

Maple Tree Primary School

Year 3: History – What did Ancient Egyptians believe?

What should I already know?

- To know that history is divided into periods of history e.g. ancient times, middle ages and modern.
- To know that the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age periods are named after the materials that were commonly used to make tools.
- To know that BC means ‘before Christ’ and is the term used to date the years before Jesus was born
- To know that Anno Domini (AD) is Latin for ‘in the Year of the Lord,’ and is the term used to date the years after Jesus was born.
- To know that prehistory is the period of time before written methods and stretches until the Roman invasion in AD43.
- To know that significant archaeological findings are those which change how we see the past.

ancient	<i>From a very long time ago.</i>
*civilisation	<i>A large group of people with a common language, way of life and governance.</i>
fertile	<i>Soil which is rich with nutrients and good for growing crops.</i>
grave goods	<i>Objects buried with a dead person.</i>
hieroglyphics	<i>A writing system using symbols and pictures.</i>
immortal	<i>Living forever.</i>
mummification	<i>The process of preserving a dead body as a mummy.</i>
papyrus	<i>A plant that grows along the River Nile, which was used to make paper.</i>
pharaoh	<i>A ruler of ancient Egypt, like a king or queen.</i>
River Nile	<i>A river in North Africa which is the longest in the world.</i>

Ancient Egyptian beliefs

Ancient Egyptians worshipped over 1,500 gods and goddesses, responsible for all aspects of daily Egyptian life. For example, Thoth was the god of writing. Temples were built for the gods and festivals were dedicated in their honour.

The River Nile

The ancient Egyptian civilisation developed along the banks of the River Nile. It gave ancient Egyptians water for drinking, fishing and trade. It flooded every year, making the soil rich for growing crops.



The afterlife

The ancient Egyptians believed in life after death and that people would journey to another world where they could live forever. They preserved the bodies of the dead because they believed the soul needed the body for its journey to the afterlife.

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Hieroglyphics

Ancient Egyptians had a writing system made up of hieroglyphs - symbols representing sounds, words or ideas. Specially trained scribes used them to record important events, laws and prayers on papyrus and they were inscribed on temple and tomb walls.

