



LET'S EXPLORE ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST ENCHANTING CIVILIZATIONS IN 6 FOLDING MAPS

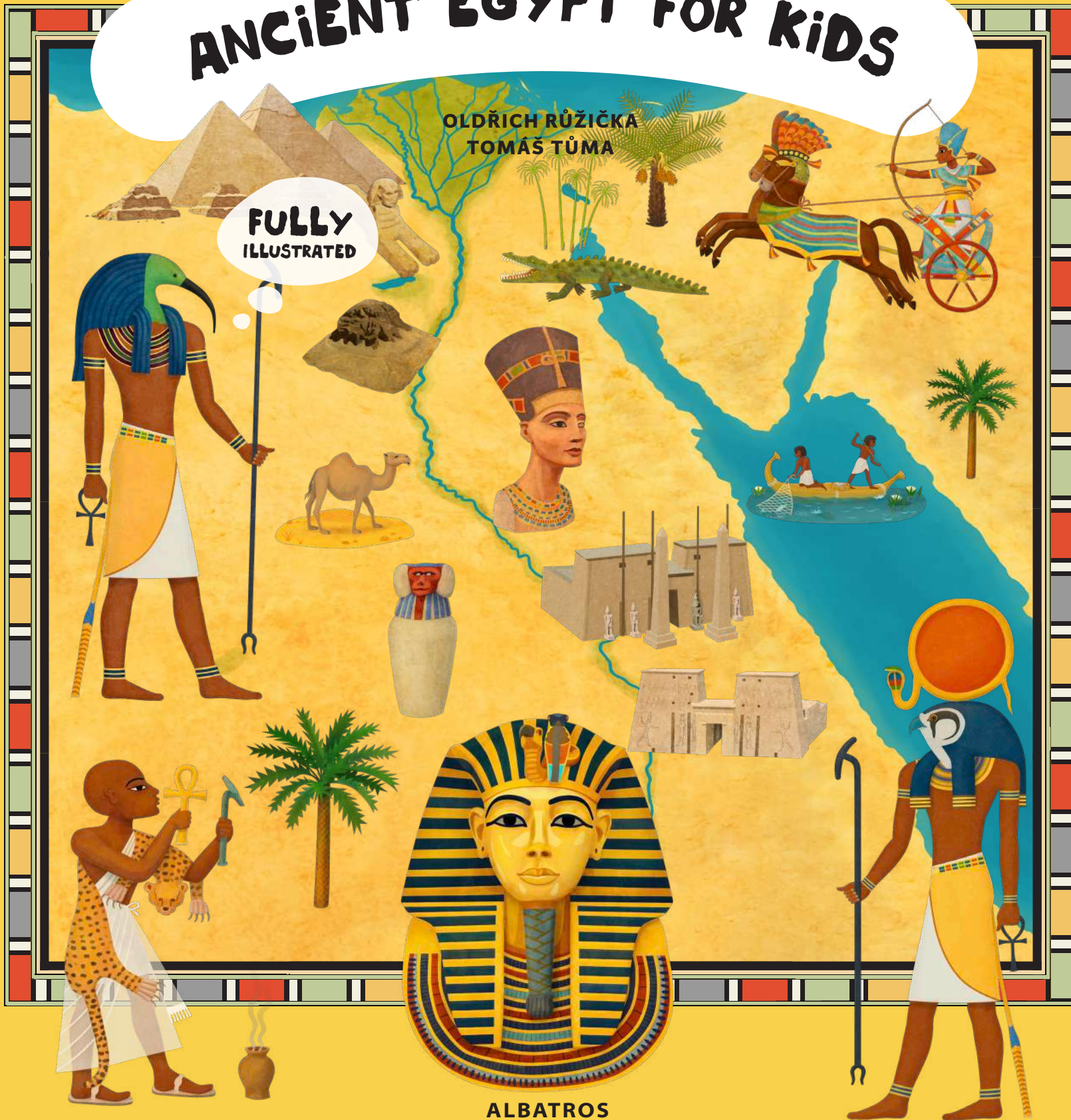


ANCIENT EGYPT FOR KIDS

OLDŘICH RŮŽIČKA
TOMÁŠ TŮMA

FULLY
ILLUSTRATED

ANCIENT EGYPT FOR KIDS



ALBATROS



Karnak Temple in the era of pharaohs.



Karnak temple as it looks now.

ANCIENT EGYPT

FISHING

Fishing was one of the basic ways of securing one's food. Each fisherman would make a boat out of reed and use it for fishing, along with nets and harpoons. A harpoon is a wooden stick with a sharp hook at the end.



