



A Lesson on Egypt by Jeanette Jenkins

Grade Level: Grade 4

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 1 hour 45 minutes

Lesson Keywords: Vocabulary, Reading, Critical Thinking, Egypt

Lesson Description: This lesson involves students learning reading skills, comprehension, vocabulary, and critical thinking skills. Students will individually read the text and then answer the questions below.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.1: Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.1: Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.3: Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.2b: Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.3: Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.4a: Use context (e.g., definitions, examples, or restatements in text) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

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Lesson Content: Book/Story/Reading Passage

Instructions: Please read the following reading passage as many times as needed (aloud and silent) before starting to go through other lesson pages. Understanding the content of this passage is very important since the lesson activities will be all about this content. Feel free to print the passage if needed.

Egypt by

Content: Egypt is a country in Africa. It is at the north part of the continent. The north side of Egypt borders the Mediterranean. East of it is the Red Sea, Sudan to the south and Libya to the west. Other countries are on its other sides. It is in a very special location. It is a place that is close to Asia.

The capital of Egypt is Cairo. That is a really great city. It has been an important city for a long time. It is the largest city in Africa. If you visit that city, you will find a very modern place. You will see many cars. You will see many businesses, schools, and homes.

About 82 million people live in Egypt. They have a rich history. Long ago, Egyptians made this the greatest place in the world. They built pyramids. These very smart people invented ways to farm.

Long ago, Egyptians were wonderful leaders. They built great buildings. They set up schools. They invented a special way of writing. That was called hieroglyphics. They looked like pictures instead of alphabet letters.

You will still see hieroglyphics in Egypt today. But they are not used to read and write. They are a part of history. Egypt has a long history. It has been a leader for a long time. If you read Egypt's history, you will know how great this country has been.

Today most Egyptians live near the banks of the Nile River. This is where the only good land to farm is. It's a great place to live. There are other parts that are difficult to live in; they are deserts. So not many people live there.

About half of Egypt's residents live in cities. Those big cities are in the area of the Nile River. If you go to Cairo, the biggest city, you will find millions of people.

Egypt has had some problems. There have been wars. There have been problems of poverty. Poor people in the cities need jobs. They need homes. Egypt is working to solve those problems.

Egypt is making its schools better. The school leaders are making plans to help students learn more. They are planning ways to help parents help their children learn more, too.

Egypt is a great country. It has a wonderful history. It will have a great future because people are working hard. They are working together to get more jobs and homes.

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Task 1: Vocabulary

Instructions: Please complete the following vocabulary activity by choosing the correct meaning of each word selected from the passage and use of each word correctly in a sentence.

Q: 1 WordPhrase: residents **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: The author states \"About half of Egypt's residents live in cities\". What is the meaning of the word \"residents\"?

A: A person who lives somewhere.

B: A place to drive to.

C: A type of store.

D: Egypt's biggest town

Question: Which one of these sentences use the word \"residents\" correctly?

A: The pyramids are residents of Cairo.

B: The residents of Cairo can see the pyramids.

C: I see residents in the sky.

D: Residents don't have places to live.

Q: 2 WordPhrase: modern **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: What did the author mean they said \"If you visit that city, you will find a very \"modern\" place?

A: Very old place.

B: Very cold place.

C: Very up- to-date place.

D: Very sad place.

Question: What sentence best uses the word \"modern\"?

A: The pyramids are a modern structure.

B: The pyramids are set in a modern city.

C: Egypt is modern because it does not have very many things to do.

D: The pyramids were built in modern times.

Q: 3 WordPhrase: pyramids **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: What does the word \"pyramids\" mean from the text?

A: A diamond shaped structure.

B: A building in the city.

C: A triangular structure in the desert.

D: A type of camel.

Question: Which sentence best uses the word \"pyramids\"?

A: The pyramids were built on the water.

B: The pyramids are fun to draw on.

C: The pyramids fly in the sky.

D: Egypt had many pyramids in the desert.

Q: 4 WordPhrase: hieroglyphics **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: How does the author explain the meaning of \"hieroglyphics\" in the sentence \"They invented a special way of writing. That was called hieroglyphics. They looked like pictures instead of alphabet letters\"?

A: The language Egyptians used to write.

B: Words Egyptians say.

C: A type of paper.

D: A type of writing utensil.

Question: Identify which sentence best uses the word \"hieroglyphics\".

A: Egyptians used hieroglyphics to paint with.

B: Egyptians spoke in hieroglyphics.

C: Hieroglyphics were just like the alphabet.

D: Egyptians used hieroglyphics as words and looked like pictures.

Task 2: Forum Discussion

Instructions: This discussion forum will have questions for students to respond. Read the posted questions, and respond to each. Students are responsible for posting one initial and two peer responses for each topic.

1 - Location Of Egypt

What continent is Egypt located on?

What is Egypt's capital and what is it like there?

2 - Where Egyptians live.

Where do most Egyptians live?

Why or why not, is it a good place to live?

3 - Problems in Egypt

What were the problems in Egypt?

What are the improvements being made?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: Using the information you read in text about Egypt, write a 300 word essay describing how Egypt has changed through time. Use text evidenceto support ideas.?

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