

Egypt

Content Area: **Social Studies**
Course(s): **Social Studies 1**
Time Period: **Marking Period 4**
Length: **4 weeks**
Status: **Published**

Unit Overview

Essential Questions

Where is Egypt?

What is Egypt like?

What is special about ancient Egypt?

Content

The history of Egypt dates back more than 5,000 years. These lands were ruled by an Egyptian king, called the pharaoh.

Location and Climate: Egypt is a country in northern Africa, bordering the Mediterranean Sea and located between Libya and the Gaza strip. Egypt has a desert climate, with hot, dry summers and moderate winters. There is very little rainfall. The Nile River, the longest river, runs through Egypt, and provides water essential for farming and living.

Society: The pharaoh and his family were very rich and ruled over everyone else. There were wealthy officials who worked for the government, and priests who served the Egyptian gods. Egyptians were merchants and craftspeople. Farmers lived in the country and grew foods such as grains, dates, figs, and onions as well as raising livestock. Slaves belonged to the upper classes and served their owners.

Religion: They were polytheistic, which means they believed in many gods. Different gods ruled over different aspects of Egyptian life. For example, there was a god who ruled over the sun (Ra), a god of the dead (Thoth), and a goddess of justice (Maat).

Death: The ancient Egyptians believed that if people were good while they were alive, they would continue living in an afterworld that was very beautiful and much like earth. Ancient Egyptians preserved the bodies of the dead using a special process called mummification.

Mummification: Special priests would work on embalming, or mummifying, the body by draining, drying, and wrapping the body. Internal organs had to be removed and placed in special jars that were buried along with the mummy. These were called canopic jars. The mummy was wrapped up in hundreds of yards of linen strips. The mummy was then placed inside a coffin, sometimes called a sarcophagus.

Learning from tombs: Many famous tombs, including those in the Valley of the Kings, were discovered. Also around this time, the translation of ancient Egyptian writing, called hieroglyphs, was translated using the Rosetta Stone.

Vocabulary: Cartouche, hieroglyphics, pyramids, felucca, sarcophagus, camels, pharaohs, sphinx

Skills

Locate Egypt on a map

Describe the weather conditions

Explain what the cartouche, pyramid and sarcophagus is

Compare and Contrast Egypt with the United States

Assessments

Student Participation

Teacher Observation

Worksheets

Crafts

International Day performance

Unit Test

Lessons/Learning Scenarios

Books:

- Egyptian Cinderella
- Ten Little Mummies: A Counting Book
- A Ticket to Egypt by Tom Streissguth
- Welcome to Egypt by Gareth Stevens Publishing

Take a Tour of Egypt – View images of important landmarks of Egypt

Watch movie about Egypt

Listen to music and sing

Write hieroglyphics

Make sarcophagus with mummy

Make cartouche

Make cereal pyramid

Decorate King Tut mask

Decorate Egyptian collars

Play Senet

Taste the food of Egypt; Decorate a plate of typical Egyptian food.

Standards

SOC.K-4.6.1.4.A.j	In an interconnected world, it important to consider different cultural perspectives before proposing solutions to local, state, national, and global challenges.
SOC.K-4.6.1.4.A.k	In an interconnected world, increased collaboration is needed by individuals, groups, and nations to solve global problems.
SOC.K-4.6.1.4.A.14	Describe how the world is divided into many nations that have their own governments, languages, customs, and laws.
SOC.K-4.6.1.4.A.15	Explain how and why it is important that people from diverse cultures collaborate to find solutions to community, state, national, and global challenges.
SOC.K-4.6.1.4.B.1	Compare and contrast information that can be found on different types of maps, and determine when the information may be useful.
SOC.K-4.6.1.4.D.f	American culture, based on specific traditions and values, has been influenced by the behaviors of different cultural groups living in the United States.
SOC.K-4.6.1.4.D.13	Describe how culture is expressed through and influenced by the behavior of people.
SOC.K-4.6.1.4.D.19	Explain how experiences and events may be interpreted differently by people with different cultural or individual perspectives.
SOC.K-4.6.1.4.D.20	Describe why it is important to understand the perspectives of other cultures in an interconnected world.

Resources
