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Ancient Egypt Curriculum Map

Study the people and cultures of the ancient civilizations while learning about their magnificent achievements in architecture, government, science, philosophy, arts, and religion. Learn about the pharaohs, the pyramids, mummification, and hieroglyphics.

Students will be:

- introduced to the people and their lifestyle in an Ancient Civilization.
- able develop an ability to research, record and report factual information.
- able examine an Ancient Civilization and compare it to a modern society.
- able to relate the effect one civilization has on another civilization.

To the Teacher:

The ideas and activities have been grouped according to different topics pertaining to Ancient Egypt. The information sheets may be duplicated, mounted on a sturdy backing and laminated. Locate illustrations that pertain to Ancient Egypt and use them as covers to make several reference books for students usage at centers. Join the pages together using Cerlox binding. Each information sheet may also be mounted on a file folder and placed at individual centers. The information sheets may be used at a reading center or at a research center. Follow-up activities maybe developed and used with the information sheets.

Introduction and Teacher Planning Information:

- Expectations and List of Skills
- List of Resources
- List of Vocabulary
- Glossary of Egyptian Terms
- Teacher Information – History Overview
- Teacher Input Suggestions
- Maps of Egypt – one outline and one labeled
- Student Tracking Sheet
- Answer Key

Activities:

Reading Information Cards & Reading Activities:

- Reading Information #1: Who are the Egyptians?
- Reading Information #2 Where Were the Ancient Egyptians Located?
- Reading Information #3 Egyptian Homes
- Reading Information #4 Early Egyptian Family Life
- Reading Information #5 Fashion in Ancient Egypt
- Reading Information #6 Early Egyptian Cuisine
- Reading Information #7 Ancient Egyptians at Work
- Reading Information #8 Traveling and Trading in Ancient Egyptian
- Reading Information #9 Egyptian Religion
- Reading Information #10 Egyptian Mummies and Mummification
- Reading Information #11 Egyptian Pyramids
- Reading Information #12 Pharaoh and His Government

Word Study Activities

1. Alphabetical Order
2. Mummy Word Search
3. The Great Pyramid Crossword
4. Secret Syllables
5. Synonyms of a Sphinx
6. Hetephere's Homonyms
7. The Gender of Words
8. Making Word Plurals

Language Activities

1. Egyptian Nouns
2. Working with Capitalization and Punctuation
3. Sentence Sense
4. Expository Paragraph
5. Subject and Predicate
6. Subject and Predicate

Research Activities

1. What is Natron?
2. Ancient Egyptian Animals
3. Gods and Goddess of Ancient Egypt
4. The World of Spirits
5. The Pharaoh's of Egypt
6. Who is Pharaoh?
7. Famous Ancient Places
8. The Rosetta Stone
9. Not all Mummies are Egyptian
10. What is Hieroglyphics?
11. Egyptian Inventions

Creative Writing Activities

1. Writing Alliteration
2. A Mummy Mystery
3. Creating a Cinquain
4. An Egyptian Acrostic
5. Going Back in Time
6. Story Starters
7. Writing a "How to Book"
8. Rhyming Couplets
9. Treasures in a Tomb

Math Activities

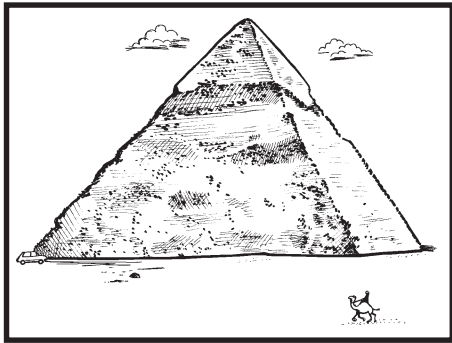
1. Solving Problems
2. Nefertiti's Numbers
3. Kinds of Lines
4. Drawing Lines
5. Kinds of Angles
6. How to Read Angles
7. Constructing Triangles



Tutankhamen's Information Card #11

Egyptian Pyramids

Pyramids were built in Egypt to house the dead bodies of Egyptian kings. The Egyptians believed that a person's body had to be preserved and protected so the soul could live forever. The remains of thirty-five major pyramids can still be found standing near the Nile River.



