Lesson 2: The River Nile

Teacher knowledge: *The River Nile is the longest river in the world. It begins in the mountains of central Africa and travels north for thousands of miles before reaching the deserts of Egypt. Once a year the Nile in Egypt overflows, flooding the land beside the river. For about ten miles along either side of the river, the soil turns black. It is rich and full of minerals that help plants to grow. The Ancient Egyptians discovered they could plant seeds in the rich soil and grow plants for food. This meant that they did not need to move around and hunt for food. People settled on the banks of the River Nile and built towns and cities. They began to build a civilisation.*

See Page 125 and 126 of *What Your Year 2 Child Needs to Know*

Knowledge Objective	Task	Lesson Detail	Vocabulary
To understand the importance of the River Nile to Ancient Egyptians. **Knowledge goals** The River Nile is in Egypt. The River Nile floods which creates fertile land for farming. Ancient Egyptians lived near the Nile as they could grow food.	**Task:** To create a fact file, with images, about the importance of the River Nile. **Success Criteria:** I can identify how long the River Nile is. I can explain what happens to the land surrounding the river once it over flows? I can identify where the River Nile is located in Egypt. **Step for depth:**	**Prior Learning:** Have a copy of blank map of Egypt on the board, ask pupils to fill in key information from the previous lesson. **Vocabulary:** Orally rehearse key vocabulary at the beginning of the lesson, as well as explain the definition for silt and fertile. **Teach:** Show and discuss the video clip below (BBC Class Clip – Living Near the River Nile). **Talk task:** Why is the river so important to people living nearby? **Teach:** Following the talk task, explain to pupils, discuss with pupils how the River Nile is very long, begins in Central Africa and travels north to the deserts of Egypt. Referencing the clip, explain to pupils that the River Nile floods and overflows onto the land around it. This causes the soil either side of it to turn black. Egyptians call the land 'Black Land', which fills the land with rich nutrients which help the plants grow. Explain to pupils how people who settled closer to the River Nile were able to live off the land, grow crops and catch fish. Why was the River Nile important for the Ancient Egyptians? **Task:** In their books, with images, pupils are able to complete a fact file about the information they have gathered about the River Nile. On the whiteboard/display, have questions such as: Where is the River Nile? What happens with the soil in the River Nile once it overflows? You may wish to provide pupils with a word bank to assist them with writing their fact file. **Partner teach/Plenary:** Pupils are able to share their work using mini-plenaries throughout the lesson. To conclude, discuss with pupils the length of the River Nile.	River Nile flood silt fertile farming
Suggested Resources: Video clip about the river Nile. Alternatively, the teacher could explain about the Nile using pictures.			

PLOT MATERIALS

Ancient Egyptians
Lesson 2

LO: To understand the importance of the River Nile to Ancient Egyptians.

Prior learning



<u>Key vocabulary</u>

Continent

Africa

Egypt

Sea

River

country

Key Vocabulary	Definition
River Nile	A river, which flows through the continent of Africa. It is the longest river throughout the world.
Black Land	The land either side of the River Nile, which the soil turns black. It is full of rich nutrients to help plants grow.
Irrigation	The supply of water, which helps land or crops, grow.
Archaeology	A person who studies history by looking for things people in the past have left behind. Archaeologists look at objects (artefacts), people and places (sites) from a long time ago.
Pharaohs	Pharaohs were the King or Queen of Egypt. A Pharaoh was the most important and powerful person in kingdom. They were the head of the government and the highest priest of every temple.
Artefacts	An object made by humans, typically one of cultural or historical interest

Pharaohs	
Nefertiti	
Tutankhamun	
Rameses II	

Map of Egypt



Howard Carter



- Born in 1874 in Norfolk, England
- Discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun with Lord Carnarvon

