

ANCIENT CIVILISATIONS

LKS2
SUMMER TERM



Our big CST questions:

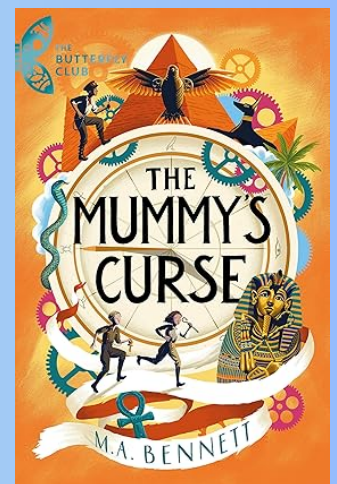
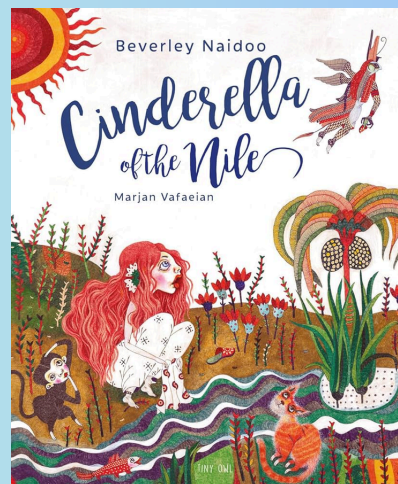
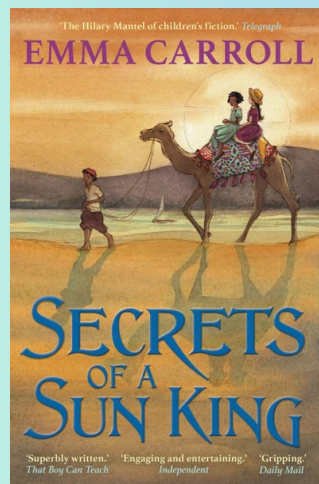
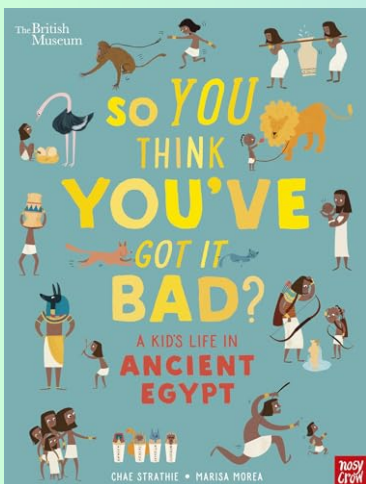
What can the Ancient Egyptians relationship with the River Nile teach us about caring for the Earth today?

How should we care for the world's resources so they benefit everyone?

English

This term, children will develop their writing across a range of genres, including poetry, graphic novels, explanation texts, newspaper reports and narrative writing. They will learn how to adapt their writing for different purposes and audiences, such as entertaining, informing and reporting. Pupils will focus on key skills including structuring their ideas clearly, using varied and precise vocabulary, developing character and setting, and organising information effectively.

They will also build their understanding of language features specific to each genre, such as descriptive techniques in poetry, dialogue and sequencing in narratives, and formal, factual language in reports and explanations. Throughout the unit, children will plan, draft, edit and publish their work, developing independence and confidence as writers.



HISTORY

Ancient Egypt



The ancient Egyptian civilisation began on the banks of the Nile, in the Fertile Crescent. Egypt was initially split into Upper Egypt in the south and Lower Egypt in the north. It became one kingdom c3150 BC. The civilisation lasted for around 2970 years.

Cities

The ancient Egyptians built cities on the fertile banks of the Nile, with easy access to water for crops and drinking.



Most cities had a surrounding wall and two entrances. A main road ran through the centre of the city. Smaller, narrower streets connected to the main road. People lived in mudbrick houses, which were often two storeys high, with an open courtyard.

This term, children will learn about Ancient Egypt, including how the River Nile supported farming and settlements, how cities were organised, the role of pharaohs, key inventions, and the importance of food and agriculture in shaping daily life.