AGRICULTURE

Whenever the Nile overflowed each year, its riverbanks filled with soft sediments, which served as fertile soil for growing agricultural crops. Egyptians used a simple wooden plough, the so-called scratch plough, to work the fields.



PASTURAGE

Keeping cattle was another important way for Egyptians to make a living. They'd breed the cattle for meat and sew clothes out of the skin. Goats, sheep, oxen, and pigs were the most common domestic animals. Cattle were also a good deal of help when it came to working the fields.



BAKING

In Ancient Egypt, everyone baked bread. Egyptians made flour out of barley and wheat. Women would grind the grains with special stones. The bread was baked in earthen ovens, over an open fire.



CLOTHES

A poor villager would wear a simple strip of cloth, wrapped around their hips to create a skirt, which would then be secured in place with a leather strip. Members of the upper classes wore long skirts, tied in the back.

ANCIENT TIMES

This is what we call the era lasting from the emergence of the first civilizations to the beginning of the Middle Ages, around the 6th or 7th century CE. Ancient Egyptian civilization lasted over 3,000 years, ranking as one of the oldest and longest in the world.

WEAVING

In Ancient Egypt, weaving was exclusively women's work. Weavers produced cloth, fabric for sewing clothes, and bandages for medical or mummification purposes.



ARCHITECTURE

Ancient Egyptians were excellent builders and architects. Scientists still don't know how they were able to erect such perfect buildings, given the limited technology at the time.



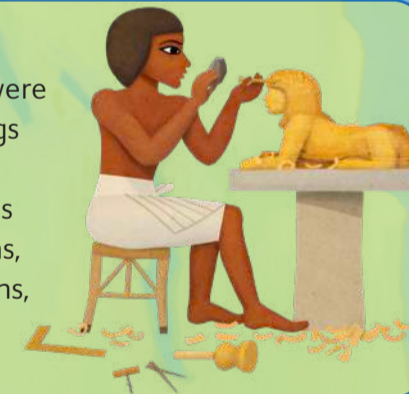
MEDICINE

Like any other place, Egypt was no stranger to illnesses and maladies. Medicine was often combined with superstition, but Egyptian doctors were quite knowledgeable about their field. Pharaoh Djoser's vizier was among the most famous. His name was Imhotep and he could treat many diseases.



ARTISTS

Ancient Egyptian buildings were richly decorated with writings and pictorial scenes. The job of ornamenting the buildings went to scribes, stonemasons, painters, sculptors, goldsmiths, and other artists.



GRAPEVINE

Egyptians were aware of beer and wine. They grew lots of grapevine in elevated places near the Nile.



WOMEN'S CLOTHES

Women wore dresses with simple straps. The dresses tended to be made out of linen, which was later replaced with fine cloth.

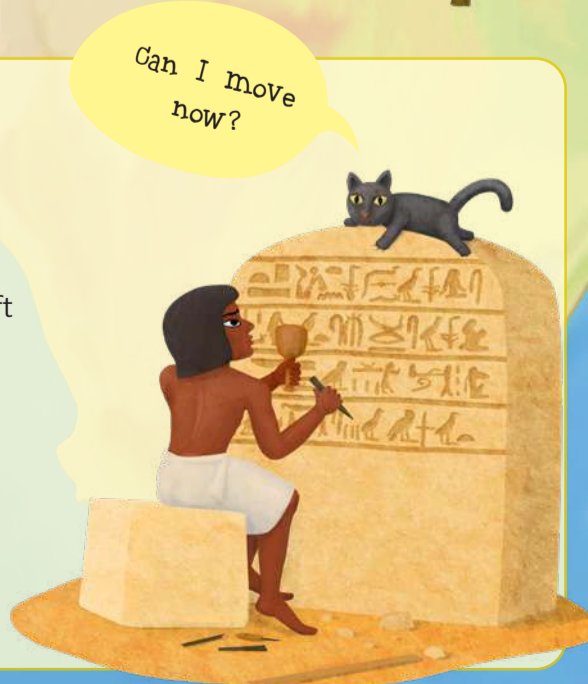
NILE

As the second longest river in the world, the Nile each year brought to Egypt life-giving floods that fertilized the riverbanks. But the Nile was also an important arterial route, used for shipping goods and building materials.



ROCK STELES

Egyptians wrote on papyrus but also chiseled their script into slabs of rock known as steles. The ornamental script that looks like pictures is called hieroglyphics. People wrote right to left and every picture (or character) stood for a single word or group of sounds. Scribes had to know the meaning of more than 700 different characters in order to put written texts together.