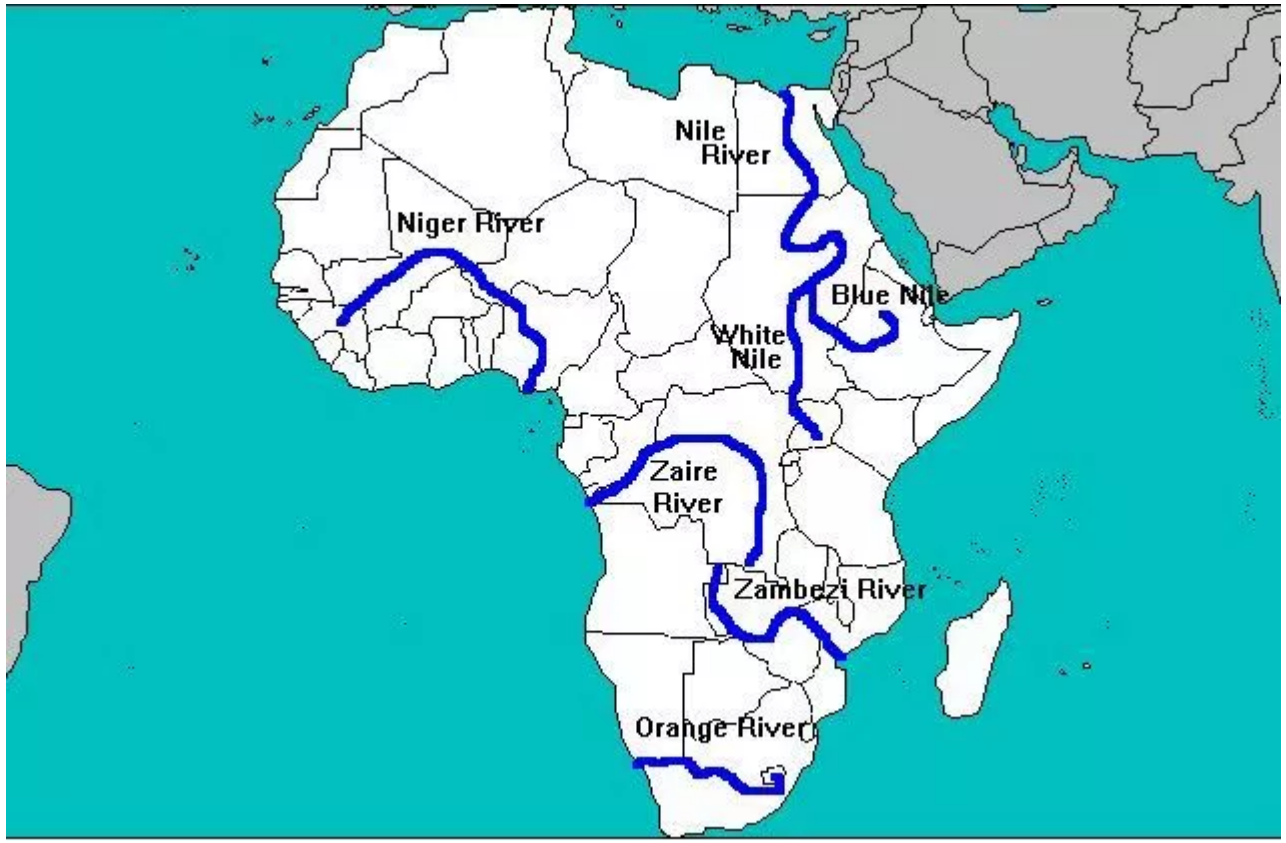
PHOTOMATERIALS

Key vocabulary

- River Nile
- flood
- silt
- fertile
- farming

Why is the River Nile so important to the people living nearby?

https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/z3rwmp3



- The River Nile is very long, it begins in Central Africa and travels north to the deserts of Egypt.

River Nile floods and overflows onto the land around it. This causes the soil either side of it to turn black.



Farmers used the rich soil the river left behind to grow plants that could be eaten as food. The Nile River also brought water to the plants that grew.



LO: To understand the importance of the River Nile to Ancient Egyptians.

Key vocabulary
River Nile
flood
silt
fertile
farming



Task
Create a mind map about why the River Nile is important.





Where is the River Nile?
What happens to the soil in the river Nile once it overflows?