

Economy and Industry in Ancient Egypt by Leslie Kaplan. New York: Rosen Classroom Books & Materials, 2004. (ISBN: 0-8239-8936-4)

Literature Annotation: This book describes the industries and economic system of Egypt in ancient times. It covers topics such as bartering, the growth of industry, trade and a variety of crafts such as pottery, jewelry and stonework.

Grade Level: 6th

Duration: 1-2 class periods

Maryland State Curriculum

- 4.A.2.a Identify ways people have used resources to meet economic wants such as domesticating agriculture (Grade 6)
- 4.A.2.b Describe how available resources affected specialization and trade (Grade 6)

Objectives: Students will...

- describe the human, natural, and capital resources available in Ancient Egypt.
- explain how the availability of economic resources affected the growth of industries in Ancient Egypt.

Vocabulary

Capital resources: the goods that are manufactured and constructed by people and used to produce other goods and services, including but not limited to factories, warehouses, roads, bridges, machinery, ports, dams, and tools (Money is not a capital resource.)

Human resources: the health, strength, talents, education and skills that humans can use to produce goods and services

Natural resources: the renewable, and nonrenewable gifts of nature that can be used to produce goods and services, including but not limited to land, water, animals, minerals, trees, climate, soil, fire, seeds, grain and fruits

Technology: skills, methods, tools, machines and other things used to perform activities. (Technology changes over time and affects the way we live, work, and play.)

Teacher Materials

Teacher Resource Sheet #1: *Word Sort*

Student Materials

Student Resource Sheet #1: *Ancient Egyptian Industry Research Sheet*

Student Resource Sheet #2: *Ancient Egyptian Industries*

Resources

Books:

Technology of Ancient Greece by Leslie Kaplan, New York: Rosen Classroom Books & Materials, 2004.

Websites:

Ancient Egyptian Industry & Technology

<http://www.aldokkan.com/science/industry.htm>

Aspects of Life in Ancient Egypt

<http://www.reshafim.org.il/ad/Egypt/timelines/topics/index.html>

Motivation

Distribute one set of cards from Teacher Resource Sheet #1: *Word Sort* to student pairs. Tell students to arrange cards into four categories. Discuss their categories. Explain that these words could be categorized in many ways, but one way is the following: Human Resources, Natural Resources, Capital Resources, and Products. Have student pairs re-arrange their cards into those categories. Check for understanding. Ask: *What country might the resources and products on these cards represent?* (Egypt) Discuss.

Development

1. Tell students that they are going to investigate the economy of Ancient Egypt. Read pages 5-7 of *Economy and Industry in Ancient Egypt*. Ask: Upon what was Ancient Egypt's economy centered? (*agriculture*) What types of natural resources were present in Ancient Egypt? (*Nile River, mud, papyrus, flax, gold, stone*) What types of crops were grown in Ancient Egypt? (*corn, wheat, barley, vegetables*) What other foods were available to Ancient Egyptians? (*fruits, meat, dairy, fish*) Why was agriculture key to Egypt's development as an empire? (*Everyone had enough to eat and could develop other businesses. Surplus allowed for exportation.*)
2. Break students into 6 groups (Papyrus, Brick & Pottery, Stone, Cloth, Jewelry, and Shipbuilding). Distribute Student Resource Sheet #1: *Ancient Egyptian Industry Research Sheet*. Explain to students that each of their groups will be investigating a different industry that existed in Ancient Egypt in order to create a poster about their industry. They should use a variety of resources to complete their research sheet that will serve as a guide. (See the Resource Section of this lesson for suggested websites.) Once students have completed their work, allow time and provide resources for them to create a poster about their industry.
3. Distribute Student Resource Sheet #2: *Ancient Egyptian Industries*. Students should complete the section of the graphic organizer pertaining to the industry assigned to their group. Once this is complete, have student groups present their posters. As each group reports out, the rest of the class should take notes in the appropriate sections of the graphic organizer until all of the sections are complete. Discuss.

Assessment

Have students respond to the following prompt.

Ancient Egypt was blessed with an abundance of natural resources. Write a short essay for your teacher describing some of those natural resources and the role they played in the development of industries that contributed to the rise of Egypt as a powerful empire. Be sure to include the following:

- examples of the natural, human, and capital resources in Ancient Egypt
- a description of one industry in Ancient Egypt and how it used natural, human, and capital resources

Closure

Ask: *Which of these industries still exist in Egypt, if any?* Discuss.

Word Sort

Copy grid onto cardstock and cut into individual cards.

Papyrus	Gold	Flax	Linen
Mud	Nile River	Pyramid	Lapis
Limestone	Glassmaker	Silica	Oven
Saw	Drill	Oils	Lotus Flower
Builder	Goldsmith	Paper	Brick
Potter	Stoneworker	Weaver	Copper
Boat	Pick	Drill	Sled

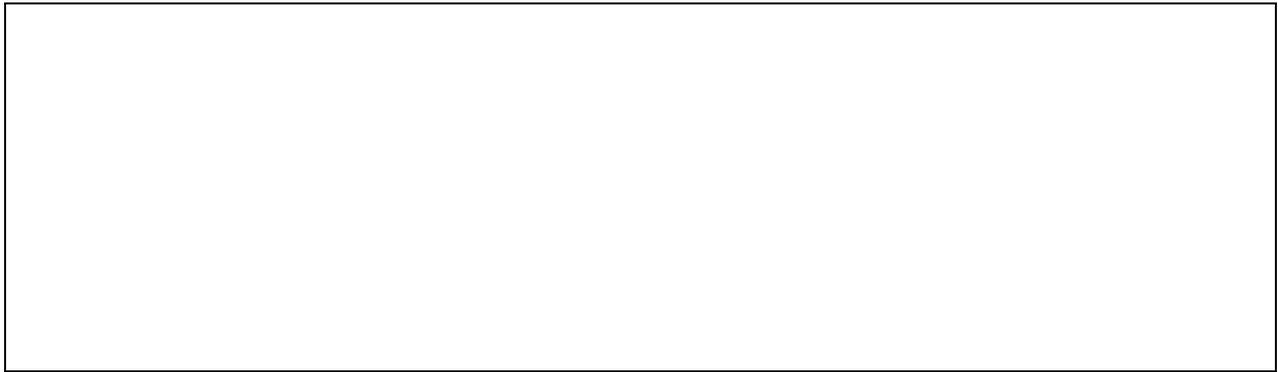
Ancient Egyptian Industry Research Sheet

Industry: _____

1. Products: _____

2. We chose _____ (product) to research.

3. Draw a picture of the product.



4. What economic resources were needed to produce this product? Complete the chart below.

Natural Resources	Human Resources	Capital Resources

5. What was the purpose of this product? _____

6. Who used this product? _____

7. Was this product exported to other countries? ____ If so, to what countries? _____

8. Create a poster illustrating this industry. The poster should be visually appealing and incorporate information from this worksheet.

Student Resource Sheet #2

Ancient Egyptian Industries

Industry	Featured Product: Name and Purpose	Natural Resources	Human Resources	Capital Resources	Export?
Papyrus					
Brick & Pottery					
Stone					
Cloth					
Jewelry					
Shipbuilding					