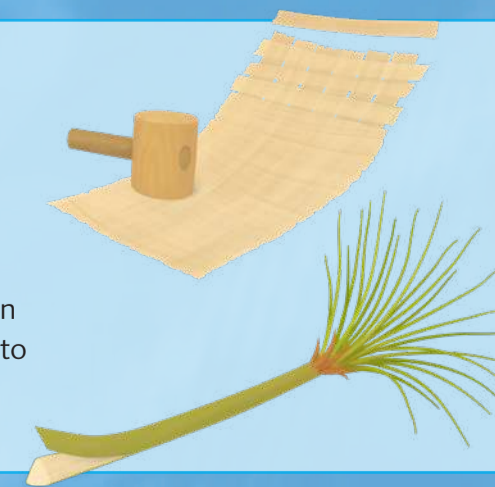
CROPS

Barley and wheat were the essential crops grown in Egypt. But Ancient Egyptians were also excellent gardeners who grew figs, onions, pomegranates, and apples, using the fertile Nile mud. They also knew fertilization and used pigeon droppings as fertilizer.



PAPER REED

The plant that Egyptians used to make papyrus, a material similar to modern paper and used for writing. The reed grew on the banks of the Nile. Papyrus was made from its stalks, which would be cut into thin strips. Those would then be soaked in water and then pressed into large scrolls.



ANCIENT EGYPT

One of the world's oldest and most important ancient civilization originated in northeastern Africa, where it developed for over 3,000 years on both banks of the Nile River. The kingdom was ruled by the pharaohs, who had huge pyramids and stone temples built. Egyptians were excellent at math and medicine, could chisel their ornamental script into stone, and knew the art of mummification.



PHARAOH

Egypt's absolute rulers and kings were called pharaohs, and Egyptians believed them to be living gods. People used to erect larger-than-life statues in their honor, as well as opulent tombs and huge pyramids.

VIZIER

The country's highest official was called the vizier. As the ruler's representative, he had a great influence on life in Egypt. He supervised the construction of important royal buildings, such as temples and pyramids.



WRITING

For their time, Egyptians had a highly advanced knowledge of many areas of science, technology, and the arts. They used a hieroglyphic script. Many writings have survived to this day, which is why we know so much about Ancient Egypt.



PAPYRUS

Using a pen made out of tapered reed, Egyptian scribes wrote on a paper-like material.

SOLDIERS

Military officials belonged to one of the highest classes in Egypt. Conversely, regular foot soldiers were recruited from the lowest classes.



CLASSES IN ANCIENT EGYPT

The many inhabitants that made up Egyptian society were divided into several classes. The pharaoh, the ruler and king of Egypt, stood at the top of the pyramid. The rest of the pyramid was made up of other inhabitants, depending on their significance and wealth.



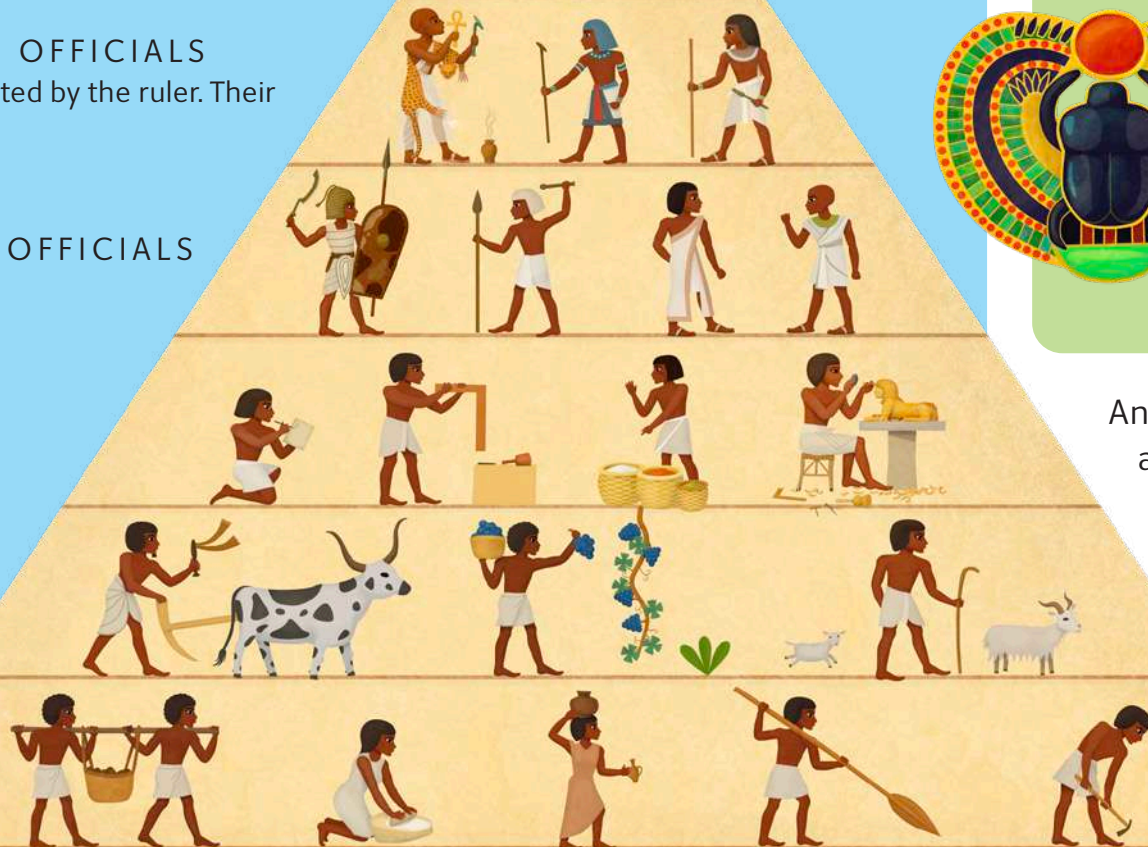
PRIESTS AND HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS
Officials were appointed by the ruler. Their office was hereditary.

