

Knowledge Organiser History Year 3 Summer



St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School
"Love one another as I have loved you"

The Egyptians

Prior knowledge

- Knowledge of the Stone Age, Iron Age and Bronze Age and what life was like for people in these times
- Knowledge of continents and oceans

Historical skills developed in this unit

- Know and understand significant aspects of the history of the wider world, the nature of ancient civilisations, the expansion and dissolution of empires.
- Understand the achievements of the earliest civilisations through an in-depth study of Ancient Egypt.
- Understand historical concepts and use them to make connections, contrasts, frame historically valid questions and create structured accounts.

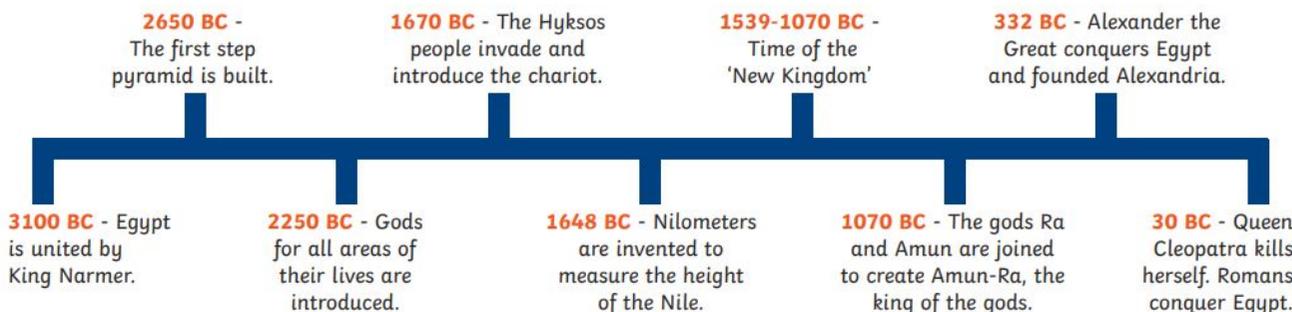
Historical knowledge covered in this topic

- Ancient Egypt existed some 5,000 years ago, it is estimated that it lasted around 3,000 years as the leading nation in the Mediterranean world.
- It owes much of its success to the River Nile, whose flooding cycle and controlled irrigation allowed for fertile land and prosperous agriculture.
- There is a reasonable amount of surviving evidence through structures such as pyramids, temples, artefacts, as well as writing.
- The Egyptians had a system of writing called hieroglyphics.
- The Egyptians had a well-structured and stratified society with pharaohs at the top, nobles, then scribes and priests, but most were farmers. There were also slaves.
- The status of women was relatively high in Egyptian society, with some becoming pharaohs.
- There were many famous pharaohs including Rameses III, Cleopatra and Tutankhamun.
- Religion was very important to the Ancient Egyptians, and they had a strong belief in the afterlife – as evidenced by the often elaborate burial processes.

Key words

Amulet: an object to protect its owner from harm or danger
The Book of the Dead: a book of magic spells
Hieroglyphics: a type of writing using pictures and symbols
Mummy/mummification: a dead body that has been specially preserved/the process of making a mummy
Papyrus: a plant from the banks of the Nile used to make paper, boats, sandals, basket and rope.
Pharaoh: the supreme ruler of all of Ancient Egypt, considered a god
Pyramids: monuments providing tombs for Pharaohs
Sarcophagus: a large stone coffin for a mummy
Scarabs: amulets, often in the form of beetles
Sphynx: a mythical creature with the body of a lion and the head of a Pharaoh

Useful images



Egyptian Gods