Rulers

Pharaohs ruled over ancient Egypt with absolute power. The ancient Egyptians believed that the pharaoh was the earthly representative of the gods. The most well known pharaoh is Tutankhamun. His tomb was discovered in the Valley of the Kings by Howard Carter in 1922. The vast number of priceless artefacts found buried with the pharaoh provided a lot of information about life in ancient Egypt.

Inventions

The ancient Egyptians improved earlier innovations and invented many useful items to make life easier. They created clocks and calendars for telling the time. They made paper from the papyrus plants to record information. To help move water for their crops, they invented a *shaduf*, which used a lever mechanism to move a heavy bucket of water from a low to higher level.

Food and farming



The ancient Egyptians grew crops in the fertile soil next to the Nile. The most important crops were wheat and barley, which they used to make bread, porridge and beer. They also grew vegetables, fruits and flax to make into linen. Agriculture was essential to the ancient Egyptian economy. It provided food for the people, with enough left over to store for years of drought.

Ancient Civilisations	afterlife	ancient Egypt	ancient Sumer	archaeologist	archaeology
civilisation	artefact	astronomy	bronze	canal	canopic jar
cuneiform	drought	emperor	empire	famine	floodplain
hierarchy	hieroglyph	Indus Valley	infrastructure	innovation	ivory
lapis lazuli	Mesopotamia	military	mosaic	mummification	necropolis
noble	nomad	papyrus	pharaoh	plough	port
potter's wheel	pyramid	rampart	sarcophagus	scribe	seal
sewerage system	shaduf	shrine	sickle	silt	society
stylus	surplus	tablet	tax	temple	vizier
wheeled chariot	ziggurat				

Geography

Mountains

A mountain is a large, raised part of the Earth's surface. A mountain's highest point is called its peak or summit. Mountains are at least 610m in height. A mountain range is a chain of mountains that are close together. They are usually arranged in a line connected by ridges.



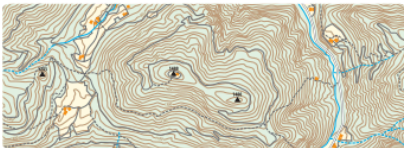
Himalayas mountain range

Altitudinal zones

In mountainous areas, there are large differences in altitude. These differences mean that the climate, landscape and oxygen levels at the bottom of a mountain can be very different from those at the top. These differences create altitudinal zones, with each zone supporting a range of different plants and animals.

Contour lines

Contour lines are used on maps to show the topography of the land. They join places of equal height and are usually labelled in intervals of 10m. If contour lines on a map are close together, the land is steep. If they are far apart, the land is flat.



contour lines

Types of mountain

Mountains can be classified according to what they look like and how they were formed.

Fold mountains form when tectonic plates collide with each other. One plate is pushed down while the other is pushed up and compressed, forming folds.



Volcanic mountains are formed when lava, ash and gases erupt and then cool. This type of mountain often has steep, symmetrical slopes.



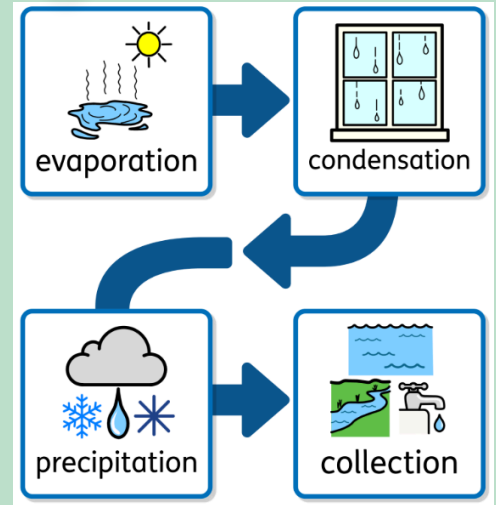
Fault-block mountains form at plate boundaries. The earth on one side of the boundary is forced up, and the other side collapses.



Dome mountains are the result of when magma is pushed upwards against the Earth's crust. Instead of erupting through the crust, the magma cools and hardens.