SOLDIERS AND LOW-RANKING OFFICIALS

SCRIBES AND CRAFTSMEN

PEASANTS

ENSLAVED PEOPLE



ARTS

The arts were an integral part of culture in Ancient Egypt. We can still admire beautiful Egyptians sculptures, reliefs, and abundantly ornamented jewels.

Ancient Egypt was a very advanced civilization for its time. Archaeologists continue to find its remnants even today. Still, many Egyptian relics remain hidden under layers of sand, waiting to be discovered.

EGYPT IS LOCATED IN NORTHEASTERN AFRICA, ALONG THE NILE RIVER

AGRICULTURE

Egypt's poor lived in villages, where they raised cattle, baked bread, and grew crops, including grapes for wine.



TREASURES OF EGYPT

WHALE VALLEY

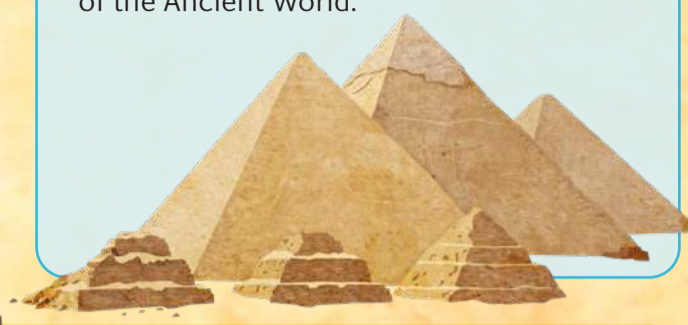
Egypt is also interesting to paleontologists, scientists who study extinct animals and the development of life on Earth. They made a unique find in a valley located southwest of Cairo: hundreds of the fossilized skeletons of long-extinct whales.

Free Willy!



PYRAMIDS IN GIZA

The huge pyramids located near Cairo, the modern capital of Egypt, have inspired awe in travelers and historians since before archaeology became a thing. That's why they comprise one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.



HERMOPOLIS

This is what remains of the once opulent Temple of Thoth, the god of wisdom and knowledge. He was often portrayed as a baboon.



They say I'm the most beautiful Queen of Egypt.



