

Chapter 4 - Ancient Egypt

Section 1 - Geography and Early Egypt

Main Ideas	Definitions and Supporting Details
<p>THE GIFT OF THE NILE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location and Physical Features <p style="text-align: right;"><i>cataracts</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>delta</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Floods of the Nile 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nile brought life to Egypt and allowed it to thrive. • Egyptian civilization developed along side 750 miles of the over 4,000 miles of the Nile River, which runs south to north. • Egypt was divided into two regions, Upper Egypt and Lower Egypt. • In Upper Egypt the Nile flowed through rocky areas causing cataracts to form. Cataracts made sailing difficult. • In Lower Egypt the Nile created a fertile delta as the water flowed into the Mediterranean Sea. • Rainfall in the southern highlands caused predictable flooding of the Nile. • The annual flooding of the Nile brought water and fertile silt for farming, which provided “life” for the region.
<p>Summary</p> <p>The 4,000 mile long Nile River was very important in Egypt. The dark fertile silt deposited during the annual floods allowed crops to flourish and brought “life” to the Egyptians. About 2/3 of all farmable land in Egypt was in the Nile Delta. Further upstream 6 cataracts made it difficult to navigate the Nile. The Nile divided Egypt into 2 regions; Upper and Lower Egypt. Upper Egypt was located upstream of the natural flow of the river, which flowed from the south. Lower Egypt is the Nile Delta region.</p>	

Main Ideas	Definitions and Supporting Details
<p>CIVILIZATIONS DEVELOPS IN EGYPT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased Food Supply • Two Kingdoms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nile River provided water and fertile soil which allowed for Egyptian civilization to develop. • By 4,500 BC Hunter-Gatherers settled in the Nile Valley and learned how to farm. • Similar to the Mesopotamians, Egyptians built an irrigation system by digging canals to bring water from the field to their crops. • The Nile River provided Egyptians with a variety of food to eat. • Natural barriers made it difficult to invade Egypt. • By 3200 BC, villages and towns banded together to form Lower and Upper Egypt. Wealthy farmers emerged as leaders. • The capital of Lower Egypt was Pe. The king wore a red crown that symbolized his authority. • The capital of Upper Egypt was Nekhen. The king wore a white cone-shaped crown.
<p>Summary The Nile River provided Hunter-Gatherer societies the opportunity to farm and create a settled home. Overtime, civilizations developed. Because Egypt had many natural barriers, Egyptian villages were able to prosper with little fear of invasion. Eventually villages banded together to form Lower and Upper Egypt; each with its own king.</p>	

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<p>KINGS UNIFY EGYPT</p> <p><i>Menes</i></p> <p><i>Pharaoh</i></p> <p><i>Dynasty</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Around 3100 BC it is believed by some that Menes rose to power in Upper Egypt. Others believe that Menes is a myth. • In order to unify Upper and Lower Egypt, Menes married a princess from Lower Egypt and wore a combined crown to symbolize his power over both regions. • Many believe that Menes was Egypt's first pharaoh and founded Egypt's first dynasty. • Menes built Memphis, the new capital city near the Nile Delta which became the political and cultural center of Egypt. • Menes' dynasty lasted for about 200 years, with all rulers wearing the double crown. This dynasty extended Egyptian territory, but over time others challenged their authority and eventually the Second Dynasty was created.
<p>Summary:</p> <p>In 3100 BC, some believe that Menes was Egypt's first pharaoh and that he established the first dynasty. He unified Lower and Upper Egypt by marrying a princess from Lower Egypt. He then combined the crowns, built a new capital, and extended Egyptian territory. Eventually he was overthrown from power.</p>	