

Do Now:

Open notebooks to next clean page.

List 5 things you would like to visit/investigate about Ancient Egypt.

Virtual Field Trip to Egypt





There's so much to see in this vast desert region. We'll begin in the Nile Delta near the Mediterranean Sea. Then, we'll check out the Pyramids and the Sphinx.

Nile Delta

Notice how green the land area around the Nile Delta & River are!

Why do you think that is?

The Nile Delta played an important role in Egypt's history. Originally there were 5 tributaries that fed the delta region, the land was fertile and was wonderful farm land. With fertile soil, the Egyptians developed a sustainable food supply. Over time the tributaries dried up and today there are only 2 remaining.



<http://www.touregypt.net/delta2.htm>

Nile River

Let's check out how else the river helped the Egyptians!

The river flooded regularly allowing the Ancient Egyptians to determine their planting seasons. This was beneficial to the growth of their civilization. Egyptians also developed irrigation. The Nile River was essentially their life source providing water for their crops. This is one of the reasons that Herodotus named it the "Gift of the Nile".



Pyramids



The pyramids were built by the pharaohs of Egypt as their burial tombs. Why were they built on the West Bank? Who was the Great Pyramid built for?

Pyramids were built on the West Bank of the Nile River because it was said to be the side of the dead. Egyptians believed the sun “died” every night as it set in the West.

The Great Pyramid, pictured here, was constructed for Khufu. He began construction as soon as he became pharaoh.

Pyramid at Giza

Let's investigate the Great Pyramid!

Scientists believed that over 100,000 workers helped to build the Great Pyramid. During the flood season, workers would come and work. They were treated well and given food and clothing.

The pyramid itself is an engineering marvel. The 4 sides line up with the cardinal directions. It was the tallest structure in the world for more than 4,000 years! It is made of more than 2 million limestone blocks each weighing 2 ½ tons!



Who built the Pyramids?

There are 2 renowned Egyptologists named Mark Lehner and Zahi Hawass. They're researching the workers. They've discovered that there were probably around 20-30 thousand workers on site at one time! They also believe that there was a year round work force, but that during the flood months additional workers would join in the construction. Lehner and Hawass have uncovered evidence of workers cemeteries and bakeries. This evidence allows them to identify more accurately the number of workers who helped with the construction.



Great Sphinx



There's a legend about the Great Sphinx, let's find out what it is!

The Sphinx is the head of a human and body of a lion. We only know part of the legend because the rest has been lost over the years.

<http://www.unmuseum.org/sphinx.htm>

More Websites to Visit!

"Egypt: Destinations - Nile Delta." *Egypt Travel, Tours, Vacations, Ancient Egypt from Tour Egypt*. Web. 20 July 2010. <http://www.touregypt.net/delta2.htm>

Gill, N.S. "The Nile - What Is the Nile River." *Ancient / Classical History - Ancient Greece & Rome & Classics Research Guide*. Web. 20 July 2010. <http://ancienthistory.about.com/cs/egypt/g/nileriverdelta.htm>

"NOVA Online/Pyramids/Who Built the Pyramids?" *PBS*. Web. 20 July 2010. <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/pyramid/explore/builders.html>

"Pyramids." *Introduction*. Web. 21 July 2010. <http://www.ancientegypt.co.uk/pyramids/home.html>

"The Pyramids of Giza in Egypt." *Egypt Pyramids Pharaohs Hieroglyphs - Mark Millmore's Ancient Egypt*. Web. 20 July 2010. <http://www.discoveringegypt.com/pyramid3.htm>

Welcome Home!

What an interesting trip to Egypt! Let's share what we know!

