

What's the
same?
What's different?

Starter





Look at the map you have been given.

Take turns with a partner to roll the dice and answer the corresponding questions.

L.O. I can give explanations as to why people in the past lived differently.

Living Along the River Nile

The river running through Ancient Egypt was called the River Nile. It is still there today and continues to be an important feature of the Egyptian landscape.

Much of Egypt is desert. It is hot and dry, making it hard to grow crops or graze animals. This makes it a difficult place for communities to settle.

The land around the River Nile is fertile. This means that crops grow well and animals can be fed. Many Egyptian cities and settlements developed right next to the Nile for this reason.



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The Gift of the Nile

One historian called Herodotus famously called Ancient Egypt the "Gift of River Nile" as the river provided the Egyptians with so many essential resources.



Which of these things do you think were 'gifts' that came from living near the River Nile?

food

transport

bricks

trade

protection

paper

clothing

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The Gift of the Nile

The answer is all of them!

The Nile was essential for the Ancient Egyptians to survive and thrive as a civilisation. It gave them protection from invaders and provided many natural resources. Egypt was the 'Gift of the Nile' because the Nile brought the Egyptian Civilisation so many natural gifts.

food

transport

bricks

trade

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Gift 1: Fertile Land for Farming



The water from the River Nile was *essential* for making the ground fertile for growing crops and providing food. The Ancient Egyptians built canals to help the river water reach the fields.

Each year, the River Nile would flood and leave behind a rich, black sand-like substance called silt. The silt fertilised the soil and left it in very good condition for growing crops.

The Ancient Egyptian farming calendar was split into *three seasons* each year based around the river's natural activities:

AKHET
(July-October)
Flood season



PERET
(November-January)
Planting season



SHEMU
(March-June)
Harvesting season

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Gift 2: Food

The fertile land around the Nile was brilliant for growing all sorts of crops and this provided food for the Ancient Egyptians. They grew grains like barley, flax and wheat. They also grew figs, pomegranates, melons, onions, cucumbers and beans.

The river provided plenty of fish and people would often turn to fishing for food during the flooding season (Akhet) because they could not plant or harvest during this time.



Which of these foods have you tried?



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Gift 3: Clothes, Paper and Bricks

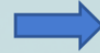


The river was also the source of some slightly more surprising objects.

Clothes: The fertile land made it easy to grow flax plants. The flax fibres were used to make linen for clothes.



Paper: In the marshy areas around the river grew green papyrus plants. The stalks were cut into strips and used to make early forms of paper.



Bricks: Mud from the river was used to make bricks. The bricks would be shaped and then hardened by being left to dry out in the sun.



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Gift 4: Trade and Transport

People used boats to travel along the Nile. As most cities were located by the river, boats were an easy way to transport people and goods between different cities.

There was no common money like the coins we use today to buy things we want. People from different places traded by swapping things. Ancient Egyptian merchants would trade with people from other cities and even other countries and the Nile made it easy to transport goods from place to place.



Egyptian Trading Goods

gold

food

pottery

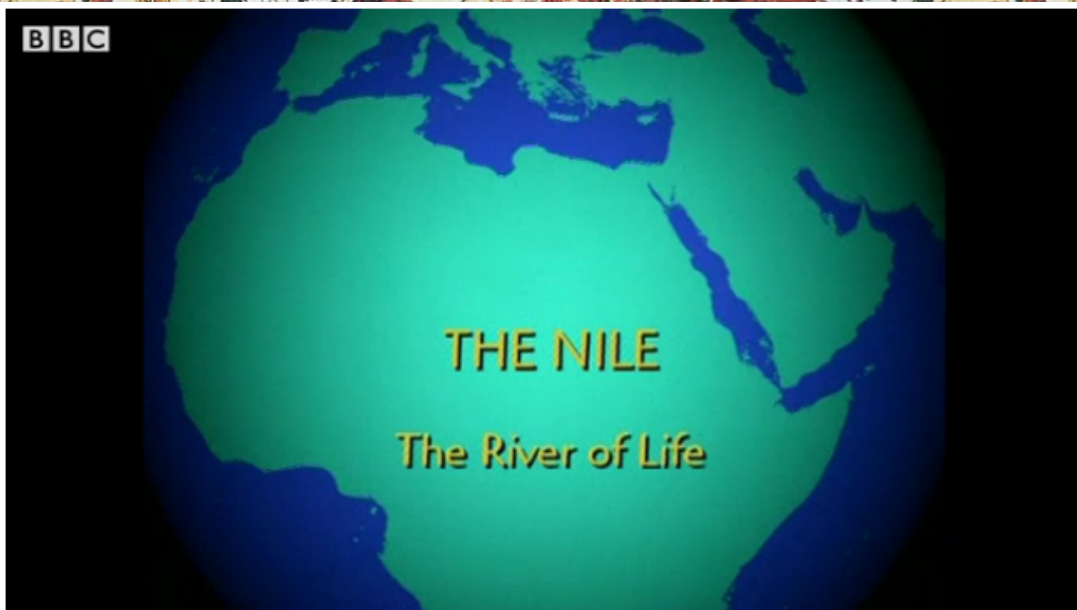
jewellery

papyrus

linen

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<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/z3rwmp3>



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The River Nile gave the Ancient Egyptians many 'gifts'.

