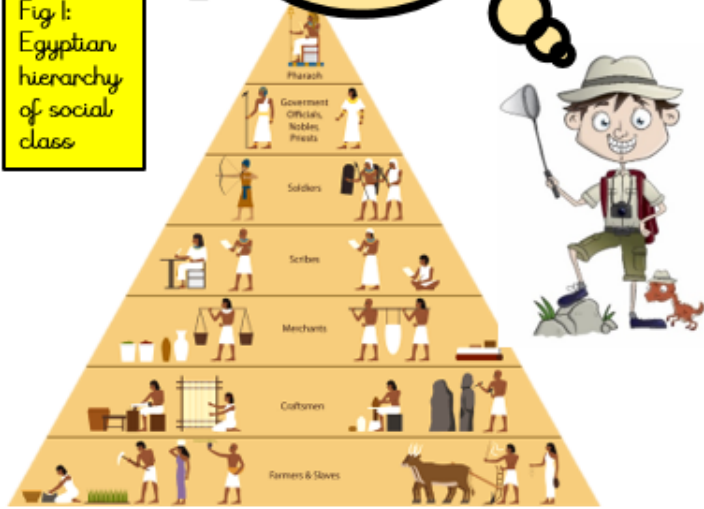


**ENQUIRY QUESTION**

Should the Ancient Egyptians have been proud of their pyramids?

Fig 1: Egyptian hierarchy of social class



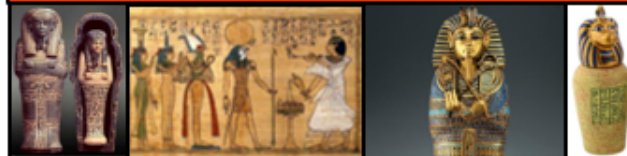
Key dates	
4000 BCE	First use of hieroglyphic writing
2700 BCE	First stone pyramid built by Pharaoh Djoser
2600 BCE	Pyramids of Giza built
2300 BCE	Pyramid building stopped (political instability)
2000 BCE	Pyramid building resumed
1790 BCE	Last Egyptian pyramid built
300 CE	Last use of hieroglyphic writing
969 CE	City of Cairo built using blocks from Giza pyramid
1700 CE	Travellers and explorers began exploring the pyramids
1972 CE	Pyramid fields listed as a UNESCO world heritage site



# Ancient EGYPT

Key Knowledge Overview
There are 138 identified pyramids from Ancient Egypt
Pyramids were built as tombs for pharaohs and their queens
Egyptians created three types of pyramid - bent, smooth and stepped
The pyramids of Giza took between 10 and 20 years to build and the largest pyramid is over 150m tall
Approximately 20,000 workers were needed to build a pyramid
Pyramids were made from lime and granite blocks that were quarried and usually transported using the Nile
Blocks to construct pyramids weighed 2.5 tonnes on average (equivalent to two cars)
It is generally agreed that slaves were used for large amounts of the construction process
A pharaoh's tomb contained a wide variety of expensive jewellery, weapons, oils and sometimes even a boat!
As well as the tomb, a pyramid also contained a wide variety of passageways, rooms and courtyards
Hieroglyphics could be found on the walls detailing stories, information and prayers
Cities and towns often developed alongside a pyramid due to the amount of people that were working there

**Artefacts: Shabti, Papyrus, Sarcophagus, Canopic Jar**



**HOOK:** Become Egyptologists and investigate a range of Egyptian Artefacts  
**OUTCOME:** Horrible Histories Video Review of Learning to answer the key enquiry question

**Key shared reading texts to support knowledge building:**



Key vocabulary	
pharaoh	Name for the monarch of Ancient Egypt
pyramid	A structure whose outer surfaces are triangular and converge to a point at the top
mummification	The process of preserving the skin and flesh of a corpse
Canopic jar	Used to contain organs for use in the afterlife
The Land of Two Fields	where Ancient Egyptians believed they headed to when they died
Nile	The longest river in the world that runs through the entirety of Egypt
hieroglyphics	A pictorial form of writing used by Ancient Egyptians
Giza	A city in Egypt containing three pyramids including the Great Pyramid (King Khofu's tomb)
architect	A person who plans and designs the construction of buildings
quarry	A large pit from which stone is extracted

# Year 3 Autumn Term

## Why Ancient Egypt?

In Key Stage 1, children learn to understand the past and focus on recent history. This will be the first ancient history driven topic that this year group will have undertaken in school and so their first look into understanding an ancient civilisation. Ancient Egypt is a fascinating subject filled with gory details, unbelievable stories and many opportunities for learning experiences across the curriculum.



## Computing

We will be learning how to use search engines effectively to support our research. We will also be learning how to write algorithms!



## Science

Our unit of learning will be Light and Shadows. We will be exploring different light sources, how shadows are made and investigating questions such as 'Is the moon a light source?'

## PE

In PE this half term, we will be focusing on improving our fitness levels and our netball skills.

We are also running the Daily Mile and enjoying dance sessions in class every day.

## English

Our class text is 'There's a Pharaoh in the Bath' by Jeremy Strong. We will be writing:

- First Person Narrative
- Setting Descriptions
- Securing KS1 writing skills

# Ancient Egypt

## French

In French, we will be building on the pupil's conversation starter knowledge from Year 2 and learning classroom instructions, parts of the body, colours and clothing.

## RE

In RE we will be exploring Christianity and Hinduism.

## Geography

We will be securing our key geographical knowledge from KS1 such as knowing the continents and oceans. We are looking at the location of Egypt, its landscape and how this is influenced by the River Nile.

## Jigsaw

We will be using our Jigsaw time to explore our topic 'Being Me in My World' where we look at how we can build healthy relationships with ourselves, our peers and school community.

## Music

In Autumn 1, we will be learning to play the glockenspiel.

## Art

We will be studying the drawing style used to depict Egyptian gods. Our final piece will be created using pastels.

Design Technology  
Using the 'Design, Make, Evaluate' model, we will be creating replicas of Ancient Egyptian artefacts.

## History

We will be using timelines to plot events in chronological order, investigating key changes that were brought about by the Ancient Egyptians and their impact on the modern world. We will be looking at traditions from Ancient Egypt and evaluating how people lived at the time.

## Maths

In Maths, we will be securing key skills from year two, assessing where pupils have gaps in knowledge and ensuring that the children are ready to build upon prior learning. We will then be studying: Place Value, Addition and Subtraction and Multiplication and Division.