Exploring Ancient Egypt with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To understand the importance of the River Nile and the role of pharaohs in Ancient Egyptian society.

Read each question carefully and use your knowledge of Ancient Egypt to provide clear, detailed answers. Remember to look at the word bank if you need help with key terminology.

Ellie the Elephant is visiting the banks of the River Nile. She knows that this great river was the heart of Ancient Egyptian life. She is busy recording facts about how the people built, farmed, and ruled their land thousands of years ago.

Word bank: River Nile · Pharaoh · Silt · Pyramids · Irrigation · Hieroglyphics

1. Why was the River Nile so important for the farmers of Ancient Egypt? Mention the word 'silt' in your answer. (2 marks)

2. Explain what a pharaoh was and why they were considered the most powerful person in Ancient Egypt. (2 marks)

3. Ellie found a stone tablet with strange symbols carved into it. What is the name of this Ancient Egyptian writing system? (1 mark)

4. Look at the price list for tomb supplies: A jar of gold paint costs £4.50 and a decorative scroll costs £2.75. How much would it cost to buy both items? (2 marks)

5. Why were the pyramids built by the Ancient Egyptians? What were they used for? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of the River Nile. Include the river flowing through the desert, some green crops growing on the banks, and a tall pyramid in the background.

Extension challenge: Imagine you are an Ancient Egyptian scribe. Write a short sentence about your day using symbols or shapes to represent letters, just like the ancient hieroglyphics!