Your task is to make an information poster to show why the River Nile was so important to the Ancient Egyptians. Add information to each section of your poster using words or pictures.

Your choice! You can create your own poster, use the template, write about the benefits of the Nile or draw images and label them.

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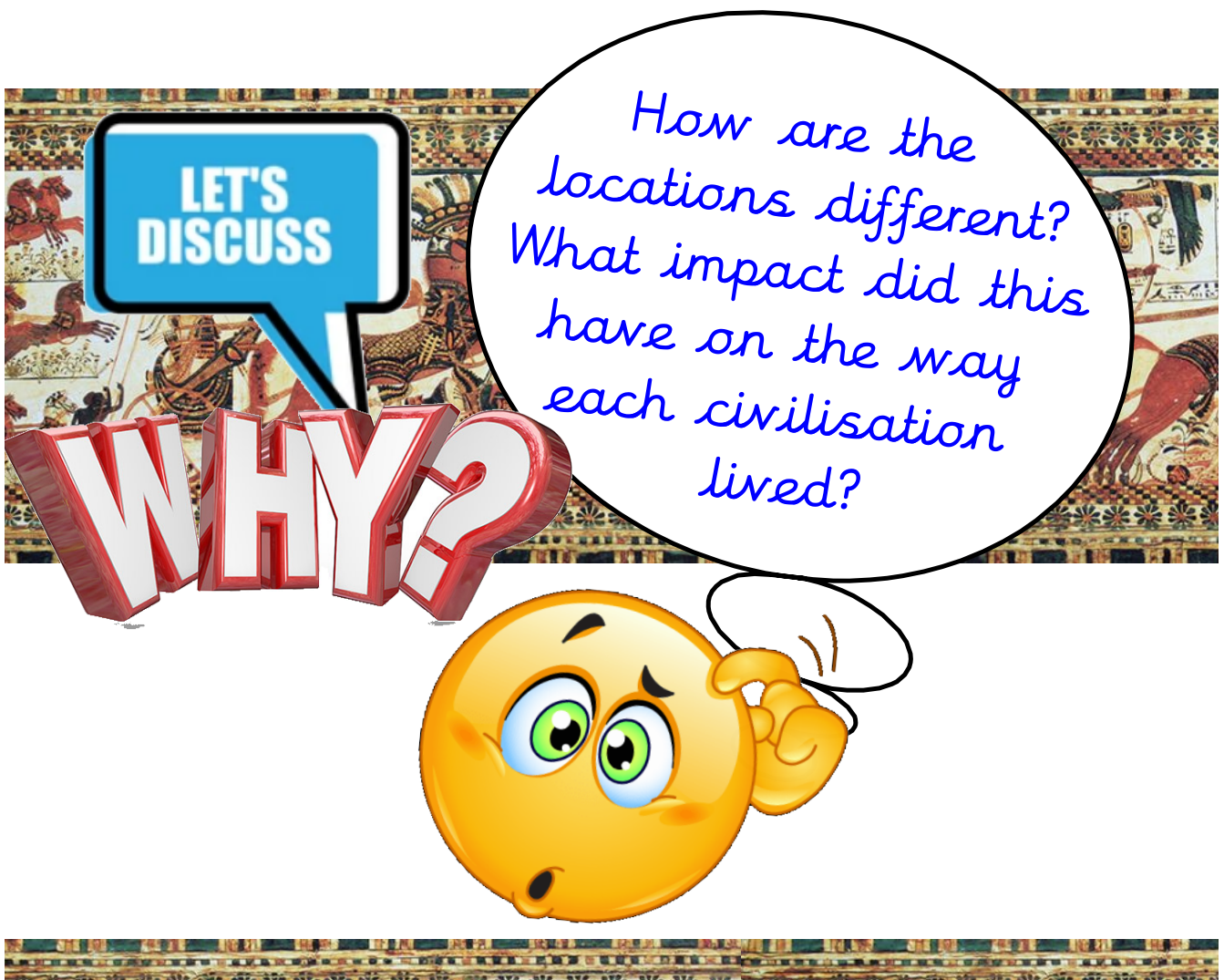
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z82hsbk/articles/zpny34j>

Take a trip through 900,000 years of prehistoric history.



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Using what you have learned and the images below, how are the locations similar and different?

What impact do you think this had on the way each civilisation lived?

How did this impact on the things they invented and their legacies? Answer each point in detail.



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Using what you have learned and the images below, how are the locations similar and different?

Label each image.









Deeper thinking...

Which civilisation is most
significant?

Explain your thinking.



In a nutshell...

Can you:

- Explain why most Ancient Egyptian cities were located along the Nile?
- Give examples of natural resources provided by the Nile?
- Summarise what the historian Herodotus meant when he called Egypt the 'Gift of the Nile'?

Attachments

Slow reveal hook.ppt