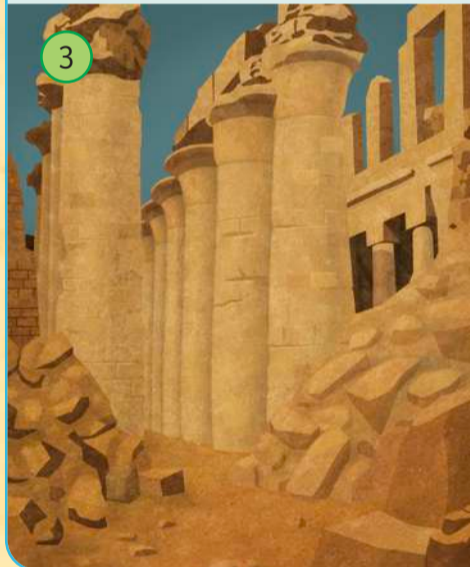
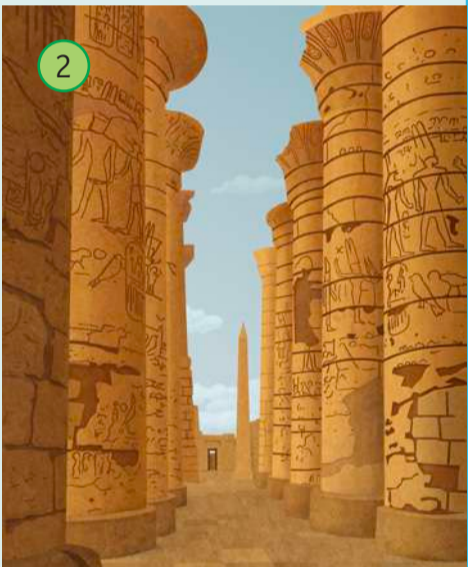
BUST OF NEFERTITI

The statue of the queen Nefertiti was found at an archaeological site near the former city of Akhetaten, in the workshop of an ancient sculptor. Today you can see it at the Egyptian Museum of Berlin. Nefertiti was the wife of the pharaoh Akhenaten and lived in the 14th century BCE.

KARNAK TEMPLE COMPLEX

The largest temple complex in Egypt, it was built to honor the god Amon. Many pharaohs altered it for almost 1,500 years before it gained its modern appearance.

1. The temple as it looks now.
2. Column hall, with some columns up to 70 feet tall.
3. This is what the temple looked like in the second half of the 19th century, when people were nowhere near as interested in Egyptian sights as they are now.
4. The way the temple likely looked in the era of Egyptian pharaohs. The columns and walls were painted rich colors.



Whale Valley



Hermopolis

Bust of Nefertiti

EGYPTIAN SIGHTS

People in the past were nowhere near as interested in Ancient Egyptian relics as they are now. For many centuries, Egyptians walked past half-buried temples and sculptures without realizing they were surrounded by valuable treasures. Only in the 19th century did archaeologists and historians (along with looters) from all over the world start arriving in Egypt to remove the centuries worth of desert sand from the sights once and for all.

VALLEY OF THE KINGS

One of the best-known places in Egypt where pharaohs and important aristocrats used to be buried starting in the 16th century BCE. The valley is filled with many uncovered royal tombs, with many others likely still hidden beneath the sand.



Valley of the Kings

Temple of Hatshepsut

Colossi of Memnon

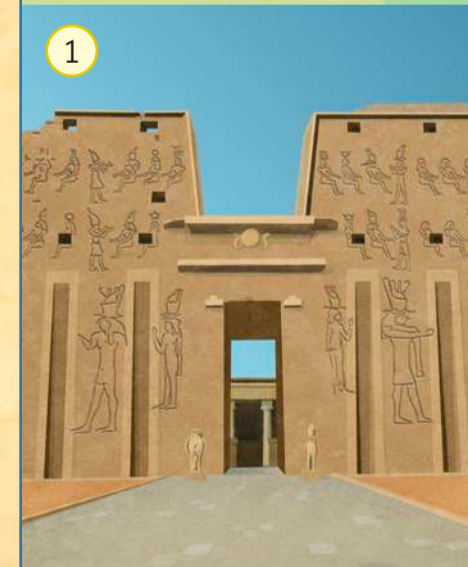
Karnak Temple Complex

Luxor Temple

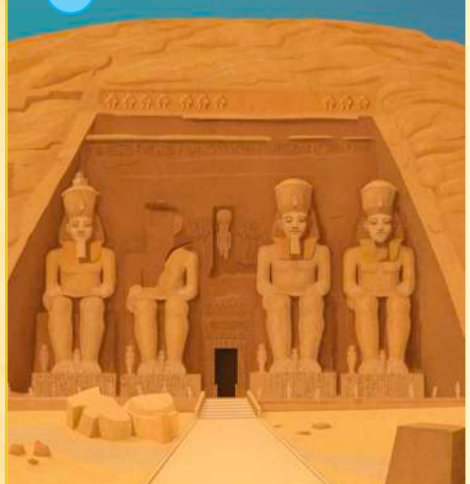
TEMPLE OF EDFU

The temple of the god Horus is one of the best-preserved relics of Ancient Egypt. Completed in the 1st century BCE, its walls are decorated with many hieroglyphics and scenes from Egyptian history. For many centuries, the temple was mostly buried in sand. Only in the 19th century did archaeologists begin removing the layers of sand.

