LESSON: THE MIDDLE AND NEW KINGDOMS OF ANCIENT EGYPT

The Big Idea
During the Middle and New Kingdoms, order and greatness were restored in Egypt.

Main Ideas
The Middle Kingdom was a period of stable government between periods of disorder. In the New Kingdom, Egyptian trade and military power reached their peak, but Egypt’s greatness did not last. Work and daily life were different for each of Egypt’s social classes.

You Try:
1. TAKE NOTES ON SLIDES 2-8 ABOUT THE MIDDLE AND NEW KINGDOMS.
2. TAKE NOTES FROM THE VIDEO ON YOUTUBE: TYPE: ANCIENT EGYPT CRASH COURSE WORLD HISTORY #4.
3. CREATE A COMPARE AND CONTRAST CHART OF EGYPT TODAY TO ANCIENT EGYPT: TOPICS TO COMPARE: SCHOOL, JOBS, GOVERNMENT, LAW, TRADE

What am I learning?
THE MIDDLE AND NEW KINGDOMS OF ANCIENT EGYPT.

ANCIENT EGYPTIAN TRADE
ANCIENT EGYPTIAN MILITARY

How do I know I learned?
Learning Evidence in 1-3 Descriptors

I can provide evidence how The Middle Kingdom was a period of stable government between periods of disorder.

I can describe how in The New Kingdom, Egyptian trade and military power reached their peak, but Egypt’s greatness did not last.

I can explain how work and daily life were different for each of Egypt’s social classes.

Extra Learning Opportunities
WATCH ADDITIONAL VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE.COM OF ANCIENT EGYPT AND COME UP WITH A LIST OF 5 QUESTIONS YOU WOULD ASK SOMEONE IF YOU TRAVELED BACK IN TIME TO ANCIENT EGYPT.
Chapter 4 – Ancient Egypt and Kush

Section Notes
1. Geography and Ancient Egypt
2. The Old Kingdom
3. The Middle and New Kingdoms
4. Egyptian Achievements
5. Ancient Kush

History Close-up
Building the Pyramids
The Temple of Karnak
Rulers of Kush

Quick Facts
Chapter 4 Visual Summary

Video
The Egyptian Pyramids

Maps
Ancient Egypt
Egyptian Trade
Ancient Kush

Images
Egyptian Society
Queen Hatshepsut
Egyptian Writing
Kush’s Trade Network
The Middle and New Kingdoms

The Big Idea
During the Middle and New Kingdoms, order and greatness were restored in Egypt.

Main Ideas
• The Middle Kingdom was a period of stable government between periods of disorder.
• In the New Kingdom, Egyptian trade and military power reached their peak, but Egypt’s greatness did not last.
• Work and daily life were different for each of Egypt’s social classes.
Main Idea 1:
The Middle Kingdom was a period of stable government between periods of disorder.

Following a period of competition for power between the nobles and the pharaohs, the Middle Kingdom began.

Egypt fell into disorder around 1750 BC. A group called the Hyksos invaded and ruled the region for 200 years.

The Egyptians fought back, and Ahmose of Thebes declared himself king and drove the Hyksos out of Egypt, beginning the New Kingdom.
Main Idea 2:
In the New Kingdom, Egyptian trade and military power reached their peak, but Egypt’s greatness did not last.

- Fearing future invasions, the Egyptians took control of all possible invasion routes into the kingdom.
- Egypt took over vast lands and was the leading military power in the area.
- Egypt became rich because of the lands it conquered.
Conquests brought traders into contact with distant lands, and **trade routes**, or paths followed by traders, developed.

**Queen Hatshepsut** encouraged trade and used the profits to support the arts and architecture.

Led by **Ramses the Great**, Egypt fought invaders for many years, leaving their empire diminished.
Main Idea 3:
Work and daily life were different for each of Egypt’s social classes.

- The complex society required people to take on many different kinds of jobs.
- Family life was very important in Egyptian society, and most Egyptians lived in their own homes.
  - Women had many legal rights, including owning property, making contracts, and divorcing their husbands.
### Scribes
Few people were more respected than scribes. They did not have to pay taxes, and many became wealthy.

