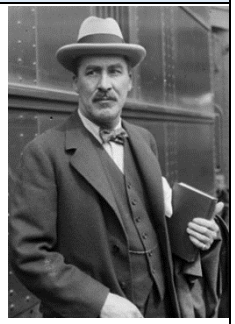
Year 4: Temples Tombs and Treasures



Howard Carter (May 9, 1874 – March 2, 1939) was an English archaeologist. He was the man who found King Tutankhamun's tomb in 1922. Tutankhamun was a young pharaoh {in the middle kingdom}. In 1907, Lord Carnarvon, a wealthy English aristocrat, hired Howard Carter to lead an excavation of an Ancient Egyptian tomb. In 1914, Lord Carnarvon obtained the right to dig on site KV62. This was the supposed location of the tomb of Tutankhamun, and Howard Carter was chosen to manage the project.
Carter put together a team of workers, but the outbreak of World War 1 interrupted the project. Work resumed in 1917 and carried on for several years.
In 1922, frustrated that the tomb of Tutankhamun had not yet been discovered, Lord Carnarvon said he was going to stop funding the excavation in a years' time if more progress wasn't made.
On 4th November 1922, one of Howard Carter's team discovered a stone step in the sand. A whole flight of steps was soon revealed, and they led to Tutankhamun's tomb. The tomb was sealed by a stone door, and on 26th November 1922 Howard Carter chiselled a small hole in the door and looked inside. In response to a question by Lord Carnarvon, Carter famously said he could see 'wonderful things' within the antechamber.

Civilisation	A large group of people who share certain advanced ways of living and working**.**
Tomb	A place to burry a body.
Ancient	The very distant past.
Sphinx	A spiritual guardian and most often depicted as a male with a pharaoh headdress
Hieroglyphics	the formal writing system used in Ancient Egypt
Tutankhamun	An Egyptian Pharaoh.
Pharaoh	A ruler in Ancient Egypt
Cleopatra	The last ruler of Ancient Egypt
Ramesses	An Egyptian Pharaoh

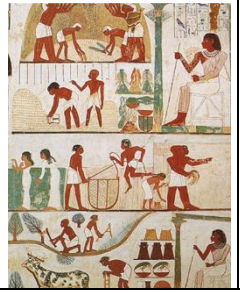
Here is Howard Carter discovering the tomb full of treasures and Tutenkhmuns Death Mask. Carter kept a diary of his time in Egpt and his findings Here is a quote:
"The antechamber was a small room, some twenty-six by twelve feet, and we had to tread warily, for, though the officials had cleared a small alleyway in the center, a single false step or hasty movement would have inflicted irreparable damage on one of the delicate objects with which we were surrounded." The wall opposite the entrance wall was piled nearly to the ceiling with boxes, chairs, couches, and so much more - most of them gold - in an "organized chaos."

Egyptian daily life:
How do we know about the daily life in Ancient Egypt? We know about Egyptian daily life from the huge number of wall paintings in tombs and temples.

The Nile was used for:

- Water to irrigate the fields;
- The main means of travelling and of transporting goods, all by boat;
- An important source of protein food when people caught fish;
- The main building material was mud brick

Servants:
The paintings found, show a large number of servants, or probably slaves, working in the houses. The paintings show that slaves; Looked after the charcoal fires; ground wheat to make bread; cooked meat over fires; carried baskets full of vegetables.



Houses:

- People lived beside the Nile and Egyptian houses were almost all built from bricks of Nile mud. (The palaces of the Pharaohs were built from stone.)
- The mud was carried in baskets from the Nile and poured into moulds.
- When the mud in the mould was dry, it was turned out and left to bake in the heat of the sun.
- Was cool inside.
- Had a flat roof so that in very hot weather people could sleep on the roofs in the cool of the night.
- Often had courtyards with walls built round them.
- Cooking was done out of doors in the courtyard.

The Rich:
The richer families in ancient Egypt had houses with beautiful gardens, looked after by slaves or servants.
Men went wild-fowling (hunting wild duck) in the marshes and women are shown sitting on couches talking to each other and listening to music.

Food:
The crops and vegetables meant that even the poorer Egyptians usually ate a balanced diet.

- The staple food was bread from the grain.
- They grew onions and leeks and salad vegetables
- They grew beans and dried them so that they could be cooked and eaten throughout the year
- They grew fruit such as figs and pomegranates.
- They caught fish from the Nile.
- They kept cattle.