

# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School



Subject: **History**

Topic: Ancient Egypt

Year: 5

## What should I already know?

- Events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally [for example, the Great Fire of London, the first aeroplane flight or events commemorated through festivals or anniversaries].
- The lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements.
- Significant historical events, people and places in their own locality.
- The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain.
- The Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England to the time of Edward the Confessor.

## What am I going to learn?

- Most Ancient Egyptian **pyramids** were built as tombs for pharaohs. To date, over 130 pyramids have been discovered in Egypt.
- The **afterlife** was incredibly important to the Egyptians. They believed that by preserving a dead person's body – which they did through the process of mummification – their soul would live on in the after-life forever.
- The Pyramid of Khufu at Giza is the largest Egyptian pyramid.
- Both Egyptian men and women wore make-up.
- Unwrapped, the bandages of an Ancient Egyptian mummy could stretch for 1.6km. Yikes!
- The Egyptian alphabet contained more than 700 hieroglyphs.
- Ancient Egyptians believed in more than 2,000 deities! They had gods for everything, from dangers to chores!
- Cats were considered to be a sacred animal by the Ancient Egyptians.
- One popular game was called Senet, which was played for over 2,000 years! The game involved throwing to see how many squares to move your piece forward on the board.
- The Ancient Egyptians invented lots of things we still use today, such as paper, pens, locks and keys and – believe it or not – toothpaste.



## Vocabulary

**Afterlife** - The place where the Ancient Egyptians believed they would go after they died.

**Canopic jars** - Special jars that held the organs of a mummy including the lungs, intestines, liver, and stomach.

**Egyptologist** - An archaeologist who specializes in Ancient Egypt.

**Hieroglyphics** - A type of writing used by the Ancient Egyptians that used a combination of pictures and symbols.

**Mummy** - A dead body that has been specially preserved using embalming so that it won't rot.

**Pharaoh** - The supreme ruler of all of Ancient Egypt. He or she was considered a God.

**Sphinx** - A mythological beast with the body of a lion and the head of a Pharaoh or God. The Egyptians built sphinx statues to guard tombs.

**Tutankhamun** - A Pharaoh of Egypt that is famous for his tomb that was discovered. The tomb was largely untouched and was full of treasure.

**Pyramid** - A giant tomb built for the Pharaohs of Egypt. It was made from stone and had four sides that came to a point at the top in a pyramid shape.



## Useful Websites

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zg87xnb/articles/z6x2382/>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zg87xnb/articles/zr7qy9q/>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zg87xnb/articles/zr4s8xs/>
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