### Artisans, Artists, and Architects
These jobs required advanced skills and were also very admired in Egypt.

### Merchants and Traders
Although trade was important, few held these positions. Some had to travel very long distances to buy and sell goods.
### Additional Egyptian Jobs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Soldiers</strong></th>
<th><strong>Farmers and Other Peasants</strong></th>
<th><strong>Slaves</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Egypt created a permanent army that offered soldiers a chance to rise in social status and receive land as payment.</td>
<td>This group made up the vast majority of the population. They grew crops to support their families and to pay taxes.</td>
<td>Slaves were usually criminals or prisoners. They had some legal rights, however.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
History Close-up

Building the Pyramids

More than 4,000 years ago, workers near Giza, Egypt, built three massive pyramids as tombs for their rulers. The amount of work this job required is hard to imagine. Tens of thousands of people must have worked for decades to build these gigantic structures. In this illustration, men work to build the pharaoh Khufu's pyramid.

- A statue called a sphinx was carved out of rock and left to guard Khufu's tomb.
- Giant ramps made of rubble were piled around the pyramid so workers could reach the top.
- Teams of workers dragged the stones on wooden sleds to the pyramid.
- Huge blocks of limestone were cut with copper tools and taken by boat to the building site.

How did workers get their stone blocks to the pyramids?
The Temple of Karnak

The Temple of Karnak was Egypt's largest temple, built mainly to honor the sun god. Karnak was one of Egypt's major religious centers for centuries. Over the years, pharaohs added to the temple's many buildings. This illustration shows how Karnak's great hall may have looked during an ancient festival.

- High windows let light and air into the temple
- Massive columns, some more than 80 feet high, supported the temple's high roof
- Karnak's interior columns and walls were painted brilliant colors
- In the annual Opet festival, priests carried statues of the gods and sacred boats from the temple to the Nile River
- Only the pharaoh and priests were allowed inside the temple, which was considered the home of the gods

ANALYZING VISUALS

What features of Egyptian architecture can you see in this illustration?
**History Close-up**

**Rulers of Kush**

Like the Egyptians, the people of Kush considered their rulers to be gods. Kush's culture was similar to Egypt's, but there were also important differences.

- Kush was ruled by a few different powerful queens. Queens seem to have been more important in Kush than in Egypt.
- Stone carvings were made to commemorate important buildings and events, just like in Egypt. Kush's writing system was similar to Egyptian hieroglyphics, but scholars have been unable to understand most of it.

Like the Egyptians, Kush's rulers built pyramids, but they were much smaller and the style was different.
Egyptian Society

Pharaoh
The pharaoh ruled Egypt as a god.

Nobles
Officials and priests helped run the government and temples.

Scribes and Craftspeople
Scribes wrote and craftspeople produced goods.

Farmers, Servants, and Slaves
Most Egyptians were farmers. Below them were servants and slaves.

ANALYZING VISUALS
Which group helped run the government and temples?
**BIOGRAPHY**

**Queen Hatshepsut**  
Ruled c. 1472–1458 BC

Hatshepsut was married to the pharaoh Thutmose II, her half-brother. He died young, leaving the throne to Thutmose III, his son by another woman. Since Thutmose III was still very young, Hatshepsut took over power. Many people did not think women should rule, but Hatshepsut dressed as a man and called herself king. After Hatshepsut died, her stepson took back power and destroyed all of the monuments Hatshepsut had built during her rule.

**Analyze** Why do you think some Egyptians objected to the idea of being ruled by a woman?
Egyptian Writing

Egyptian hieroglyphics used picture symbols to represent sounds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sound</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Imn</td>
<td>Amun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tut</td>
<td>Image</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ankh</td>
<td>Living</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heka</td>
<td>Ruler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iunu</td>
<td>Heliopolis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resy</td>
<td>Southern</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Translation—“Living image of Amun”

Translation—“Ruler of Southern Heliopolis”

What does the symbol for ruler look like?
INTERPRETING MAPS
1. Place  What bodies of water can you see on the map?
2. Location Where are Upper Egypt and Lower Egypt located?