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| **Topic: Egypt** | | **Year: 4** | | | **Strand: Civilization** | | | | |
| **What should I already know?** | | **What will I find out by the end of the unit?** | | | **Vocabulary** | | | | |
| * Egypt is a country in the **continent** of Africa. * The **climate** of Egypt is different to that of the UK. Human and physical geographical features of Egypt. What life was like in Stone Age Britain. | | * 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 be-cause 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. | | | **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 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  **Artefacts** an object from the past that shows evidence of what life was like  **Chronology** the order of events in time  **Circa** Latin meaning ‘around’. c. 800 BC means around 800 BC.  **Civilisation** a human society with its own social organisation and culture.  **Climate** the general weather conditions that are typical of a place  **Continent** a very large area of land that consists of many countries. Europe is a continent.  **Culture** activities such as the arts and philosophy, which are considered to be important for the development of civilisation  **Deities** a god or goddess  **Fertile** rich in nutrients to support the growth of many plants  **Hierarchy** a system of organising people into different ranks or levels of importance, for example in society  **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  **Papyrus** a tall water plant that grows in Africa  **Pharaoh** a king of ancient Egypt  **Polytheists** the worship of or belief in more than one god  **Preserve** making sure that something remains as it is, and does not change or end ancient stone buildings with four triangular sloping sides. The most famous  **Pyramids** structures built in ancient Egypt to contain the bodies of their kings and queens.  **Sarcophagus** a large decorative container in which a dead body was placed in ancient times  **Settler/ settlement** people who migrate to a new place. When people start a community, this is a settlement  **Society** people in general, thought of as a large organized group  **Tomb** a large grave that is above ground  **Trade** the activity of buying, selling, or exchanging goods or service | | | | |
| **Historical Skills and Enquiry** | |
| * Describe how Egyptian artefacts and ruins tell us about their culture, and religious beliefs. * Describe what Egyptian life was like for different groups of people. * Describe how the Egyptian society has had an impact on modern society. * Describe why people chose to settle in certain areas in ancient Egypt. * Compare what was happening in the Egyptian civilisation with what was happening in Britain at the same time. Compare aspects of life such as achievements, society, beliefs, and architecture. * Present what you know about the Egyptians using a variety of skills (e.g. Geography, English, Maths, Computing, etc) Use appropriate vocabulary to communicate about the Egyptians. | |
| **Timeline** |  | | **Transport** | * What different types of transport where there? * How did Egyptians trade goods? | | **Food** | * What did ordinary Egyptians eat and drink? * How did Egyptians grow their crops? | **Women** | * Who was Cleopatra and why was she so important? |