1. The temple as it looks now.
2. The temple's court now.
3. The temple was still buried in the 2nd half of the 19th century.
4. It was beautifully decorated in the pharaoh's era.



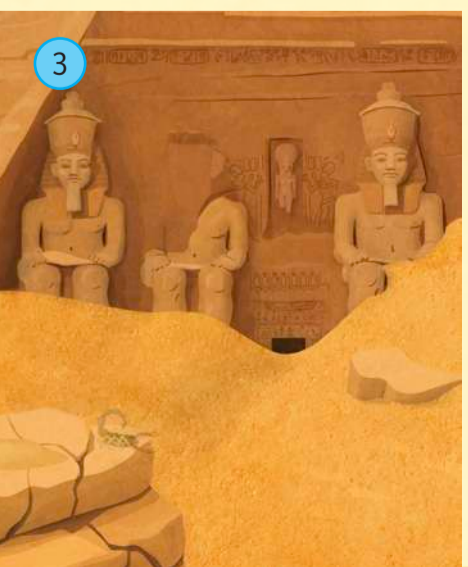
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TEMPLE OF ABU SIMBEL

A rock temple commissioned by the pharaoh Ramesses II, its façade is guarded by four statues of the pharaoh, each over 65 feet tall. Twice a year, during the spring and autumn equinox, a sunray falls inside, illuminating the statues of the gods. The temple was moved to its current location in 1968 to prevent it from being flooded by a reservoir. It had to be disassembled and reassembled on an elevated spot.

1. What the entrance looks like now.
2. Hall with the pharaoh's statues.
3. The temple was still buried in sand in the 19th century.
4. This is what the façade might have looked like under Ramesses II.



Temple of Edfu



Philae



NILE RIVER



Rock Temple of Abu Simbel

TREASURES OF EGYPT

Treasure isn't always gold, jewels, or gemstones, although those are everywhere in Egypt as well. Even ancient buildings, remnants of the pyramids, temples, or old burial grounds, can have great value. Ancient Egypt had unique architecture. The buildings erected by Egyptians were massive, fascinating, and beautiful.

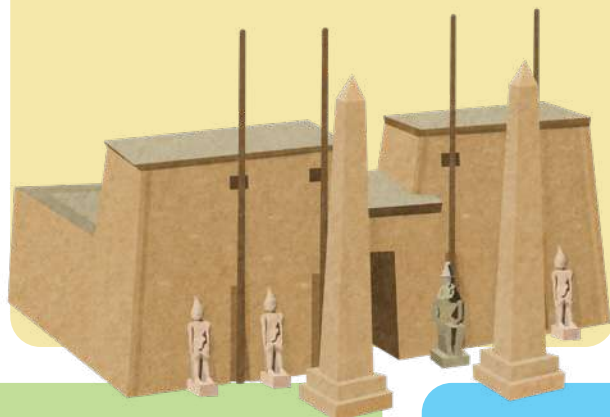
SIGHTS

Egypt is one of the most sought-after vacation spots. People go there to see the pyramids, old temples, and other relics of the ancient lands.



TEMPLES

They were complex and decorated with statues or scenes from the lives of gods or rulers. The temples were dedicated to the gods but could also function as libraries, universities, or community centers.



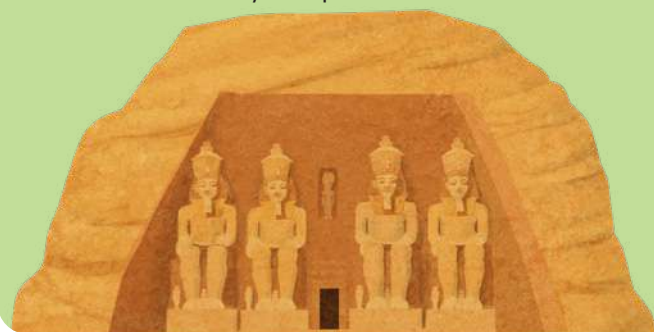
ARCHAEOLOGY

Scientists who study the history of mankind, using discovered relics or remnants of buildings, are called archaeologists. Thanks to them, we can now take a look at the sights of Ancient Egypt and imagine what life was like back then.



ROCK TEMPLES

Temples carved into the rock. There are two of them in southern Egypt, one of which was commissioned by the pharaoh Ramesses II.



SUN TEMPLE OF ABU GORAB

This sun temple on the edge of desert, south of Cairo, is one sight that didn't survive the passage of time. The picture on the left shows what the temple used to look like; the image on the right shows its remains today.



