Knowledge Organiser

The Ancient Egyptians

There were over 30 dynasties that ruled ancient Egypt over the course of 3000 years. A dynasty is when one family held power, handing down the throne to an heir. Many ancient Egyptians kept records of the different rulers however over time some information has been lost. Despite this, historians have still been able to piece together most of ancient Egypt's past.

Here is a timeline of the dynasties and some of the notable pharaohs that ruled.



Early Dynastic Period (c.2950–2575 BC) Dynasties 1–3

 The first pharaoh, Menes, united the upper and lower parts of Egypt into a single civilization.



Old Kingdom (c.2575–2150 BC) Dynasties 4–8

 Pharoah Djoser and the famous Egyptian Architect Imhotep built the first pyramid.

 The Great Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx are built.



First Intermediate Period (c.2150–1975 BC) Dynasties 9–11

Middle Kingdom (c.1975–1640 BC) Dynasties 11–14

 The Pharaoh Mentuhotep II reunites the two parts of Egypt under one rule.



New Kingdom (c.1520–1075 BC) Dynasties 18–20

 The time of greatest success and wealth for the ancient Egyptian civilization.

 Hatshepsut is one of the most successful female pharaohs, ruling for 22 years.

- Akhenaten and Nefertiti changed the Egyptian religion to worship a single god.
- Ramesses II ruled for 67 years and build many monuments.
- Tutankhamun changed religion back to the old ways and became famous for his tomb.









Third Intermediate Period (c.1075–653 BC) Dynasties 21–24 Late Period (c.653–332 BC) Dynasties 25–30

Macedonian Period

 Alexander the Great and the Greeks conquered Egypt.

Ptolemaic dynasty (c.305BC–30BC)

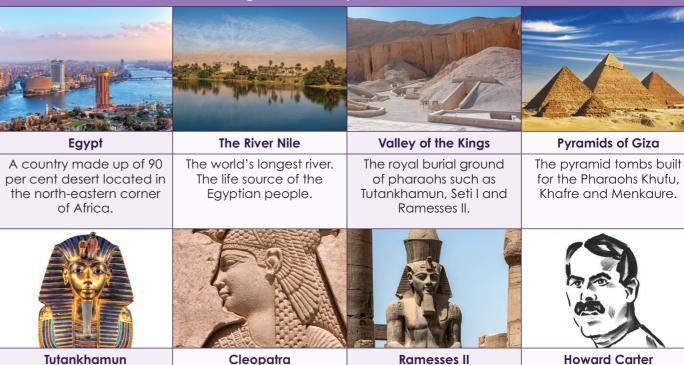
• Cleopatra VII (51–30 BC) was the last pharaoh.





Glossary		
1	afterlife	a belief in some religions that there is life after death
2	amulet	an ornament or small piece of jewellery thought to give protection against evil, danger, or disease
3	archaeologist	a person who studies human history and prehistory by examining sites and artefacts
4	civilization	a society, culture and particular way of life in a certain area
5	Egyptology	the study of the language, history and culture of ancient Egypt
6	embalmer	a person whose job it is to preserve the body using chemicals
7	hieroglyphics	the formal writing system used by the ancient Egyptians. Each character or symbol would stand for a word or part of a word
8	irrigation	the supply of water to land or crops to help growth. Usually this means making channels
9	Embalmer	a person whose job it is to preserve the body using chemicals
10	mummification	Preparing a body so it does not decay.
11	papyrus	a material prepared in ancient Egypt from the stem of a water plant to make paper and rope
12	pharaoh	a ruler in ancient Egypt
13	pyramid	a monumental structure with a square or triangular base and sloping sides that meet in a point at the top, especially one built of stone as a royal tomb in ancient Egypt.
14	reign	ruling as a king or queen
15	tomb	a monument to the memory of a dead person

Significant People and Places



Tutankhamun is known as the 'Boy King'. He is forever remembered because of his tomb and the treasures that were

discovered within.

The last pharaoh of Egypt.
Cleopatra was known
for her intelligence and
for bringing peace and
wealth to a divided Egypt.

Known as the 'Great Pharaoh', Ramesses II ordered the construction of many impressive statues and temples. Howard Carter
Carter was the

archaeologist who made the greatest discovery of the 20th century when he found Tutankhamun's tomb in 1922.

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