Ancient Egypt Year 3/4 Alston Primary School

Key Vocabulary		
Word	Definition	/
After Life	Some people believe that a new life begins after we die.	
Ancient	Something from a very long time ago.	
Canopic Jar	A jar used in Ancient Egypt to hold the organs from a dead body.	
Cartouche	Carved tablets/drawings in oval shapes with a pharaoh's name on it.	
Civilisation	A human society with rules, a culture and a distinct way of life.	
Egypt	A country in Africa where ancient Egyptian civilisation began.	
Embalm	To preserve a corpse against decay with perfumes, spices and oils.	
Empire	A large group of states or countries ruled over by a single leader.	
Hieroglyphics	A system of writing made of pictures and symbols instead of letters.	
Irrigation	The process of supplying land with water to help crops to grow.	
Mummification	The process of preserving the skin and flesh of a dead person.	
Papyrus	A paper-like material made in Ancient Egypt for writing/painting on.	
Pharaoh	The political and religious leader of the Ancient Egyptian people.	
Pyramid	Huge tombs built by Ancient Egyptians to bury pharaohs and queens	
Sarcophagus	A coffin made out of stone to store and bury dead bodies in.	
Slave	Someone who is forced to do work for someone else.	
Sphinx	A mythical creature with the head of a human and the body of a lion.	
The Nile	A huge river running through Egypt that was essential to Egyptians.	
Tomb	A large vault or building for burying the dead inside.	
Tutankhamun	AKA the 'boy king', he was a pharaoh buried in the Valley of the Kings.	

Previous Knowledae

ods and Goddesses of Ancient Egypt

In Year 1, you learnt to use timelines effectively; make historical comparisons; and about significant historical events. In Year 2, you learnt to identify the impact of historical events; use sources to support your knowledge; and began to understand sequencing on a timeline. Last year, you learnt about the tools, homes, food, culture and practices from the Stone Age, Bronze Age, Iron Age and Ancient Rome. This included how Britain changed throughout these periods.

The ancient Egyptians worshipped many gods and goddesses who were responsible for different aspects of life and death.		
Horus	God of the sky. The ancient Egyptians believed a pharaoh was a god-like living version of Horus.	
Thoth	God of wisdom. He is believed to have invented hieroglyphics and kept a record of all knowledge.	
Ma'at	Goddess of truth. Pharaohs promised to follow Ma'at and be fair and honest.	
Osiris	God of the dead.	
Anubis	God of mummification. He weighed the hearts of the dead against Ma'at's feather. If the heart was lighter, the person could pass to the afterlife.	



Timeline

c. 2700 BC: First stone pyramid built.

c. 2600 BC: Pyramid

discovers the tomb of

Tutankhamun's

Key Facts 2

- •Mummification was the process of preserving a dead body and was important to the Egyptians as they believed this would prepare the body for their journey into the afterlife.
- •Important people's bodies went in pyramids.
- Ancient Egyptians believed many gods and goddesses controlled different parts of their lives and that people would live on after death.
- 'boy king' because he became pharaoh at 9.
- •His tomb was discovered in the Valley of the Kings in 1922 and helped us to understand lots more about Egyptian pharaohs and their lives.

- •Tutankhamun was a pharaoh known as the

•Where in the world is Egypt?

Key Questions

- •When did the Ancient Egyptian period start and end?
- •What was life like in Ancient Egypt? How do we know this?
- •Who built the pyramids and why?
- •What clues do we have for this?
- •What did the Ancient Egyptians believe? Is this still the case now?
- How did Ancient Egyptians treat their dead? Why did they do this?
- How does Ancient Egypt compare to other civilisations during the same time period?
- •Who was Tutankhamun and what evidence do we have of Pharaohs?
- •What are Hieroglyphics? What were they used for? Do we know?

Key Facts 1

- Egypt is a country located in the continent of Africa.
- •Egypt's climate is very different to ours in the UK.
- •The Nile was important because it provided water for crops but also fertile soil to farm on- this meant that people settled near the banks of the Nile.
- Ancient Egyptians were among the first civilisations to use irrigation systems.
- •The Nile also provided mud for bricks and pots, opportunities for fishing, papyrus reeds for papyrus (a paper-like material) and a means of transport.
- •We know about ancient Egyptian life because of evidence such as the pyramids, artefacts, hieroglyphics and papyrus.
- Egyptian society was hierarchical. Some people were seen as more important.
- •Egypt's Great Pyramids are 140m high and are made from very heavy stones.
- Pulleys would have helped make building the pyramids a lot easier.
- Egyptians believed pharaohs needed burying with treasure to help them after death