Plateau mountains are formed when land is lifted by magma below the Earth's crust. Large, flat areas of land are forced upwards, creating a plateau.



tourist information	V-shaped valley	sleet	Subtropical rainforest
transportation	water	slope	summit
tree line	water cycle	snow	Sun
tributaries	water pollution	snow line	symmetrical
tundra	water vapour	Somerset Levels	syncline
United Kingdom	waterfall	source	tectonic plate
upstream	weather forecast	spring	temperature
valley	wetland	storm	terrain
volcano	wildlife	storm surge	topography
volcanic mountain	world	stream	tourism

Misty Mountain, Winding River

Rivers

A river is a body of water that flows downhill, usually to the sea. Rivers start in mountains or upland areas and flow downstream, collecting water from small, narrow streams, springs, rainfall or other water sources on the way to the sea.

River features

A variety of physical features can be found along the course of a river.

delta	A triangular piece of land at the mouth of a river that has formed because of a build up of sediment.
floodplain	An area of flat land next to a river that floods when the river bursts its banks.
interlocking spurs	Ridges that are formed when a river meanders around areas of harder rock.
meander	A bend in a river or stream.
oxbow lake	A curved lake that was once a meander in a river.
V-shaped valley	A deep, straight channel that has been cut into the rock by erosion.
waterfall	A cascade of water that falls from a higher level to a lower level.

River stages

The upper course

The upper course of a river is narrow. Water flows over the riverbed, carrying rocks that erode the land and create steep-sided, V-shaped valleys.



The middle course

The middle course of a river grows wider and deeper as the land becomes flatter. Bends called meanders form.



The lower course

The lower course is the widest part of a river. The land is flat, and the water flows into the sea at the river's mouth.



Changing landscapes

Rivers, seas and oceans transform a landscape through erosion, deposition and transportation.

Erosion

Erosion is the wearing away and removal of rock and soil by means of wind or water.

Transportation

Transportation is when rocks and soil that have been dislodged and worn away by erosion are transported in flowing water.

Deposition

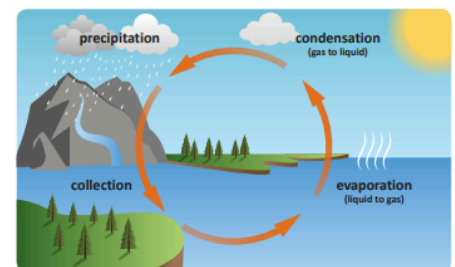
Deposition happens when flowing water slows down. Eroded rock and soil that have been transported are left behind.

Uses of rivers

Settlements have been built next to rivers for thousands of years because rivers provided essential water, food and power for people in the past. Today, rivers provide habitats for wildlife, hydroelectric power and water for crops. Rivers are also used for leisure activities, such as canoeing and fishing and for transporting goods and people.

Water cycle

The water cycle is the journey water takes as it travels from rivers, lakes, seas and oceans into the sky and then back down to the ground. Water changes state as it goes around the cycle in four stages: evaporation, condensation, precipitation and collection.



Flooding

Flooding can happen for a wide variety of natural and human reasons, including excessive rainfall, lack of river dredging, land use and the topography of the land. Flooding can cause problems, including damaging property and equipment, contaminating farmland and cutting people off from vital services and supplies of food and water.

Islamic Art

Islamic art includes all religious and secular artwork created over the last 1400 years in the Islamic world and countries that used to be part of the Islamic Empire.

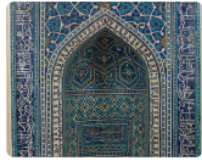
Islamic art includes:



calligraphy



glasswork



ceramics



metalwork



textiles



architecture

Islamic art seeks to make objects beautiful and help people to reflect and think about the world, rather than recreate physical forms and real objects. Depicting people is not a part of the Islamic faith, so Muslim artists concentrate on the use of abstract forms, patterns and shapes in their work.

Aspects of Islamic art

Three main aspects of Islamic art are calligraphy, arabesque and geometric patterns. Artists have used these aspects to decorate the surface of many objects and buildings.

Calligraphy is the art of producing beautiful and decorative handwriting. Islamic calligraphy is used in art forms to reproduce the words of the Qur'an.



Arabesque is a floral pattern based on the bindweed plant, which is made up of entwined flowers, leaves and stems.



