



Activity One

<u>The Egypt Game</u> features the names of several ancient Egyptian gods, pharaohs, and other fascinating characters. Your task is to choose an individual from the following list and investigate him or her.

• Diana
• Bastet
• Nefertiti
• Ramase
• Set
• Horemheb
• Isis
• Anubus
• Thoth
• Cleopatra

Your research might include some or all of the following topics. (Some topics may not apply to all characters.)

- Was this an historical character?
- When did this individual exist?
- What were his or her good qualities and not so good qualities?
 - What did this character look like (appearance)?
 - What were his or her accomplishments?
 - Include any other points of interest to you.

Use the space below to record jot notes as you conduct your research. Present your findings as a report using the proper format you have learned. Remember to proofread your work and make any edits needed to improve it.





Activity Two

Many people around the world, for generations, have been fascinated with the history and culture of ancient Egypt. Zilpha Keatly Snyder, the author of <u>The Egypt Game</u>, first became interested in ancient Egypt when she was in fifth grade, and read everything she could find about it!

Today, we know so much about this remarkable civilization because countless men and women have devoted their lives to exploring Egyptian ruins, from the pyramids to other architectural marvels which were built thousands of years ago. **Archaeologists** are perhaps the best known investigators of ancient Egypt.

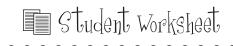
Your task is to investigate the investigators!

Write a research report about who archaeologists are, and what they do.

Here are some questions for you to consider:

- What is an archaeologist?
- What training is necessary to be an accomplished archaeologist?
 - What are their responsibilities?
- Where in the world do they work, and what do they do when they get there?
- What special personal characteristics would be of help to be a good archaeologist?

Use the space below to record jot notes as you gather your information.





Activity Three

The word **pyramid** comes from a Greek word "pyramis" meaning "wheat cake". This was the name used by the Greeks to describe the ancient Egyptian buildings because the Egyptian structures reminded the Greeks of pointy-topped wheat cakes.

The ancient Egyptians built the early pyramids as tombs for their pharaohs and their queens. The pharaohs were buried in the pyramids – structures that came in many different shapes and sizes. There are about 80 known pyramids in Egypt today. One of the most famous, the **Great Pyramid of Khufu**, was built from over two million blocks of stone in about 2600 B.C.

Your task is to do a further investigation of a pyramid.



For you research, consider these details:

- Where in Egypt it is located
 When it was built
- Who it was built to honor
 Its size and composition
- The burial chambers The history of the structure
 - Any other facts about the history of the structure that are of interest to you

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Activity Four

As is mentioned in <u>The Egypt Game</u>, the story of <u>Aida</u> is a wonderfully romantic tale which is still told today, many thousands of years after the events took place.

A famous opera by Verdi made this story world-renowned. Verdi's <u>Aida</u> is set in ancient Egypt following a great war between Egypt and Ethiopia. An officer in Pharaoh's army, Radamis, falls in love with his Ethiopian captive, Aida.

What follows is a story of adventure, romance, betrayal and deceit.

Investigate the story of Aida and retell its main events in your own words.

Be sure to make your story as dramatic as possible. Conclude your story by giving your impression of the two main characters, Radamis and Aida.

You may use the space below to write jot notes to plan your story.





Activity Five

An underlying theme running through <u>The Egypt Game</u> documents April's relationship with her mother, Dorthea. Being a responsible, successful parent is perhaps one of the most demanding roles required of an individual in life. Some people fulfill these responsibilities well, while others struggle to meet the expectations that are usually required.

This assignment is in three parts:		
Part 1	Begin by listing three or four characteristics you believe are essential for a person to be a good parent. For each characteristic, explain why you think this quality is essential.	
Part 2	Think back over the novel, <u>The Egypt Game</u> , and describe the relationship which existed between April and Dorthea. Did Dorthea have any of the characteristics that you listed in Part 1? Describe why Dorthea's parenting skills were so sadly lacking.	
Part 3	Finally, describe how April eventually came to grips with her mother's shortcomings. What can you infer about the kind of person April was based on the way she handled her relationship with her mother?	





Activity Six

The author, Zilpha Keatly Snyder, ends <u>The Egypt Game</u> in a most intriguing way. In the last paragraph April asks Melanie: "Melanie, what do you know about Gypsies?"

What do you know about Gypsies?

Gypsies are more accurately known as "Roma". When we think of these people, we often think of a colorfully dressed, nomadic people traveling the countryside in covered wagons, telling fortunes and dancing around their fires throughout the night.

Mostly, of course, this picture is quite racist, and a fanciful product of Hollywood and fantastic novels. Who then, are the Roma?

Your task is to write a brief report of this richly diverse group of people.

Be sure to include their history and origins.

Here are some questions for you to consider as research starters:

- Where in the world do the majority of the Roma live?
- Have they always lived here, or did they originally come from someplace else?
 - How big is the Roma population today?
 - What language(s) do the Roma speak?
 - How do they typically make their living?
 - What are some of their pastimes?
 - What does their diet consist of?
 - What are their religious beliefs?
 - Include any other topics you think are important to an understanding of these people.

