be preserved so that the person could return. Using special processes, the Egyptians removed all the moisture from the body, leaving only a dried form that would not easily decay. The mummification process took seventy days. Each mummy needed hundreds of yards of linen so that it could be completely wrapped up.



### The Canopic Jars

There were four Canopic Jars. They contained the stomach, intestines, lungs, and liver. Egyptian believed they would be needed in the afterlife. The jars were placed in the tombs with the bodies. Each of the Canopic jars had a specific purpose and were designed to honor the four sons of Horus.

#### Imsety

had a human head and carried and protected the liver.



#### Qebehsenuf

had a falcon's head and carried and protected the intestines.



#### Hapy

had the head of a baboon and carried and protected the lungs.



#### Duamatef

had the head of a jackal and carried and protected the stomach.



## Key Vocabulary

canopic jars	The Egyptians used them for safekeeping of particular human organs.
cartouches	An oval figure containing the written symbols (characters) of an important name, such as that of royal or divine people.
chariot	A type of carriage driven by a charioteer, usually pulled by horses.
Egyptian Gods	The gods and goddesses of Ancient Egypt were an integral part of the people's everyday lives. There were over 2,000 gods.
embalm	To preserve a body by treating it and wrapping it.
Hieroglyphs	A script made up of small pictures that was used originally in ancient Egypt for religious texts.
Horus	God of kingship and the sky.
organs	The human body contains five organs that are considered vital for survival. They are the heart, brain, kidneys, liver, and lungs.
Pharaoh	An ancient Egyptian ruler.
purified	Had the bad parts removed.
Rosetta Stone	A stone with writing on it in two languages (Egyptian and Greek) with examples of hieroglyphs on.
sarcophagus	A stone coffin, typically adorned with a sculpture or inscription.
The River Nile	The longest river in Africa and it runs through Egypt.
tomb	A large vault, typically an underground one, for burying the dead.



									
Ancient Egypt	Celts	Christopher Columbus	Queen Elizabeth I	The Great Fire of London	Florence Nightingale	Battle of Britain	Queen Elizabeth II Coronation	Moon Landing	Olympic Games London
7,500BC	750BC	1492	1559	1666	1820	1940	1953	1969	2012
Year 3	Year 3	Year 1	Year 1	Year 2	Year 2	Year 3	Year 1	Year 1	Year 2