Geometric patterns are made by repeating, interlacing and tessellating motifs and geometric shapes, such as stars, squares and triangles.



Motifs

When creating a pattern to use in Islamic art, an artist can begin by creating a motif. A motif is a decorative image or design that can be repeated to form a pattern. Motifs can be different styles. Figurative motifs are realistic representations of living things or objects. Vegetal motifs represent plants. Geometric and abstract motifs consist of shapes.



Stars in Islamic art

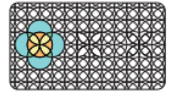
Islamic art often features geometric star motifs because the star is believed to symbolise the light and perfection of Allah. Regular stars in Islamic art have 6, 8, 10, 12 or 16 points.



Islamic tile

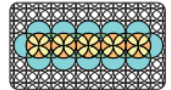
Designing patterns on a grid

Geometric motifs and patterns can be made on a grid. This motif has been made by colouring in shapes on a grid made from circles.



motif

A pattern is created when a motif is repeated. Grids can be made from shapes, including circles, squares and triangles.



pattern

Relief sculpture

Relief sculpture is any work where an image or pattern is raised from a surface. If only slightly raised, the sculpture is called low relief or 'bas-relief'. If the image or pattern is almost three dimensional but is still attached to the background, the sculpture is called high relief or 'alto-relief'. Islamic architectural surfaces are often decorated with low and high relief sculptures.


















relief wall decoration

Glossary

secular	Not connected to religion.
tessellate	To fit shapes together in a pattern with no spaces in between.

ISLAMIC ART

This term, children will learn about Islamic art, exploring key features such as calligraphy, geometric patterns and motifs. They will develop their skills in creating repeating patterns and using shape, symmetry and grids, while understanding the cultural significance and purpose of this style of art.

 Abstract motif	A motif made up of shapes	 high relief	A sculptural technique to significantly lower the background to make the design looked raised	 motif	A decorative image or design that can be repeated to make a pattern
 arabesque	A design based on entwined flowers, leaves and stems that is especially found in Islamic art	 infinite	Limitless, endless or impossible to calculate	 Muslim	A person who follows the religion of Islam
 calligraphy	Decorative handwriting or handwritten letters	 Islam	A religion founded on a belief in one God and the teachings of the prophet Muhammad	 pattern	A regularly repeated arrangement or design made from lines, shape, colours or motifs
 figurative motif	A realistic representation of a living thing or object	 low relief	A sculptural technique to lower the background to make the design looked raised	 Qur'an	The Islamic sacred book that is believed to be the word of God
 geometric motif	A motif made up of regular shapes, such as squares and triangles	 mosque	A Muslim place of worship	 Zellij tiles	A style of mosaic tilework made from individually chiselled tile pieces

Grouping and Classifying

Classification

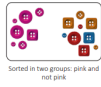
Classification is the arrangement of living and non-living things into groups or categories. It involves breaking down a large group into smaller groups based on their observable features. There are three types of classification: single-stage classification, multi-stage classification and serial ordering.

Single-stage classification

Single-stage classification involves separating a large group of objects into smaller groups based on a single property, such as size.



Another type of single-stage classification involves sorting objects according to whether they have a specific property or not. For example, we could ask the question 'Is it pink?'



Multi-stage classification

Multi-stage classification involves asking repeated questions about specific properties. To sort groups into subgroups again and again until all the objects in one group are the same.



Serial ordering

This type of classification involves sorting objects into an order based on a property. For example, these socks can be sorted according to size, with the smallest at one end, leading to the largest at the other end.

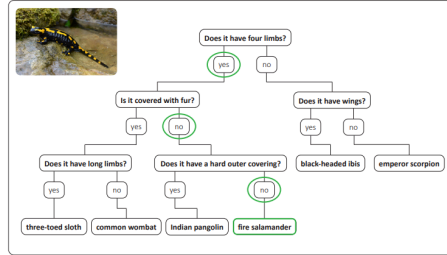


How classification is used

Scientists use classification to put living things into groups. The science of classifying and naming living things is called taxonomy. Classification helps scientists identify and study living things and understand the origins and evolution of a species. New living things are still being discovered today.

