



This topic will allow the children to understand how the ancient Egyptians lived. We will be looking at a range of historical sources to understand religion and beliefs and importance of the Nile and the Pyramids. We will compare this time period with our lives now and the Stone Age.

What you should already know

- Egypt is a country in the continent of Africa.
- The climate of Egypt is different to that of the UK.
- Human and physical geographical features of Egypt.
- Begin to compare two different time periods.
- Use vocabulary related to historical topics (e.g. historian, explorer, archaeologist, monarch, inventor, famous person)
- Identify differences between life in the present and the past
- Describe feelings of people from the past (give possible reasons why, empathy)
- Identify different ways in which the past is represented (e.g. photo, artefact, diary) and what they tell you
- Sort artefacts “then” and “now” use as wide a range of sources as possible
- Observe and handle sources of information to gain information about the past (photos, artefacts etc.) and asking relevant questions.

Key Knowledge

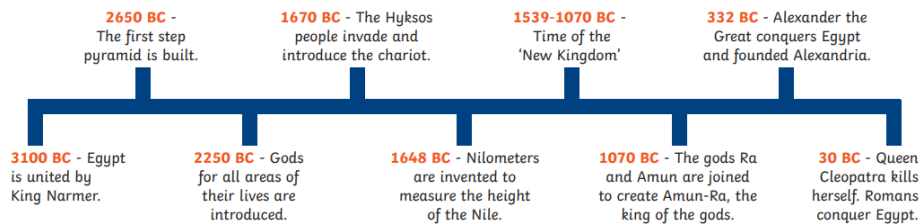
The **River Nile** is one of the longest rivers in the world and was significant to life in Ancient Egypt.

Religion was very important to Egyptians and **Gods and Goddesses** played a prominent role in their every day lives.

The Egyptian **hierarchy** was a lot like the pyramids that they built. **Society** was made up of different groups. Some were seen as more important than others and each of these groups played a different role in society.

Hieroglyphics was a form of written communication and is a key source for historians to understand life in Ancient Egypt.

Ancient Egyptians Timelines



Monarchs

There was no British monarch during this era. Small Stone Age communities became larger tribes during the Iron Age and Bronze Age.



Vocabulary

Agriculture— The practice of farming. **Afterlife**— life after death. **Civilisation**— the society, culture, language and way of life of a particular area. **Hieroglyphics**— one of the earliest known writing systems. **Mummification**— preserve a body by wrapping in cloth. **Pharaoh**—a ruler in Ancient Egypt. **Polytheist**— the belief in more than one god. **Sarcophagus**—A stone coffin. **Tomb**— A large vault for burying the dead. **Tutankhamun** - An Ancient Egyptian pharaoh.



This topic will allow the children to understand that the Indus Valley civilisation was an ancient civilisation in South Asia which lasted from 3300 BC to 1300 BC. Although the Indus valley civilisation is seen as very advanced for its time, less is known about the other ancient civilisations.

What you should already know

- Asia has a different climate to the UK.
- That different civilisations lived at the same time around the world.
- That artefacts tell us how those who lived before us lived their lives.
- Civilisations settled where they did for specific reasons. For example near food and water sources.
- Use vocabulary related to historical topics (e.g. historian, explorer, archaeologist, monarch, inventor, famous person)

Indus Valley Map



Monarchs

There were no British Monarch during the Indus Valley era as people in Britain wandered and settled in small groups.

Time line

Timeline of Key Events:

(All dates below are approximate)

- 5000 BC First evidence of religious practice in the Indus Valley area.
- 3200 BC Some precursors of Indus Script Signs date from this period.
- 3000 BC Settlements and small Towns begin to develop in the Indus Valley.
- 2600 BC Start of 'Mature Period' of the Indus Civilization, with urbanization around the floodplain.
- 2600 BC Evidence of farmers using ploughs for fields.
- 2300 BC Indus Valley traders with seals travel to Mesopotamia for trade.
- 1800 BC to 1900 BC Beginning of the decline of the civilization; abandonment of cities.
- 1500 BC Indus Valley cities are in ruins.
- AD 1920 Archaeological survey begins large scale excavations after the realisation that the ruined mounds of Mohenjo-daro and Harappa belonged to the same unknown urban civilisation.

Key Knowledge

- The Indus is a river, which flows through Pakistan. The Indus Valley civilisation developed alongside the river, as it gave water for crops, drinking and transport. Water was very important and cities had complex drainage systems and reservoirs were built for storing water.
- The ruined cities lay undiscovered until 1826 when Charles Masson noted mounds of bricks, which were buildings from Harappa.
- A huge amount of planning went into the cities before they were built and it is thought that the most important buildings were located in a city's citadel and that the rulers of the city lived there. Buildings were made from mud bricks and bitumen tar was used to make them waterproof.
- Though lots of farmers, fishermen and traders lived in small villages, it is thought that up to 80,000 people lived in Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa
- Thousands of soapstone seals were found across the Indus Valley. People may have used them to stamp on clay to label their goods. They showed animals, symbols, people and gods .
- The Indus people were among the first to make jewellery, which was worn by both men and women.

Indus Valley Civilisation
3200-1500

Indus Valley Civilisation
began before the Stone
Age in British History

Stone Age
3000-2100

Bronze Age
2100-750

Iron Age
750BC-43AD

Vocabulary

Chronology—the arrangement of events or dates in order **Civilisation Seal**—Carved pieces of stone. **Trade**—the action of buying and selling goods **Barter**—swapping goods for other goods. **Terracotta**— a brownish-red clay. **Citadel**—a fortress. **Urban**—highly populated areas **Monuments**—a statue or building that is important.