Sadly, most of the relics have been buried by the omnipresent sand. Many have fallen into ruin, while others still lie hidden beneath layers of sand, waiting to be discovered by archaeologists.

TEMPLE OF HORUS

This temple, built in the city of Edfu, was dedicated to the god Horus. Its walls are decorated with many pictures and much writing, chiseled into the stone. These decorations helped historians learn many fascinating things about Egyptian myths and history.



PHILAE

The Philae temple was supposed to be flooded by the rising waters of the Aswan Dam, but then it was moved to an artificial island located only a few hundred meters from the temple's original location.



ROSETTA STONE

This slab of stone was discovered near the modern city of Rosette. In the 19th century, the French archaeologist Jean-François Champollion used it to decipher Egyptian hieroglyphics. The find heralded much progress in our understanding of Ancient Egyptian history.



COLOSSI

Huge statues that stand on their own are called colossi. The Colossi of Memnon, depicting the pharaoh Amenhotep III, are arguably the best known in the world.



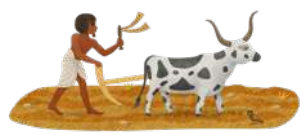
SPHINX

A creature with a lion's body and a human or ram's head. There are many Sphinx statues all over Egypt. The best-known one is in Giza.



First cultures around the Nile River

ca 10000 BCE



Agriculture in Ancient Egypt

ca 6000 BCE



Hieroglyphics

ca 3500 BCE



First pyramid

ca 2600 BCE



Great Sphinx of Giza

ca 2500 BCE



First tombs in the Valley of the Kings

16th century BCE



Pharaoh Ramesses II

1279 BCE



Egypt conquered by Alexander the Great

332 BCE

LUXOR TEMPLE



Ra Hor Thoth



Osiris Hathor Anubis



Amun Maat

EGYPTIAN GODS

Ancient Egyptians worshiped hundreds of gods, assigning different skills and qualities to each. The gods were depicted either as animals or as humans with animal heads.

The best-known Egyptian gods:

Ra — The god of the Sun, he was one of the most important gods. He was portrayed with a falcon's head and a sun disk on his head.

Hor — The god of the sky and the divine ruler of Egypt, he was portrayed with a falcon's head and a crown.

Thoth — The god of wisdom and knowledge, he was portrayed with an ibis's head.

Osiris — The god of fertility and harvest.

Hathor — The goddess of love, dancing, music, and beauty.

Anubis — The god of the dead and mummification, he was portrayed with a wolf's head.

Amun — The god of the Waset Province, he was portrayed with a crown decorated with two tall feathers.

Maat — The goddess of truth, she was portrayed with wings and symbolized by an ostrich feather.

LUXOR TEMPLE

Devoted to the god Amun, the temple was commissioned by Amenhotep III in the 14th century BCE and finalized by pharaoh Ramesses II, who ordered the construction of two large obelisks, an entrance pylon, and a column courtyard. The map shows what the temple looked like under Ramesses II.

1. Sphinx alley
2. Entrance pylon
3. Large court with 74 columns
4. Colonnade of Amenhotep III
5. Sun court of Amenhotep III
6. Hypostyle hall

COLONNADE OF AMENHOTEP III

The breathtaking entrance to the temple of the god Amun. Its 14 columns are each 70 feet tall. They originally supported the colonnade's roof. This is what they look like now.



SPHINX ALLEY

The two-mile-long path from the Luxor Temple to the Karnak Temple complex was lined with hundreds of sphinxes.



SUN COURT

The courtyard from the era of Amenhotep III is lined with 60 tall columns, shaped like a bunch of papyrus.

HYPOSTYLE HALL

The hall consists of columns that support the roof. Only 32 of the original columns are left today.

OBELISKS

Today, only one obelisk is left standing in front of the pylon; the other was moved to Europe in the 19th century and now decorates a square in Paris.

STATUES

Six statues of Ramesses II were originally located in front of the pylon, two of them sitting and four standing, each over 50 feet tall.