Classification keys

Classification keys use multi-stage classification to identify living things. They work by observing a living thing then answering the yes or no questions until it is identified. For example, we can identify the animal below by answering the questions in the classification key.



Classification of living things

Scientists divide all living things into five kingdoms. These include the animal kingdom and the plant kingdom.

Animal kingdom

All animals in the animal kingdom are classified as either invertebrates or vertebrates.

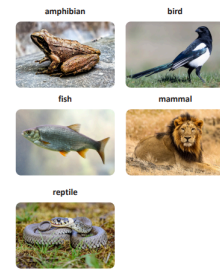
Invertebrates

Invertebrates do not have backbones. Instead, they have soft bodies or a hard outer shell or exoskeleton. They are further classified into three groups: annelid, mollusc and arthropod. Arachnid, crustacean, insect and myriapod are four types of arthropod.



Vertebrates

Vertebrates have backbones. They are covered with skin, feathers, scales, fur or hair. Vertebrates are further classified into five groups.



Plant kingdom

Plants are important for life on Earth. All plants in the plant kingdom are classified as either vascular or non-vascular. Vascular plants are further classified into three groups.

plants with seeds – flowering



plants with seeds – cone-bearing



plants with spores



Glossary

backbone A column of bones in the middle of the back of vertebrate animals.
classify Arrange in groups or categories according to shared qualities or characteristics.
evolution A process where living things change some of their physical or behavioural characteristics slowly over a very long time.
origin Where something begins.
vascular A plant with tubes that carry water and nutrients.

Grouping and Classifying

This term, children will learn about states of matter, including solids, liquids and gases, and how their properties are explained by particle theory. They will explore how materials change state through heating and cooling, including melting, freezing, evaporation and condensation, and understand how temperature is measured. Pupils will also learn how to present data using line graphs. In addition, they will study how living things are grouped and classified, using classification keys and understanding the differences between vertebrates and invertebrates, as well as how plants and animals are organised into groups.

SCIENCE

States of Matter

Matter exists in one of three states: solid, liquid or gas. Each state of matter has its own properties.

Properties of solids	Properties of liquids	Properties of gases
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solids can be held. They keep their shape and do not flow. They always take up the same amount of space. They cannot be compressed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liquids cannot be held easily. They flow and can be poured. They take the shape of the container they are in. They cannot be compressed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gases cannot be held easily. They have no fixed shape and fill the available space in the container. They can be compressed. They are normally invisible.
Examples	Examples	Examples
metal, wood, plastic	water, oil, milk	air, helium

Particle theory

All matter is made from tiny particles. Particles are single pieces of matter that are too small to be seen. The arrangement of particles in solids, liquids and gases explains their different properties.

<p>In a solid, the particles are close together, arranged in a regular pattern and cannot move around each other. This arrangement means that solids keep their shape, always take up the same amount of space and cannot be compressed.</p>	<p>In a liquid, the particles are close together but arranged randomly, which means they can move around each other. This arrangement means that liquids can flow, take the shape of the container and cannot be compressed.</p>	<p>In a gas, the particles are far apart, randomly arranged and can freely move. This arrangement means that gases have no fixed shape and can be compressed.</p>
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Changing state

Materials can exist as solids, liquids or gases. However, some materials change state when heat is added or removed. The processes involved in changing state are melting, freezing, evaporation and condensation. These changes are reversible.

When a solid is heated, it melts into a liquid.

When a liquid is heated, it evaporates into a gas.

When a gas is cooled, it condenses into a liquid.

When a liquid is cooled, it freezes into a solid.

States of water

Water exists in three states on Earth: solid ice, liquid water or gaseous water vapour.

Melting and boiling points

When solid water (ice) is heated to 0°C, it begins to melt. This is called its melting point.

When liquid water is heated to 100°C, it begins to evaporate. This is called its boiling point.

Different materials have different melting and boiling points. For example, solid gold melts at 1063°C and liquid argon evaporates at -189°C.

