

NILE RIVER RESEARCH CHART

HOW DID THE NILE RIVER IMPACT THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS OF THE CIVILIZATION OF EGYPT?

Geographic Features	Egyptian Adaptation	Economy	Religion	People & Society
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Fertile soil *Surrounded by desert *Nile starts in mountains *Nile ends in the Mediterranean 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Irrigation *Canals *365 day calendar *Writing on papyrus, building boats with reeds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Ruler had total control *Export papyrus and linen *Grew crops like wheat and barley *Used river to trade *Trade allowed cities to become wealthy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Osiris=god of Egypt *Hapy=god of water & fertility *Rulers tried to be like Hapy *Multiple gods=<i>polytheism</i> *Pyramids *Kings seen as gods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *King controlled all *Life revolved around the river *Necessities provided-people could focus on art, government & religion *Could stay in one place *Jobs were created

Research Questions

You should be able to answer the following questions with your chart.

1. What are unique features of Ancient Egypt's geography?

Ancient Egypt's most important geographic feature is the Nile River which, starts in the mountains to the south and empties into the Mediterranean Sea. The river is unique because it is surrounded by desert.

2. How did Ancient Egyptians use and adapt to the land around the Nile River?

*Ancient Egyptians **adapted** to the Nile River by building **irrigation** systems and canals to bring water to crops. Crops were so important Egyptians developed a 365 day calendar that kept track of planting, harvesting and flooding periods. Egyptians also used papyrus made out of reeds for record keeping; they also used reeds to build boats for the river.*

3 . What was the economy based on?

*The kings of Ancient Egypt had complete control over the economy and trade. They exported goods like **papyrus** and linen and used the river to trade these items.*

4 . How did geography connect to religion in Ancient Egypt?

*Religion played an important part of Egyptian life. The most important god was Osiris. Hapy, was the god of water and fertility that, people would pray and make sacrifices to. Kings and leaders would try to be like Hapy. *Egyptians worshipped many gods, this is known as **polytheism**.*

5. How did the Nile River provide food to Ancient Egyptians?

The Nile River provided fertile soil. Fruit and date trees grew along the banks and Egyptians used irrigation and canals to divert water to crops like wheat and barley. The Nile also provided fish.

6. How did geography affect Ancient Egyptian culture?

People were able to settle and stay in one place because of the Nile River. Life revolved around the river. Jobs were created like surveyors and mathematicians (for irrigation). The Nile allowed for people to trade along the river, and cities became very wealthy. The geography of Egypt also helped protect Egyptians because they were protected on both sides by the desert. Due to the fact that the necessities of life were taken care of, Egyptians could focus on other things like art, government and religion.