



Artefacts

One of the most significant artefacts from Ancient Egypt is the Rosetta Stone, which was found in 1799. The same text appears on it in three different types of writing, which has helped historians to decipher hieroglyphics and to understand Ancient Egyptian diaries and accounts.



Food and farming

Located in the Nile Valley, in Northeast Africa, the Ancient Egyptians settled in permanent homes near the River Nile, where they could grow crops on the fertile land. The Egyptians were skilled farmers and invented tools and technology to allow them to produce the food that a great civilisation would need. They invented methods of irrigation, using large canals to supply fresh water to their crops. The shaduf was a hand-operated way of lifting water from the irrigation canals to water the fields for farming. The Egyptians also used hand ploughs and larger ploughs that were pulled by oxen.



Beliefs

Egyptians believed in immortality and developed complex burial rituals, including mummification. The pyramids were built as tombs for their dead kings (pharaohs).



Location



Vocabulary:

Historical vocabulary:

Hieroglyphics	Egyptian way of writing using symbols called hieroglyphs
Rituals	Religious services that follow set patterns
Timeline	Representation of important events over a period of time
Topic related vocabulary:	
Afterlife	Life after death (in some religions)
Decipher	Work out what something says
Fertile	Able to support the growth of plants
Immortality	The ability to live forever
Influential	Makes people take notice
Irrigation	Supplying land with water
Mummification	Process of preserving a dead body as a mummy
River Nile	River running through Egypt and Africa

7500 BC: The first settlers arrived in the Nile valley

2640 BC: The first pyramid is built

2200 BC: First ploughs are attached to oxen

1332 BC: The 10 year rule of Tutankhamun begins

3200BC: Hieroglyphs are used to keep trade records

2520 BC: The Great Sphinx is built

1539 BC: Valley of the Kings starts and pharaohs are buried with their treasures

51 BC: Cleopatra's reign begins, the Egyptian civilisation ends