West Haddon Endowed Church of England School

Where Happiness Promotes Success

Knowledge Organiser | **Topic – Years 5 & 6** | **Autumn** | **The Ancient Egyptians**

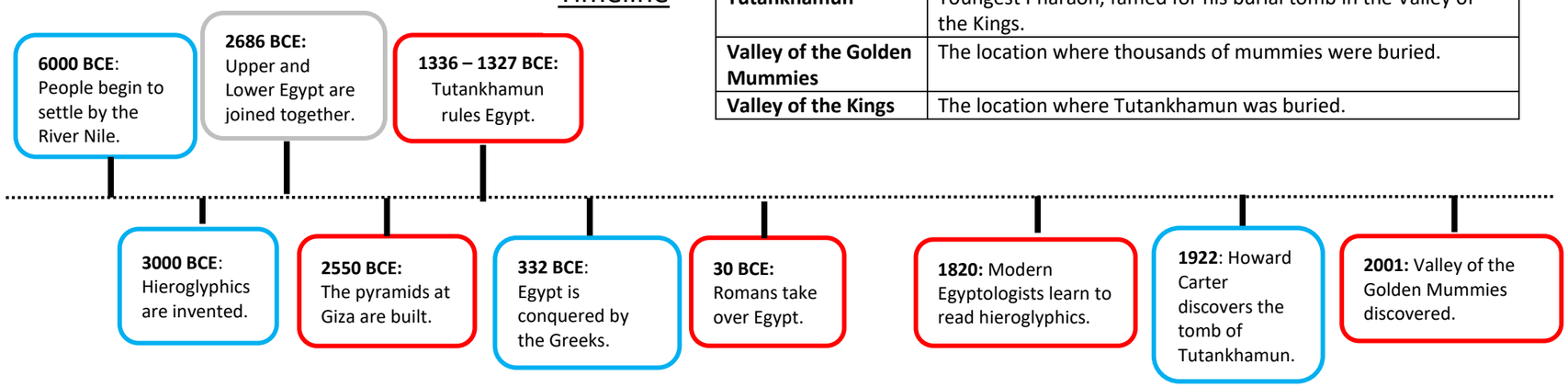
What I should know already:

- Other ancient civilisations such as the Greeks, Romans and Maya.
- The continents, including the location of Africa.
- The importance of archaeology in finding artefacts that allow us to understand the past.
- That different peoples and cultures have their beliefs about what happens when we die.
- You may know about Mayan glyphs, used for writing, Mayan temples used for burials and the importance of water for any successful settlement.

What I should know by the end of the unit:

- The location of Ancient Egypt in both time (including Ancient Egypt's place in the Bible) and place.
- The importance of the River Nile and its annual flooding for agriculture and how this supported a thriving civilisation.
- How archaeology allows us to build us a picture of everyday life in the past.
- Important Egyptologists that discovered and catalogued artefacts.
- How the Ancient Egyptians lived their everyday lives, and how this showed they were an advanced civilisation.
- The importance of religion and some of the many gods worshipped.
- Their beliefs about life after death and how this led to mummification and the building of the pyramids.
- The social structure of Egyptian society, from Pharaohs to slaves.
- Some of the important burial sites of the period, including the Valley of the Kings.
- The use of hieroglyphics by the Ancient Egyptians.
- The rise of Ancient Egypt and its fall, becoming a province of the Roman Empire and how this pattern is seen in great civilisations throughout history.

Timeline



Vocabulary and People

afterlife	The place where Egyptians believed they would go after they died.
Akhet	The season of the year when the Nile river flooded. A very important time of year in the desert!
Ancient Egyptian	of, relating to, or characteristic of the Egyptians in the period studied or any of their languages.
archaeologist	Someone who studies the past by exploring old remains.
canopic jars	Special jars that held the organs of a mummy including the lungs, intestines, liver and stomach.
civilisation	A human society with its own social organisation and culture.
culture	Activities such as the arts and philosophy, which are considered to be important for the development of civilisation.
dynasty	A period of rule when a series of Pharaohs all came from the same family.
Egyptologist	An archaeologist who focusses on Ancient Egypt.
fertile	Soil that is able to produce lots of crops.
hierarchy	a system of organising people into different ranks or levels of importance, for example in society.
hieroglyphics	A type of writing that used a combination of pictures and symbols.
Howard Carter	A famous Egyptologist who discovered Tutankhamun's tomb.
human features	Features of land that have been impacted by human activity.
irrigation	Supplying the land and crops with water.
mummification	The process of preserving a body after death in preparation for the afterlife.
papyrus	A plant that grew on the banks of the Nile. It was used as an early version of paper.
Pharaoh	The supreme ruler of all of Ancient Egypt.
physical features	natural features of land.
pyramids	Large tombs built for the Pharaohs.
polytheists	The worship of or belief in more than one god.
River Nile	The river that runs through Egypt. When it flooded, it left behind fertile mud, ideal for growing crops.
sarcophagus	A large stone box that held a mummy's coffin. Often richly decorated for Pharaohs.
society	people in general, thought of as a large organized group.
Tutankhamun	Youngest Pharaoh, famed for his burial tomb in the Valley of the Kings.
Valley of the Golden Mummies	The location where thousands of mummies were buried.
Valley of the Kings	The location where Tutankhamun was buried.

Historical Skills and Enquiry



- Chronologically place Ancient Egypt within their existing knowledge of world history.
- Identify connections, contrasts and trends between Ancient Egypt and other civilisations studied (such as common aspects of civilisation, the rise and decline of all empires), using correct historical terminology.
- Answer historically valid questions about cause: How did beliefs about life after death influence Ancient Egyptian society?
- Answer historically valid questions about similarity and difference: How were the Ancient Egyptians similar and different to other civilisations studied?
- Make a thoughtful use of both primary and secondary sources in describing aspects of Ancient Egypt.

Geographical Skills and Fieldwork

- Know the physical geography of northern Africa, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, deserts.
- Know the human geography of the Ancient Egyptian civilisation, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links.
- Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate Egypt and significant landmarks.

Where did the Ancient Egyptians live?

