

# Ancient Egypt



**Egypt** is a country on the continent of **Africa**. The climate of Egypt is different to that of the UK.

Ancient Egypt means what that country was like a long time ago—before 500AD.

## Key Vocabulary

BC	Used to show that a date is before the year 0. This is counted backwards so 200BC is before 100BC.
AD	Used to show that a date is after the year 0. This is counted forwards.
Ancient	Belonging to the distant past.
Archaeologist	Someone who studies the past by exploring old remains.
Afterlife	A life that some people believe begins when you die.
Artefacts	An object from the past that shows evidence of what life was like.
Chronology	The order of events in time
Civilisation	A human society with its own social organisation or culture.
Fertile	Rich in nutrients to support the growth of plants.
Hierarchical	A system of organising people into different ranks or levels of importance.
Hieroglyphics	Symbols used by Ancient Egyptians to convey messages.
Irrigation	Supply land with water in order to help plants grow.
Mummification	A way of preserving a dead body.
Papyrus	A tall water plant that grows in Africa.
Pharaoh	A ruler of Ancient Egypt.
Pyramids	Ancient stone buildings with four triangular sloping sides.
Settler	People who migrate to a new place to live.
Society	A large organised group of people.
Tomb	A large grave.
Trade	The activity of buying, selling or exchanging goods

## Key Knowledge

The Nile was important because it provided water for crops but also **fertile** soil.

The Nile provided mud for bricks and pots, opportunities for fishing, papyrus reeds and a key means of transport.

We know about ancient Egyptian life from evidence such as pyramids, discovered artefacts, and written records like hieroglyphics and papyrus.

Egyptian **society** was very **hierarchical**—this means that some groups of people were deemed more important than others. .

**Mummification** was the process of preserving a body—this process was very important to the Egyptians as they believed this would prepare the body for the journey into the **afterlife**.

The bodies of important people, such as **pharaohs**, were placed in these **pyramids**, which were built as **tombs**.

Religion was very important in Ancient Egypt. They were polytheists—they believed in different gods and goddesses that were in charge of different parts of their lives. These were called **deities**.



The **River Nile** flows through Egypt. It was, and still is, essential to life for Ancient Egyptians who used it for farming, fishing and **trading**.