Measuring temperature

Temperature is a measure of how hot or cold something is. It is measured in degrees (°) using a thermometer. The Celsius scale, which was invented by Anders Celsius in 1742, is used in the United Kingdom to measure temperature. In a liquid thermometer, the liquid rises and falls in the tube as the temperature rises and falls. The scale on a thermometer has marked and unmarked divisions. This thermometer reads 37°C.

Line graphs

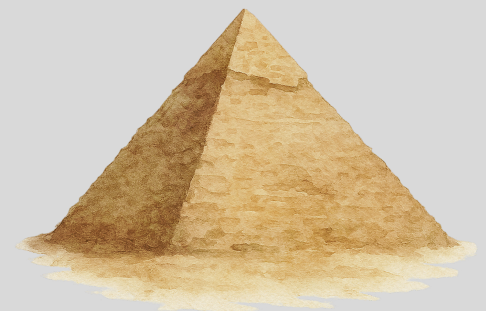
A line graph is a way of displaying data that shows a relationship between two things, or variables. Many line graphs show changes over time. The line can be straight or curved and have flat sections or slopes that are shallow or steep. Flat lines mean there is no change over time. The steeper the line, the faster the change.

Glossary

arrangement The way in which things are placed.
compress To squash.
gaseous In the form of a gas.
matter What all things are made from.
process A series of actions taken to achieve a result.
reversible Capable of being reversed so that the previous state is restored.
variable A factor, such as an object or condition, that changes during an investigation.

Design & technology

This term, children will learn about simple machines, including levers, pulleys, wheels and axles, inclined planes, screws and wedges, and how they make work easier by changing the direction or size of a force. They will explore how these machines can be combined to create compound machines and investigate how materials like cardboard can be shaped and strengthened. Children will then apply their understanding by designing and creating their own simple machine to help the Ancient Egyptians build the pyramids, as well as constructing pyramid models using junk materials.



Tomb Builders

Simple machines

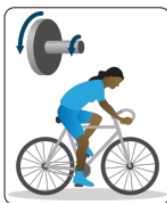
Simple machines are devices that make physical tasks easier. They work by changing the strength or direction of a force.

There are six types of simple machines:

Wheel and axle

Wheels and axles make it easier to move things. Wheels also reduce the friction between two surfaces.

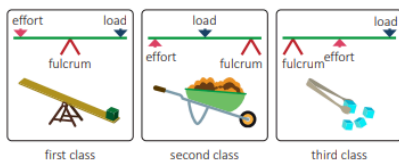
Bicycles, skateboards and cars all use wheels and axles.



Lever

A lever is a rigid bar that pivots on a fixed point called a fulcrum. When one end of a lever is pushed down, the other end moves up.

There are three different classes of lever depending on where the load and the effort are located:



Seesaws, spades and bottle openers all use levers.

Inclined plane

An inclined plane is a slope between two levels. Inclined planes make it easier to move heavy objects up and down.

Wheelchair ramps, slides and stairs all use inclined planes.



Pulley

A pulley changes the direction of the force. It is used to lift or lower an object.

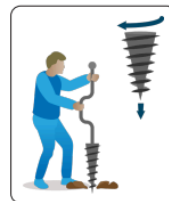
Flag poles, window blinds, and a bucket in a well all use pulleys.



Screw

A screw is a long, inclined plane, called a thread, that is placed around a cylinder. It changes a gentle rotational force into a stronger forward force to join two things together.

Bottle tops, light bulbs and taps all use screws.



Wedge

A wedge is a triangular tool that is thick at one end and thin at the other. It changes the direction of a force.

Axes, knives and chisels all use wedges.



Compound machines

Compound machines use a combination of simple machines. A wheelbarrow is a compound machine because it combines a lever with a wheel and axle.



Scoring, joining and strengthening cardboard

Models of simple machines can be made of cardboard. Cardboard models can be improved by using folding, joining and strengthening techniques.

- Using a ruler and an empty ballpoint pen to score cardboard makes it easier to fold.
- Cardboard can be joined using folded cardboard, sticky tape or a glued tab.
- Cardboard can be strengthened by gluing layers of card together, gluing or taping lollipop sticks or straws to the back, or gluing card triangles into the corners of folded card.

Glossary

force	A push or a pull.
friction	The force between two surfaces as they move across each other.