

## Did you know?

- Over 130 pyramids have been discovered in Egypt.
- The punishment for tomb robbery was harsh – thieves were slowly impaled on sharp poles.
- Each pyramid took around 27 years to build and took the sweat and toil of thousands of workers.
- Every stone block of a pyramid weighed an average of 2.5 tonnes. Wow, that's heavy!
- Pharaoh Khufu's pyramid in Giza is made up of 2.3 million blocks of stone. It is the oldest of the ancient seven wonders of the world and 146 metres high!
- 'Pyramid' comes from the Greek word 'pyramis', meaning 'wheat cake', as they have a similar shape!
- The ancient Egyptian word for pyramid was 'mer', which translates as 'beloved'.
- People only knew what mysterious hieroglyphics meant when the Rosetta Stone was translated in 1822.
- Pharaohs liked to keep lions as pets, but declawed them to prevent serious scratching!
- Embalmers would sometimes replace a dead person's eyes with onions. It's enough to make your eyes water!
- The Victorians loved holding 'mummy parties', where real mummies were unwrapped in front of astonished guests. Sausage roll, anyone?
- Powdered mummy was sometimes used to 'cure' illnesses in Europe before modern medicine thankfully took over.
- The ancient Egyptians didn't use vowels and punctuation in their writing. What would your teacher say about that?
- Ancient Egyptians invented many items that we still use today, such as paper, make up, locks and keys, and, believe it or not, toothpaste!
- Ancient Egyptians believed that the Earth was flat and round like a pancake and that the River Nile flowed through the centre.