

# Y5 - PHARAOHS - KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

## THE ANCIENT EGYPTIANS

People have settled in Egypt as far back as 6000 BC but the Ancient Egyptian Dynasty began when the first pharaoh (Namer) united the lands of Egypt.

So how is it we know so much about the past?



Monuments such as the Sphinx and the Pyramids.



Mummies and tombs of the pharaohs



Artefacts from the past discovered by archaeologists.

## THE PHARAOHS

As Ancient Egyptian rulers, pharaohs were both the heads of state and the religious leaders of their people. They had a range of roles, including:



Making laws and upholding them across Egypt.



Maintain religious harmony for the Egyptian gods.



Instruct for taxes to be collected.



Oversee all of the land across Egypt.

## FAMOUS PHARAOHS



### Tutankhamun (1332-1323 BC)

One of the most famous pharaohs of Egypt. His tomb was discovered by the archaeologist Howard Carter.



### Hatsheput (1479-1485 BC)

The longest reigning female pharaoh. She was responsible for one of the most successful trading expeditions in Egypt.



### Ramesses II (1279-1213 BC)

One of the most powerful pharaohs in Egypt. He founded many cities and had huge statues of himself.



### Cleopatra VII (51-30 BC)

The last pharaoh of Egypt. After her reign, Egypt became part of the Roman Empire.

## RELIGION IN ANCIENT EGYPT

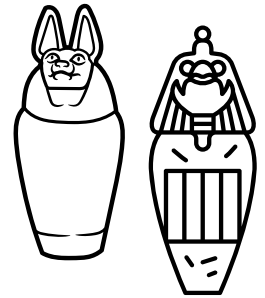
The Ancient Egyptians were polytheistic (believing in more than one God). Belief in the gods dictated how people lived their lives, how they treated other people, how they farmed and worked, and all their beliefs about the afterlife. Some of the popular gods were:

- Ra (Sun)
- Anubis (Death)
- Horus (Sky)
- Thoth (Wisdom)
- Bastet (Cats)
- Hathor (Motherhood)
- Osiris (Underworld)
- Set (Chaos)

## MUMMIFICATION

The Egyptians believed in life beyond death and that the body was the home for the soul or spirit. If a body was destroyed after death, then the soul could be lost. This is why the Egyptians mummified their dead.

The mummification process involved removing the organs from the body (except the heart), drying it out using natron salts and then wrapping the body in linen. It was a long process that took around 70 days! The main organs were placed in canopic jars and the mummified body was placed in a sarcophagus.



## LAND USE IN EGYPT

Many of the cities of Ancient Egypt developed along the Nile River due to the fertile farmland along its banks. Each year in June, the banks would flood, leaving the soil perfect for planting crops.

They also used the Nile to bathe in, to catch fish and to harvest papyrus reeds which were used to make a type of paper and also in some boats.

