

# Egyptians

## Key Vocabulary

Afterlife	afterlife a life that some people believe begins when you die, for example a life in heaven or as another person or animal
Ancient belonging	ancient belonging to the distant past, especially to the period in history before the end of the Roman Empire (AD 410)
Archaeologist	someone who studies the past by exploring old remains
Architecture	the art of planning, designing and constructing buildings
Circa	Latin meaning 'around'. c. 800 BC means around 800 BC.
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
Deities	deities a god or goddess
Fertile	rich in nutrients to support the growth of many plants
Hieroglyphics	symbols in the form of pictures which are used in some writing systems, for example those of ancient Egypt. irrigation supply land with water in order to help crops grow
mummification	If a dead body is mummified, it is preserved, for example by rubbing it with special oils and wrapping it in cloth
pharaoh	a king of ancient Egypt

## Important Facts

- The Nile was important because it provided water for crops but also fertile soil - this means that people settled near the banks of the Nile as it was considered a prime location. They were among the first civilisations to use irrigation systems.
- The Nile also provided mud for bricks and pots, opportunities for fishing, papyrus reeds and a key means of transport.
- We know about ancient Egyptian life because of evidence such as the pyramids, the artefacts that were found there and methods of communications such as the use of hieroglyphics and papyrus rolls.
- Egyptian society was very hierarchical - this means that some groups of people were deemed more important than others. Each group had a different role to play in Egyptian society.
- Mummification was the process of preserving a body - this process was very important to the Egyptians as they believed this would prepare the body for their journey into the afterlife.
- The bodies of important people, such as pharaohs, were placed in these pyramids, which were built as tombs.
- Religion was very important in Ancient Egypt. They were polytheists - they believed in different gods and goddesses that were in charge of different parts of their lives. These were called deities.

