Knowledge Organiser: Ancient Ancients

Year 4 Term 1.2 History

Important Topic Vocabulary

archaeologist	A person who studies the lives of people who lived in the past.
afterlife	A world the Ancient Egyptians believed they would travel to after death.
civilisation	A culture or society developed by a particular nation or region
hierarchy	A system where members of society are ranked according to their status.
hieroglyphics	A method of writing used by the Ancient Egyptians that used pictures.
mummification	A way of preserving life after death.
pharaoh	A ruler of Ancient Egypt. Kings or Queens of Ancient Egypt.
tomb	A stone structure or underground room where someone is buried.
Valley of the Kings	A valley in Egypt where many tombs were built.

Egypt is in the north-east corner of Africa. Much of Egypt is covered in desert and there is very little rain. The **Ancient Egyptian civilisation** began around 5000 years ago and lasted around 3000 years. People started by building villages next to the River Nile.
What facts do you already know about The River Nile?

What should I already know?
The River Nile is the longest river in the world. It runs through Egypt.
BC stands for Before Christ.
During The Stone Age, villagers lived near rivers for food, water and farming. They were craftsmen and carved their own tools and methods of transportation such as boats.

The **Ancient Sumer civilisation** is in modern-day Iran (Asia) was a collection of city states in the southern part of Mesopotamia (a historical region of Western Asia). Sumerian civilization was very long lived and lasted from 5300BC to 1940BC (the late Stone Age to the early Bronze Age).

The **Indus Valley civilisation** began nearly 5000 years ago in an area of modern-day Pakistan and Northern India. There were more than 1400 towns and cities in the Indus Valley and around 80,000 people lived in these cities.

The **Shang Dynasty** was the earliest well-known dynasty in China and it ruled from around 1600-1046BC. A dynasty is a society ruled by a line of kings from the same family. The Shang Dynasty was very successful as people learned how to make bronze. People called it China's 'Bronze Age'.

Hieroglyphics were pictures that the Ancient Egyptians used to represent objects, sounds and words. There were more than 700 in total.

Religion was an important part of the Ancient Egyptian civilisation. They worshiped gods and goddesses. Osiris was the god of the underworld, life and death and Anubis was the god of mummification. The ancient Egyptians believed in a never-ending afterlife. Important members of their society were **mummified** and buried in tombs below pyramids.

This is The Valley of the Kings. It is a well-known place in Egypt where many of the pharaohs are buried.

The ancient Egyptians were ruled by kings and queens called pharaohs. Khufu, Ramses II, Tutankhamun and Cleopatra were the most famous ones.

Cleopatra VII 51 – 30 BC

Cleopatra was the last pharaoh of Egypt and ruled with the help of two Roman

Tutankhamun 1332 - 1323 BC

Tutankhamun was one of the most famous pharaohs. He became the youngest pharaoh in Egyptian history when he became King at just nine or ten years old.

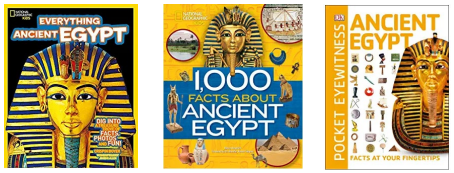
In 1922, archaeologists Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon excavated Tutankhamun's tomb. It contained over 3000 treasures. This photo shows the tomb.

Wonderful Websites!

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxn3r82/articles/z9mpsbk

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zg87xnb

Brilliant Books!



5500 BC
Indus Valley settlements begin.

5300 BC
Ancient Sumer civilisation begins.

3100 BC
Early settlers arrive on the River Nile.

2600 BC
Pyramids of Giza built.

1800 BC
Egyptians adapt hieroglyphs for their language.

1600 BC
Shang Dynasty begins.

1400 BC
Tutankhamun becomes pharaoh.

1325 BC
King Tutankhamun was buried in the Valley of the Kings.

332 BC
Egypt was invaded by Alexander the Great and was then ruled by Greek Kings.

30 BC
Egypt becomes a province of the Roman Empire.