

# Lesson Plan: Awesome Ancient Egypt Adventure!

## Materials Needed

- Paper, crayons, markers, or colored pencils
- Optional building materials: LEGO bricks, sugar cubes, clay, or cardboard blocks
- A printed copy of a children's hieroglyph alphabet chart (easily found online)
- Access to the internet for a short video and images (optional, can be replaced with books)
- A globe or world map
- Pencil and a small piece of cardboard or sturdy paper cut into an oval shape (for the cartouche)

## Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- Locate Egypt and the Nile River on a map.
- Explain two reasons why the Nile River was important to the Ancient Egyptians.
- Describe what a pharaoh was and what a pyramid was used for.
- Write your name using simple hieroglyphs.

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## Introduction (10 Minutes)

### Hook: A World of Sand and Secrets

Ask the learner: "What if you were a detective, and you found a giant stone triangle in the middle of the desert? What do you think would be inside? Today, we're going on an adventure back in time to Ancient Egypt to uncover the secrets of the pyramids, meet the powerful pharaohs, and learn their secret picture-language!"

### Today's Adventure Goals

Tell the learner: "By the end of our trip back in time, you'll be an Egypt expert! You'll know all about their super important river, their kings and queens, their amazing buildings, and you'll even be able to write your own name in their secret code."

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## Body of the Lesson (30-40 Minutes)

### Part 1: The Gift of the Nile - The Super River!

#### I DO: The Teacher Explains (5 mins)

"Ancient Egypt was mostly a hot, sandy desert. But a super long river called the Nile flowed right through it. This river was like a magical gift! Every year, it would flood and leave behind special dark mud that was perfect for growing food. The Egyptians used the river like a big highway to travel on

boats. They also got fish to eat and water to drink from it. Without the Nile, there would be no Ancient Egypt!"

*(Show Egypt and the Nile River on a map or globe.)*

### **WE DO: Let's Explore Together (5 mins)**

Look at the map together. Ask questions to check for understanding:

- "Can you trace the path of the Nile River with your finger?"
- "What do you think it would be like to live in a desert? How did the river make it easier?"
- "Let's brainstorm! Besides food and water, what else could you use a river for?" (Ideas: washing, playing, transportation).

### **YOU DO: Create a Nile River Scene (5-10 mins)**

**Instructions:** "Now it's your turn to be an artist! On a piece of paper, draw the Nile River. Show me at least two things the Egyptians used the river for. You could draw people farming in the mud, someone fishing, or a boat sailing down the water."

**Success Criteria:** Your drawing clearly shows a river and at least two activities, like farming and boating.

## **Part 2: Pharaohs and Pyramids - Kings and Castles!**

### **I DO: The Teacher Explains (5 mins)**

"The rulers of Egypt were called pharaohs. They were like super-powerful kings and queens. One of the most famous was a young boy king named Tutankhamun, or King Tut! When a pharaoh died, Egyptians believed they would live on in an afterlife. So, they built giant, triangle-shaped tombs for them called pyramids. A pyramid was like a forever-palace, filled with treasure and everything the pharaoh would need for their next life."

*(Show pictures of a pharaoh, King Tut's mask, and the Great Pyramids.)*

### **WE DO: Pyramid Detectives (5 mins)**

Watch a short, kid-friendly video (2-3 minutes) about how the pyramids might have been built. Afterward, ask questions:

- "Why do you think the pyramids are so big?"
- "If you were a pharaoh, what one treasure would you want to take with you to the afterlife?"
- "Does a pyramid look easy or hard to build? Why?"

### **YOU DO: Build Your Own Pyramid! (5-10 mins)**

**Instructions:** "You are now a royal builder! Using LEGOs, sugar cubes, clay, or even just by drawing, create your own pyramid. If you're drawing, try to imagine what it looks like inside. Does it have secret tunnels and a treasure room?"

**Success Criteria:** You have created a 3D or 2D model of a pyramid that is wide at the bottom and pointed at the top.

## **Part 3: Gods and Glyphs - Beliefs and Secret Codes!**

### **I DO: The Teacher Explains (5 mins)**

"The Egyptians believed in many gods and goddesses who controlled everything, like the sun, the sky, and the river. To write things down, they didn't use letters like we do. They used picture-writing called hieroglyphs! Each little picture could be a sound, a letter, or a whole word. They carved them on temple walls and painted them inside tombs."

*(Show a picture of a hieroglyph chart.)*

### **WE DO: Crack the Code (5 mins)**

Look at the hieroglyph alphabet chart together.

- "Let's find the picture for the letter 'B'. What does it look like? (A foot!)"
- "Let's find the 'L'. What is it? (A lion!)"
- "Together, let's try to spell a simple word like 'CAT'."

### **YOU DO: Make a Royal Cartouche (5-10 mins)**

**Instructions:** "Pharaohs had their names written inside a special oval shape called a cartouche to show they were important. Now, you get to make your own! Take your oval cardboard shape. Using the hieroglyph chart as your guide, carefully draw the symbols for your name inside the oval. You can decorate the border to make it look like a royal treasure."

**Success Criteria:** Your cartouche is an oval shape with your name spelled out using the symbols from the hieroglyph chart.

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## **Conclusion (5 Minutes)**

### **Recap and Share**

Ask the learner to do a "Show and Tell" with the three things they created (Nile drawing, pyramid, and cartouche). As they share each one, ask a guiding question:

- (For the drawing) "Tell me again, why was this river so important?"
- (For the pyramid) "Who was buried in a building like this?"
- (For the cartouche) "What is this special kind of writing called?"

### **Reinforce Takeaways**

"You did an amazing job today! We learned that the Ancient Egyptians were brilliant people who used the Nile River to build a great civilization, honored their pharaohs with incredible pyramids, and created a beautiful way of writing with pictures. You've uncovered some of the most important secrets of Ancient Egypt!"

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## **Assessment**

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## **Formative (During the Lesson)**

- Observe participation and answers during the "We Do" sections.
- Check for understanding by asking clarifying questions as the learner works on their "You Do" activities.

## **Summative (End of Lesson)**

- The "Show and Tell" session serves as the summative assessment. The learner's ability to explain their three creations demonstrates their understanding of the key concepts (Nile's importance, purpose of pyramids, and what hieroglyphs are), meeting the lesson objectives.
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## **Differentiation and Adaptability**

### **For a Simpler Experience (Scaffolding)**

- Provide a coloring sheet of a Nile scene with labels.
- Give a pre-drawn pyramid to decorate.
- Write the learner's name in block letters first, then have them copy the corresponding hieroglyph below each letter.

### **For an Extra Challenge (Extension)**

- Ask the learner to research one Egyptian god (like Ra or Anubis) and draw them, labeling what they were the god of.
- Challenge them to write a secret message (a full sentence) to a friend or family member using hieroglyphs.
- Have them design a blueprint for their own pyramid, including traps to keep out tomb raiders.