

The Spring Partnership Trust – Knowledge Organiser

History Focus

Egypt and Mesopotamia

Year 2

When? (Key Knowledge)

7000 BC	The first farmers settle in northern Mesopotamia, herd animals and grow crops on the fertile river soil.
5400 BC	The world's first city is established by the ancient Sumer people. It is called Eridu.
5000 BC	Farmers begin to settle in the south of Mesopotamia. They develop irrigation which meant that they found a way to direct water to crops to make them grow more effectively.
3600 BC	Writing is invented at the city of Uruk. The people draw pictures to represent various objects.
2000 BC	The first Assyrian Empire is established in the north of Mesopotamia and lasts for more than 500 years.
1200 BC	Assyrians rule over the greater part of Mesopotamia due to aggressive military tactics and new weapons made of iron.
522 BC	Darius the Great comes to power as king of Persia.

Background Information

The word Mesopotamia means "the land between rivers". The heart of Mesopotamia lies between the two rivers in southern Iraq. Early settlers in Mesopotamia started to gather in small villages and towns. As they learned how to irrigate land and grow crops on large farms, the towns grew bigger. Eventually these towns became large cities. New inventions such as government and writing were formed to help keep order in the cities. The first human civilization was formed.

What? (Key vocab)

Spelling	Definition
Afterlife	The place where Egyptians believed they would go after they died.
Akhet	The season of the year when the River Nile flooded.
Pharaoh	The title given to ancient Egyptian rulers.
Pyramids	Ancient pyramid -shaped masonry structures located in Egypt, often built as tombs for pharaohs.
Egyptologist	An archaeologist who focusses on Ancient Egypt.
Hieroglyphics	A type of writing that used pictures and symbols.
Mummification	The process of preserving a body after death in preparation for the afterlife.

Diagrams and Symbols

Amun
King of the Gods

Ra
God of the Sun

Anubis
God of Mummification

Horus
God of the Sky

Thoth
God of Knowledge

Isis
Mother Goddess, Goddess of Protection and Healing

Osiris
God of Death and the Afterlife

Key Gods (but there were MANY more)

Who?

Narmer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Pharaoh of Egypt Known as Warrior Menes.
Khufu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responsible for the building of the Great Pyramid at Giza.
Cleopatra VII	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Made alliances with famous Romans.