

Quick Facts Teaching Strategies

Visual Summary: Ancient Civilizations of Africa—Egypt

Interpreting Visuals Use the following strategies to help students interpret the Visual Summary:

1. As you discuss the left panel, ask students the following:
 - How does the Nile River provide fertile soil to Egyptian farmers? *by flooding once a year*
 - What other benefit did the Nile River provide for the ancient Egyptians? *transportation*
2. As you discuss the middle panel, ask students the following:
 - Where did the Egyptians get the gold that they used to make golden burial masks? *the Nubian Desert and Punt, an area east of the Nile River*
 - Whose image is shown in this burial mask? *King Tutankhamen*
3. As you discuss the right panel, ask students the following:
 - In ancient Egypt, whose job was it to learn to write and keep official records? *scribes*
 - Name another great cultural achievement of the ancient Egyptians. *possible answers—building the pyramids and the Sphinx; establishing great social stability; making mummies*

English-Language Learners Use the following strategies to help English-Language Learners interpret the Visual Summary:

1. Have students write a description of each of the three visuals. Have them use words or phrases from their primary language if they are unsure of the English words or phrases.
2. Ask students to read aloud the words or phrases they wrote and list them on the chalkboard. For each description, ask students what in modern life serves the same purpose as the item in the visual. For example, for the plow and oxen in the first picture students might suggest a tractor, and for the golden burial mask they might suggest coffins or gravestones.
3. **Writing Activity** Have students compose simple sentences, such as: “The ancient Egyptians_____, but today in this country we_____.” Challenge students to compose sentences using information they learned from the chapter that is not suggested by the visuals.

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Egyptian civilization developed along the Nile River, which provided water and fertile soil for farming.



Egypt's kings were considered gods, and Egyptians made golden burial masks and pyramids in their honor.



Egyptian cultural achievements included beautiful art and the development of a hieroglyphic writing system.