

## LESSON #1 - INTRODUCTION TO ANCIENT EGYPT

### Student Objectives and Activities

- Students are introduced to Ancient Egypt with a “trivia” activity.
- Students locate Egypt on a map or globe.

### Suggested Teaching Strategies

- Begin this unit by making a copy of the following two pages, “**Did You Know ...?**”, and cutting the pages into strips, each strip containing a fact about Ancient Egypt. Fold the strips in half and put them in a bowl. Students then take turns picking and reading the statements. All of these interesting facts about Ancient Egypt will help pique student interest about the topic of study. You can start or finish by adding this interesting fact: Did you know that Ancient Egyptian boys and girls married when they were in their mid-teen years? The parents arranged who the son or daughter would marry, and as soon as the girl acknowledged the arrangement, they were as good as married. No marriage ceremonies were conducted - just a simple agreement.
- Next, distribute the student handbooks and find the map entitled “**Ancient Egypt**”. Write the following places on the board and have students jot them down onto the backs of their maps.

**Mediterranean Sea, Red Land, Nile River, Africa, Black Land, Upper Egypt, Lower Egypt, Memphis, Thebes, Red Sea, Akhetaten, Alexandria, Greece, Rome, Giza, Cyprus, Crete, Abusir, Saqqarah**

- While reading the informational sheet, “**People of the Nile**”, take time to locate and label the map every time a new location is identified (in *italics*). Then, have the students locate and label the other places listed on the handout to help them better understand future lessons. Afterwards, the students may use light pencil crayon to shade their maps, using a colour key to identify fertile land, desert, water, etc. (A completed map is included as a teacher resource and can be posted on the wall or shown as an overhead.)
- You may choose to have the students locate Egypt on a class map or globe instead of, or in addition to, the map strategy above. Also, you may choose to have the students identify other countries and/or bodies of water on their maps, if you deem it helpful.

### \*\*\* Note\*\*\*

If possible, dress like an Egyptian for this lesson and enter the room while playing the song, “Walk Like an Egyptian” by the Bangles. You could even give yourself an Egyptian name and act as that person, instead of the teacher. (Kids really get a kick out of this!) Showing an Ancient Egypt video or sharing artifacts like those used by Ancient Egyptians could also be used to heighten student interest.