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**Early Peoples Activity Sheet:  
Ancient Egyptians**

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1. **Physical Features**
2. Describe the environment along the Nile.
3. During ancient times, the Nile flooded the Valley every summer. When the flood waters subsided, what did this create for farmers?
4. Why did Early Egyptians settle in the Nile Valley?
5. **Kingdoms**
6. Ancient Egyptian history is broken into a three kingdoms. Name these three kingdoms and provide the dates.
7. You will notice that there is a space in time between each Kingdom. What is this period generally referred to as?
8. What contributed to the end of the Old Kingdom?
9. **Roles of key groups in ancient Egypt**
10. The rise of the nomarchs after the collapse of the Old Kingdom resulted in tighter control by the new rulers of the Middle Kingdom. How did the nomarchs influence the law during the early years of the Middle Kingdom?
11. There were many important people and groups involved in the running of ancient Egypt. Describe the role of each of these people and groups?
12. The King/Pharaoh
13. The Vizier
14. Nomarchs
15. What brought the Middle Kingdom to an end?
16. Who were the Hyksos and what influences did they bring with them to Egypt?
17. How did the kings of Upper Egypt reclaim power over the Hyksos?
18. The next phase of ancient Egyptian history is considered the greatest in Ancient Egyptian history. What is the next phase in history called?
19. Look at the map showing the extent of lands held by Egypt during the Old, Middle, and New Kingdoms on Page 11. During what period was Egypt’s Empire the largest?
20. What does the size of Egypt’s Empire in the New Kingdom tell us?
21. **Warfare**
22. During the New Kingdom, the Egyptian army was organised into four division. What were these four divisions and what were they named after?
23. In the New Kingdom, archers adopted the composite bow over the long bow. In what ways was the composite bow better than the longbow?
24. What was the Egyptian army’s battle formation?
25. What was life like for a soldier in the Egyptian army?
26. Who held the topmost ranks of the army?
27. **Everyday life**
28. What was life like for women in ancient Egypt?
29. What was the daily routine of a commoner family in ancient Egypt?
30. On average, how many children did Egyptian families have?
31. What were houses of common people made of?
32. What features did the houses of the rich in ancient Egypt have?
33. What features did Egyptian houses have to help keep families cool?
34. Look at the clay model of the Egyptian house made in 1900 BC on page 44. What does it tell us about houses in ancient Egypt?
35. What were ancient Egyptians clothes made out of?
36. What did men wear?
37. What did women wear?
38. What were the main foods consumed by people in ancient Egypt?
39. How often did people eat?
40. How was food prepared and who was it prepared by?
41. What were two common drinks you would find in ancient Egypt?
42. Did children go to school in ancient Egypt?
43. What kind of activities did ancient Egyptians enjoy in their leisure time?
44. How do we know what leisure activities ancient Egyptians enjoyed? Give an example of one piece of evidence that tells us this.
45. **Trade**
46. How do historians know that foreign traders came to Egypt to sell their goods?
47. Why was trade important for ancient Egyptians?
48. Why would rulers sometimes send soldiers on expeditions abroad?
49. **Death and Funerary customs**
50. When a person died, ancient Egyptians believed they met with the god of the underworld, Osiris, who judged the dead and decided their fate in the afterlife. Summarise in one sentence what is happening in the image from the *Book of the Dead* depicted on page 29.
51. How did Osiris judge who could enter the underworld?
52. According to the Book of the Dead, what did it mean if the dead person’s heart weighed more than the feather?
53. Why did ancient Egyptians mummify their dead?
54. What influence did the environment have on ancient Egyptian burial customs?
55. How does mummification preserve the body?
56. Ancient Egyptians believed that something in the tomb representing an object could magically become the object itself in the afterlife. What kind of things could you find in the tomb of a deceased person from ancient Egypt?
57. What was the opening of the mouth ritual?
58. What were the pyramids built for?
59. In what period were Kings buried in the pyramids?

* Old Kingdom
* Middle Kingdom
* New Kingdom

1. Following the use of pyramids, where were members of the royal family buried and why did they no longer bury them in pyramids?
2. **End of the New Kingdom**
3. What weakened Egyptian power?
4. Look at the *Timeline of Later Egyptian History* on page 55. Arrange the events in chronological order and put the dates beside each.

Assyrians invade Egypt and sack Thebes

The end of Dynasty XX; renewed civil war and extensive political and social change in Egypt.

Persians drive out the Assyrians and take control

Alexander defeats the Persians; beginning of Greek rule

Death of Cleopatra and Antony; Egypt becomes a province of Rome.

Libyan king Shoshenq I founds Dynasty XXII and restores control briefly

Death of Alexander; Ptolemy fights to rule Egypt

Nubian king Plankhy builds empire in southern Egypt

Cleopatra VII becomes ruler of Egypt