Early Egyptian graves were very simply constructed and could be easily broken into and robbed. To prevent this from happening, the Egyptians built tombs called "mastabas". A mastaba was a rectangular building placed over a burial chamber. Even though mastabas were built with many rooms inside to protect the burial chamber from thieves, the graves were still robbed.

The first pyramid was built around 2650 B.C. and was called a "step pyramid". It was built for Pharaoh Zoser at Saqqarah. There were six huge steps built on top of the tomb to make it safe from robbers.

The first smooth-sided pyramid was built about 2600 B.C. It began as a stepped pyramid and then later the steps were filled in with casing stones to give the building smooth, sloping sides. One of the most famous groups of pyramids is found at Giza. The largest of these pyramids is called "The Great Pyramid" built for Pharaoh Khufu. Building a pyramid this size would have taken about twenty years.

Thousands of people were employed to build a pyramid. It was designed by an "architect" and his planners. The pharaoh had to agree to the plans before the building could begin. "Quarrymen" and "masons" cut and shaped the stones so they would fit. The walls were decorated by "painters", and "sculptors" made statues and carvings. The heavy stones were moved by the common laborers (farmers) who had no specialized

ANCIENT EGYPT

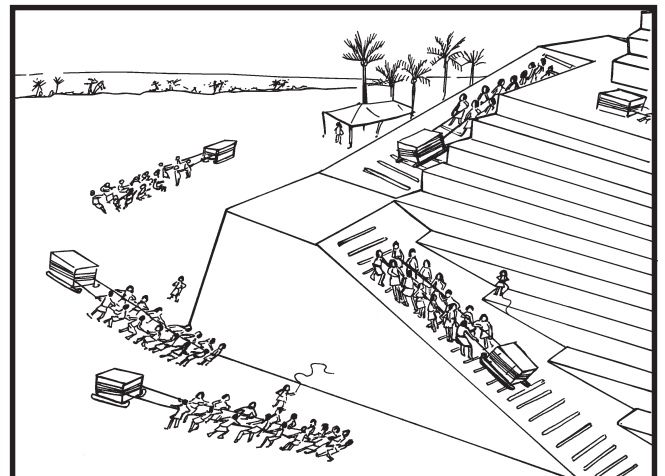
skills. This type of work was often done during the flood when the farmers were not busy. The workers were paid with food, wine, clothes and other goods.

The "Great Pyramid" contains over two million blocks of stone. Each stone weighs up to two tonnes (4 400 pounds) and was difficult to cut and move. Stones were cut out of the ground with wooden, copper or stone tools. Grooves were made in the rock and wooden wedges were driven into them. Water was poured over the wedges which caused the wood to swell and split the stones into pieces. Sometimes the stones were transported to the building site by boat or they were dragged on sledges or rolled across the sand on rollers by gangs of men.

The foundation had to be laid first. The plan of the pyramid was marked out in the sand with wooden stakes and string. Ditches were dug and filled with water to make sure they were level. Next stones were laid in the ditches.

A mud ramp was built after the first layer of stones was laid so that the workmen could reach the next level. Each time a new layer was added a new ramp was built. The smooth white facing stones were placed on the faces of the pyramids as the work was finished and the ramps were removed. Painters and sculptors finished the inside of the pyramid preparing the tomb and burial chamber.

On the inside of a pyramid was found a maze of passages and rooms. The builders did everything they could to hide the burial chamber so that the treasures would not be stolen by thieves. A pyramid was entered on the north side and its entrance was always well hidden. Sometimes the passageways led to false burial chambers or dead ends.





Tutankhamen's Reading Activity #11

Read Tutankhamen's Information Card called "Egyptian Pyramids".

Skim through the information story to find a sentence that proves each statement below is correct.

Copy the first **five** words of the sentence and the number of the paragraph.

1. The Egyptians buried their dead in large monuments.
2. There are still pyramids found in Egypt.
3. It took a long time to build a pyramid.
4. Many people were employed to build a pyramid.
5. The heavy work was done by the lower class citizens.
6. Stones were split with water and wood.
7. A great deal of thought and planning went into protecting the tomb's treasures.
8. The workers were not paid with money for their work.
9. There are numerous stone blocks in the Great Pyramid.
10. The huge stones were moved in different ways.

