

Y3 – Ancient Egypt – What were the greatest achievements of Ancient Egypt? Lesson 4

Lesson	4 of 10	National Curriculum links	Key lesson question	Who were the Egyptian gods?
Learning objective	I can explain how and who the ancient Egyptians worshipped.		Resources	• lesson presentation (PPT) • activity worksheets • practical activity ideas and photo resource • stop and jot worksheet
		NC KS2: Pupils will: • be taught about the achievements of the earliest civilisations – an overview of where and when the first civilisations appeared and an in-depth study of Ancient Egypt		

Teaching input

- **Historical skills** – Review the ‘key historical skills’ and ‘supporting enquiry skills’ the children will use in this lesson, highlighted on the slide.
- **What were the greatest achievements of Ancient Egypt?** – The following two slides show the lesson questions the children will answer in this unit. The current lesson’s question is highlighted on the slide.
- **Key vocabulary for this lesson** – Go through the key vocabulary for this lesson and their definitions. Have any of the children heard these words before? Did they already know their meanings?
- **Historical significance** – Choose a child to read what Brianna says about the key historical skill of ‘Historical significance’.
- **Religion** – Learn about the old religion of ancient Egypt and what polytheism is. Read through the slide, explaining that the children would now meet three ancient Egyptian gods.
- **Word detective** - This slide shows the origins of the word ‘polytheistic’. Read it out to the children, explaining each part of the word and the different meanings.
- **Ra** – Introduce Ra. Read through the slide explaining that Ra is the god of the Sun and the most important god.
- **Bastet** – Introduce Bastet. Read through the slide explaining that she is the protector of lower Egypt and the protector of pregnant women.
- **Sekhmet** – Introduce Sekhmet. Read through the slide explaining that she is the warrior goddess and the protector of warriors in battle.
- **Ancient Egyptian gods** – Explore the concept of everything having a god in ancient Egypt and how essential aspects of life, such as the Sun and the River Nile, were honoured by the deification of these aspects. Ancient Egyptians would have worshipped some gods more than others at different times, but all of the gods would have played an essential role in people’s lives.
- **Stop and jot** – The children are to read the statements of each worshipper on their stop and jot worksheet and decide with their learning partner, which god they should worship. Take feedback from the class before revealing the answers over the following three slides.
- **The sun temple** – Teach the children about the temples in ancient Egypt and how they were significant monuments of that time. Read through the slide, explaining that the ancient Egyptian temples would have been very grand and important, sacred places of worship.
- **Let’s discuss** – The children are to study the picture of an ancient Egyptian sun temple and answer the questions with their learning partner. Can they identify the temple in the picture? How did they know it was the temple? Sentence starters are provided to support discussion. Take feedback from the class before the answers are revealed on the following slide.
- **Temple with an obelisk** – Show the children the photograph of the remains of a temple with an obelisk in the present day. Explain that this is how we know about the temples and the Egyptian’s beliefs because there is evidence of it still left today.
- **Activity** – Introduce the main activity. Explain to the children that they are going to be role-playing as tour guides on a “Sun temple tour”. The children can use the information and images on the activity worksheet to help them. Once the children have had enough time to practise, they can present their tour in front of one of the images on the two following slides.
- **Challenge** – Ask the children ‘Why do you think Ra was the most important god?’. Allow time for them to discuss this question with their learning partner, using the sentence starters to help them. Take feedback from the class before revealing the answer on the following slide.

Main activity	Challenge
The children will work in groups to prepare a short role-play “Sun Temple Tour,” taking on roles such as the tour guide, worshipper, god or builder. During the tour, children explain who their god is, why they were worshipped, and why the sun and obelisk were important to Ancient Egyptian beliefs. Groups present their temples to visiting “tourists,” using spoken explanation and role play to demonstrate their understanding of Ancient Egyptian religion. Two sun temple images are provided on the PPT to display as a backdrop while children present their tour.	Why do you think Ra was the most important god?

Cumulative quiz questions	Self-assessment	Key vocabulary
10. Polytheistic means... 11. What is Ra the god of? 12. Where did Ancient Egyptians worship?	• I can name at least one Ancient Egyptian god. • I can explain why the Egyptians worshipped different gods.	crops - plants grown on a farm temple - a place of worship