

Daily Life in Ancient Egypt

Lesson 2



Notes from last week's video...

The houses had different rooms:

- Front room for socialising
- Back room for the men to relax in
- Bedroom
- Storage areas

Kitchen, which had mud brick built in oven.
Also a deep pit in the ground with a lid to keep food cool

No bathrooms, but rich Egyptians had a stool to sit on with a bowl of sand underneath. Servants would take human waste into the desert as hot sun would kill bacteria in it quickly.

Bread was very important in their diets.
Made from wheat and barley flour.

Money didn't exist. People were paid wages with sacks of grain. This was used to barter for goods.

Diet was bread, fruit, meat and spices

Water- River Nile only source of water.
Donkeys transported it to villages. Daily allowance of 100 litres.

We are going to look at some information from a topic book about Ancient Egypt ...



This is considered a secondary historical source of information as it was not written in Ancient Egyptian times. If it was then it would be a primary source of information.

We are going this information to add to our notes from last week



Everyone in ancient Egypt lived in homes built from mudbrick – even the pharaoh. Homes had small windows and air vents in the roof, to keep the heat out. Important people had large, beautifully decorated homes.

The white paint on the outside of this house reflected the heat away from the house.

WHAT'S INSIDE?

Ancient Egyptian houses had white inside walls. Poor people decorated their walls with bands of colour and simple patterns. Rich people had more complicated decorations. Homes had very little furniture. Ordinary houses had a mudbrick shelf instead of beds, one or two chairs and just a few low tables.

Important people had gardens, with pools – cool, shady places to sit in hot weather. Poorer people had small yards or flat roofs where they could relax. They had canopies or climbing plants grown over a frame, for shade.

The trees around the pool in a rich family's garden gave shade and fruit to eat.



Ancient Egyptian Homes



The most important crop the ancient Egyptians grew was grain. They used grain to make the bread and beer that everyone ate and drank every day. They also ate a lot of vegetables, mostly onions, leeks, cabbage, lettuce and cucumber.

Feasts were a way of marking special occasions, happy or sad. This carving shows a funeral feast.

This wall painting shows a rich man, Nebamun, hunting in the marshes with his wife, daughter and specially trained hunting cat.

Poor people did not eat meat very often, or even fish from the river. Rich people ate beef, lamb and goat, ducks and geese as well as all kinds of fish. Owning animals was a sign of how rich a person was. As well as eating farm animals they hunted wild animals for sport and food.



Ancient Egyptian Food

Ancient Egyptian Family Life

The ancient Egyptians thought family life was very important. A marriage began when a couple set up home together. The most important job for women was having children and running the home, but many women, especially in poorer families, had to work as well.

This wooden model shows a woman making bread. Much of the cooking and food preparation was done on the floor in Egyptian homes.



Here a man sits with his wife and son. Men who owned their own homes were expected to look after other family members.

Women were allowed to own their own homes, but they were not allowed to do some jobs, such as helping to rule the country. Men did all the washing. This was because it was done in the River Nile, which was full of crocodiles.



Ancient Egyptian Children



The top of this box is a board for a race game. Underneath is a draw to keep the playing pieces safe.

Babies and small children played with balls and dolls, just as they do now. Their parents or, if they came from a rich family, servants played with them and told them stories. But as soon as they could do simple jobs in the home, the workshop or the fields they were expected to work.

CHILDREN'S NAMES

Parents often named their children after a god or goddess. They expected that a child called She Is Named After Mut would be protected by the goddess Mut as she grew up. Other parents gave their children names that showed what they wanted the child to be like such as Happy or Clever.

Wealthy Egyptians wanted their children to be blessed by the gods. Here, Akhenaten and Nefertiti are showing their daughters to the Sun God Aten.

Only boys who were training for jobs where they had to read and write were taught these skills. The rest learned the same trade as their fathers. Some girls, especially in rich families, were taught simple reading and writing at home.

