

Year 4 Summer Unit: The achievements of the earliest civilisations

Retrieval Vocabulary

AD, BC, BCE, CE, agriculture, past, polytheism, prehistory,

Key Unit Vocabulary

archaeologist - a person who studies human history and prehistory through the excavation of sites and the analysis of artefacts and other physical remains
afterlife - life after death
canopic jar - a covered urn used in ancient Egyptian burials to hold organs
civilisation - the society, culture, and way of life of a particular area
descendant - a person related to an ancestor
floodplain - an area of low-lying ground adjacent to a river
hieroglyph - a system of writing that used pictures and symbols instead of letters
irrigation - a system of canals or channels Egyptians dug to supply water to grow crops over a larger area than the water would reach naturally
mummification - the process of preserving a dead body as a mummy
nomadic living - living by travelling from place to place to survive
pharaoh - a ruler of ancient Egypt
tomb - a large vault, typically an underground one, for burying the dead
uncivilised - not socially, culturally, or morally advanced

Enquiry Question: What was so special about the Ancient Egyptians?

Historical Concept: evidence, similarity & difference



Tutankhamun's death mask

Key Unit Facts

- The Egyptians had a structured society with the Pharaoh on the top and slaves at the bottom.
- Over 130 pyramids have been found in Egypt. The Pyramids of Giza were built for the kings Khufu, Khafre and Menkaure.
- The Egyptians invented lots of things that we still use today. For example: medicine, musical instruments, paper, pens and toothpaste.
- There were over 2,000 Ancient Egyptian Gods and Goddesses.
- Tutankhamun is one of the most famous Pharaohs. Perhaps because his tomb was discovered completely intact in 1922.

