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Y4 Project 3 Learning Journey: Ancient Civilisations

In the Ancient Civilisations project, your child will learn about three of the earliest civilisations in the world; ancient Sumer, ancient Egypt and the Indus Valley civilisation. They will study the ancient Sumerian and ancient Egyptian civilisation in detail, to discover how crucial factors like water sources and farming helped them to develop and thrive. They will find out about important inventions and the growth of cities. They will also study the lives of different people in society, including the roles of kings and pharaohs. The children will reflect on their learning by identifying the similarities and differences between the two civilisations, before studying the Indus Valley civilisation independently. They will explore sources of evidence about the location of the Indus Valley, cities and trade, and note the reasons why historians know less about the Indus Valley than other ancient civilisations. The children will then compare all three civilisations, before learning about the causes and consequences of each civilisation's decline. They will also consider whether or not these civilisations left a lasting legacy.

Subject coverage

English	Maths	Science
<p>Narrative - Tale of Fear: Integrating dialogue</p> <p>In project lessons: Comparison piece of 3 ancient civilisations</p> <p>Class read: Varjak Paw</p>	<p>Mrs Moody group: addition and subtraction</p> <p>Miss Hendrickson & Miss Wong group: continue with the four operations; factors & multiples</p>	<p>Electricity</p> <p><i>BIG Q: How can we make electricity?</i></p>
History	Computing	Design and Technology
<p>Ancient civilisations: Ancient Sumer; The Indus Valley & Ancient Egypt</p> <p><i>BIG Q: What was life like in an ancient civilisation?</i></p>	<p>iProgram: programming using visual and text-based language</p> <p>Safer Internet Day (8th February 2022)</p>	<p>Mechanisms: Make a windmill/ wind turbine (linked to renewable energy sources in science)</p>
Music	PSHE	PE
<p>Playing the recorder</p>	<p>Dreams and goals: How can I overcome disappointment and failure?</p> <p>Value: Aspiration</p>	<p>REAL PE unit 3 REAL Gymnastics</p>
French	RE	
<p>Je Me Présente</p>	<p>What does it mean to be a Buddhist?</p>	

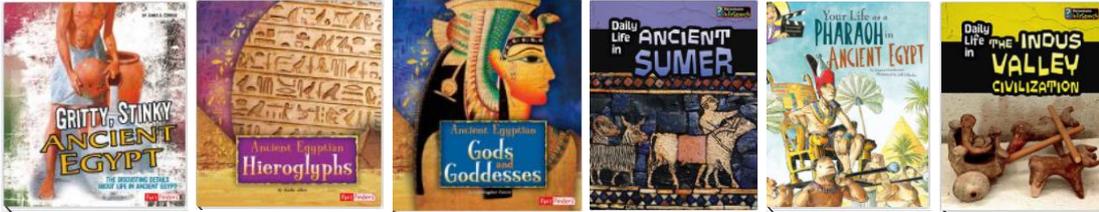
Please see the knowledge organisers sent with this document to find out what skills, knowledge and understanding your child is expected to have by the end of next term in science and their curriculum project.

Suggested reads

Why not pop along to your local library and see what books there are about ancient civilisations or electricity?

- 100 Facts Archaeology by John Farndon
- Great Civilisations: Ancient Sumer by Tracey Kelly
- Daily Life in Ancient Sumer by Nick Hunter
- Pocket Eyewitness: Ancient Egypt by DK
- Daily Life in Ancient Egypt by Don Nardo
- Daily Life in the Indus Valley Civilization by Brian Williams
- Facts and Artefacts: Indus Valley Civilisation by Tim Cooke
- I Was There Tutankhamun's Tomb by Sue Reid

There are also some linked titles on myON:



plus many more...!

Optional home learning challenges

If after completing their reading, spelling practice and TT Rockstars games, your child would like to complete additional home learning challenges, here are some ideas of projects they could attempt and bring in to share with their class teacher for *bonus merits*.

- Use your research skills to find out what an ancient civilisation is. Write a simple definition, then list the characteristics of a civilisation. List the names of some ancient civilisations found from your research.
- Use information books and the internet to find out about archaeology, archaeologists, archaeological sites and artefacts. Create an information poster or non-chronological report to record your findings. Include images if you can. Once complete, share it with a family member.
- Three of the world's first civilisations include ancient Sumer, ancient Egypt and the Indus Valley civilisation. Imagine that you are an archaeologist examining these artefacts. Complete a table to record your observations and ideas about each artefact. Include the name of the civilisation, artefact type, materials, possible uses and description.



ancient Sumer



ancient Egypt



Indus Valley civilisation

- Use your existing knowledge and research skills to write a few sentences about each of the following civilisations.
 - ancient Sumer (c4500–c1900 BC)
 - ancient Egypt (c3100–30 BC)
 - Indus Valley (c2500–c1700 BC)
- What did the ancient Sumerians invent, and how did these inventions make work easier and improve everyday life? Use information books and the internet to answer this question. Record information on a mind map. Expand on the information in your mind map by writing a summary to answer the enquiry question.

Useful information

- Y4 are scheduled to do PE on a Mondays and Thursdays, but this can change without notice so please ensure your child has their full PE kit in school every day.
- Please remember to send your child to school in an ancient Egyptian themed costume on Wednesday 5th January.