TRANSPORTING AN OBELISK

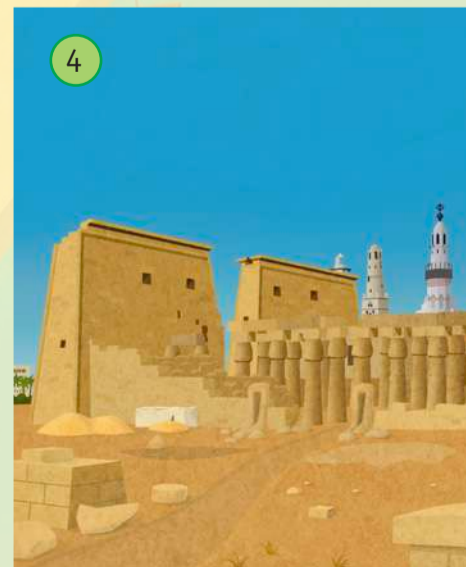
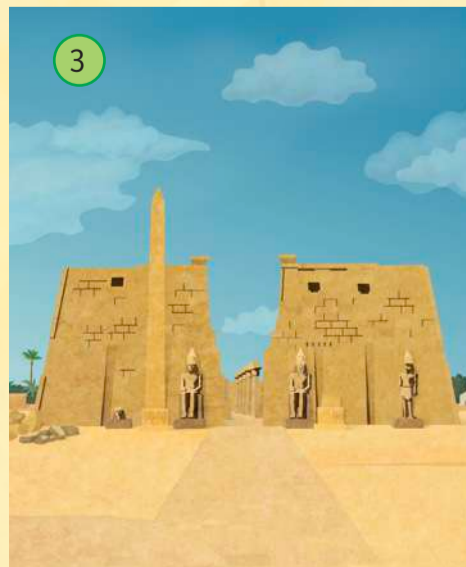
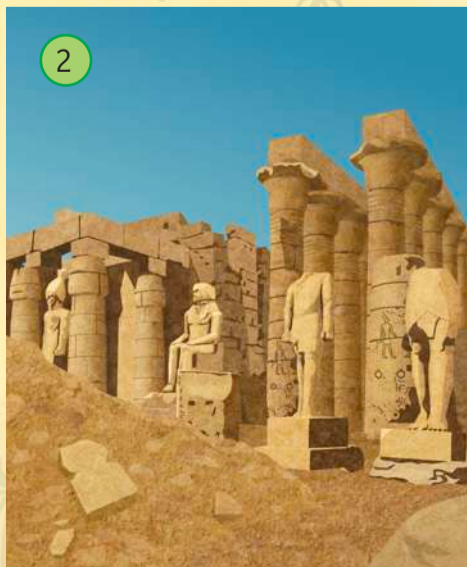
To build an obelisk, a large piece of rock first needed to be mined in a quarry and loaded onto a boat. It was then shipped on the Nile to the place where it would be erected. There, masons would shape it and chisel reliefs or hieroglyphics into it. Finally, the finished obelisk would be erected.



FORMS OF THE LUXOR TEMPLE

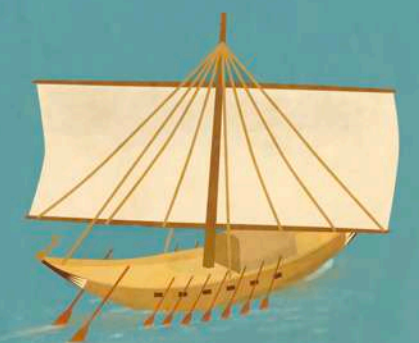
Like most Egyptian relics, even the Luxor Temple changed over time. It was built by several pharaohs over the centuries, including Amenhotep III, Tutankhamun, and Ramesses II. Then it spent centuries getting buried in sand.

1. The temple's pylon from the front, under Ramesses II
2. The temple was buried in sand until the 19th century
3. The entrance pylon as it looks now
4. Remnants of the once beautiful courtyard beyond the entrance pylon



SPHINXES

Originally, the sphinxes in the alley had rams' heads. Only later were they renovated and given the human heads they have today.





ANCIENT EGYPT FOR KIDS

DISCOVER FUN AND FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST ENCHANTING CIVILIZATIONS

Written by Oldřich Růžička

Illustrated by Tomáš Tůma

Over 5,000 years ago, a civilization developed along the Nile River whose sights and remnants are still enchanting people from all over the world. Huge wonderful pyramids, stone temples, decorated tombs, larger-than-life statues of rulers, tall columns, obelisks, and other memorials can be seen in Egypt wherever you look. Still, many sights are waiting to be freed from the African sands and it remains somewhat mysterious how Egyptian builders could create such towering, beautiful buildings, considering the limited technology of the day. Let's take a walk together, see the most wonderful Egyptian sights, and learn what life in Ancient Egypt looked like for pharaohs, officials, soldiers, and ordinary people.

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- Egyptian pyramids, what they looked like, and how they were built
- Egyptian gods and pharaohs
- Valley of the Kings, tombs, and mummification



LEARN AND HAVE FUN



Big folding maps

WARNING: CHOKING HAZARD Small parts. Not suitable for children under 36 months. CE 0-3

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