

Who were the Ancient Egyptians?

For 3000 years, Ancient Egypt was home to some of the most **influential** inventions and discoveries in history. The Egyptians developed systems for writing (including hieroglyphics) and mathematics; they used paper (papyrus) and wrote texts on religion, astronomy and medicine. The Egyptians built magnificent buildings, temples and tombs, decorating them with pictures, paintings and carvings. This great civilisation continued until the death of Cleopatra VII in 30 BCE when Egypt fell to the Roman Empire.



Ancient Egypt

Main events and society
History Spring term

<u>Key Vocabulary</u>	
Influential	Makes people take notice
Fertile	Able to support the growth of plants
Irrigation	Supply land with water
Immortality	The ability to live forever
Rituals	Religious services that follow set patterns
Decipher	Work out what something says
Archaeologists	People who study the past by examining remains and objects
Canopic jars	Containers holding organs from a body
Sarcophagus	Decorative container for a body
Mummy	Preserved body
Temples	Places of worship
Engineering	Using scientific knowledge to build
Architects	People who design buildings

<u>Main Events</u>	
c.7000BC	First settlers on the Nile
c.2600BC	First known pyramids built
c.2560BC	Great Pyramid at Giza completed
c.2200 BC	End of the pyramid era
c.1332BC	The 10-year rule of Tutankhamun begins.
c.51 BC	Cleopatra's reign begins

<u>The Nile</u>
Life revolved around the Nile. Every year, it flooded and left behind a black silt that enriched the soil for growing crops. The river was also used to irrigate fields in other areas. The Nile was used for water, fishing and trade. Mud from the river banks was used to make bricks and papyrus plants were used to make paper. Most people lived along and around the Nile. This is still



Writing (Hieroglyphics)

In ancient Egypt, scribes wrote on papyrus. Papyrus was a thick type of paper made from reeds that grew along the Nile. Scribes were mostly men who went to a special school to learn to write. Scribes wrote using hieroglyphs. Hieroglyphs were used for religious texts and inscriptions on statues and tombs. They were also used for counting crops and animals so that the right taxes could be taken.

