

Key Learning

On the 6th of November, 1922, Howard Carter, an **archaeologist**, went back to the **Valley of the Kings** one more time. He was about to discover the most incredible of places, the **tomb** of **Tutankhamun**.

Ancient Egypt is one of the oldest civilisations in the world. It is called ancient because their civilisation was over 3000 years before the birth of Christ (BC) or before the common era (BCE). They lived around the **River Nile**. The ruler of Egypt was called a **Pharaoh**.

Historians use three periods of time to describe the changes in Ancient Egypt: the **Old Kingdom**, the **Middle Kingdom** and the **New Kingdom**.

The Egyptians believed in many gods. **Amun Ra** had the head of a hawk. **Osiris**, another important god, was married to the goddess **Isis**. The gods helped the Egyptians explain how the universe worked. They believed the Nile was a gift from the gods because it gave them water.

Egyptians believed that inside each person was a **soul** which they called the **ba** (bah). They believed that when someone died, the ba returned to the person's body each night. They worked out a way of taking all the moisture out of the body to keep the body from decaying. This was called **embalming** or **mummification**.

On nearly everything the ancient Egyptians left behind, you will find pictures - pictures of birds and animals, pictures of people and feathers. At first, archaeologists could not understand the pictures, but they knew that the pictures must be a way of explaining something. We now call these pictures **hieroglyphs**, early Egyptian writing.



Mummification



Hieroglyphics



Osiris and Isis

Ancient Egypt



The Valley of the Kings



The tomb of Tutankhamun

Howard Carter



Tutankhamun



Vocabulary

Ancient	in the very distant past, no longer exists
Archaeologist	someone who studies what has been left behind
BC	Before Christ
BCE	Before the Common Era
civilisation	A large group of people who share advanced ways of living and working
embalming	A way of preserving a dead body to keep it intact for as long as possible
hieroglyphics	A writing system that uses pictures and symbols
god	A being that is worshipped and believed to have special powers over nature or life
mummification	The preservation of a dead body
pharaoh	The king of Ancient Egypt
tomb	A hole in which a dead body is buried
Tutankhamun	A famous Pharaoh or king of Egypt
Valley of the Kings	Contains the tombs or graves of many royal rulers of Ancient Egypt.

Ancient Egypt Timeline

6000 BC Early Egyptians settle by the Nile. They make pots of clay and silt.	5000 BC Egyptians farm cattle and sheep, some grow wheat and barley in the Nile Valley.	3500 BC Craftsman begin to draw hieroglyphics	3000 BC Walled towns and villages were built using mud bricks.	2500 BC to 2000 BC Old Kingdom The Great Sphinx and Great Pyramid in Giza were built	1550 BC to 332 BC New Kingdom The royal tombs were built in the Valley of the Kings	1325-BC King Tutankhamun was buried.	332 BC Egypt was invaded by Alexander the Great and was ruled by Greek kings. The new Kingdom ends.
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The Valley of the Kings



The tomb of Tutankhamun

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Tutankhamun



ancient



archaeologist



BC Before Christ



BCE - Before the Common Era



civilisation



embalming



hieroglyphics



god



mummification



pharaoh



tomb



Tutankhamun

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Rights and Global Goals

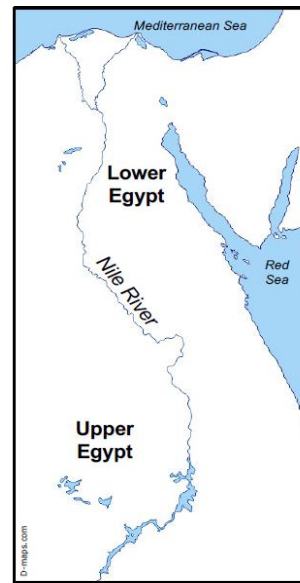
Rights	13, 30
Global Goals	3 - Good Health & Well-being 9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Prior Learning

Map work (KS1)	Locating countries
The Statue of Zeus (Y2)	One of the Seven Wonders of the World
Timeline (KS1/2)	Chronological understanding

Big Idea

Continuity and Change



National Treasures

Pyramids
The River Nile

