

What happened to the boy behind the golden mask?

National Curriculum subject content:

Pupils should be taught about the achievements of the earliest civilizations
– Ancient Egypt

Key skills covered:

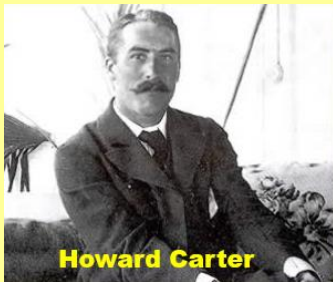
Continuity and change, cause and consequence, historical significance, characteristic features

Harold Carter and Lord Carnarvon

Harold Carter was an archaeologist from England working in Egypt. He wanted to find out about the people who lived in Egypt in ancient times. Howard Carter was born in 1874 in Norfolk, England. He was the son of an artist. Carter began his career in Egypt at the age of 17, using his artistic talents to copy wall paintings and inscriptions. By 1922, other Archaeologists thought they had found all the tombs but Carter worked out that there was one still left - the tomb of Tutankhamen. In November 1922, a young boy was digging and found a step that led to the discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamen.

'Can you see anything?' asked Lord Carnarvon

'Wonderful things,' replied Howard Carter.



Howard Carter



Lord Carnarvon

Lord Carnarvon was a wealthy Englishman who was interested in Ancient Egypt. He gave the money to pay the bills for Howard Carter's work in Egypt.

Timeline:

1343 BCE: Tutankhamun is born in Amarna, the new capital of Egypt.

1337 BCE: The father of Tutankhamun was forced to abdicate due to his belief in a radical new religion he had introduced that worshipped just one god named Aten. The throne of Egypt was taken by Smenkhkare Ankhetkheperure.

1134 BCE: At the age of just 9 years old Tutankhamun was made King of Egypt.

1334 BCE: The third daughter of Akhenaten and Nefertiti, called Ankhesenamun: married Tutankhamun (she was therefore his half-sister)

1331 BCE: The boy king was forced to change his name from Tutankhaten to Tutankhamun - this was done to emphasise that the god Amun was more important than the god his father had introduced (Aten)

1330 BCE: The boy king Tutankhamun and his child bride were forced to leave their childhood home of Amarna and relocate in the old capital of Thebes, restoring power to the priests of the god Amun.

1330BC - 1325 BCE: Tutankhamen and his wife had two daughters but they were both stillborn. During this period a military general, Horemheb, was declared heir to the throne. New temples were built in Thebes and Karnak to worship the god Amun.

1325 BCE: His short life ended in 1325BC, he was barely 19 years old.

1324 BCE: He was buried in a tomb in the Valley of the Kings. This minor Pharaoh was made the most famous king of all when Harold Carter discovered his tomb, and its wonderful belongings, on **4 November 1922**.

26 November 1922: Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon investigate the content of the tomb.

Key vocabulary

artefacts	An artefact is any object discarded or lost by a previous human culture, and later recovered by an archaeologist.
replica	An exact or very close copy of something.
chamber	A natural or artificial enclosed space or cavity.
Pharaoh	The Pharaohs of Ancient Egypt were the supreme leaders of the land.
mural	A painting or other work of art created straight on a wall.
mummification	Is a process in which the skin and flesh of a corpse can be preserved. Either the process can occur naturally, or it can be intentional.
viscera	The large internal organs of the body.
ceremony	A formal act or ritual performed for a special occasion.
alabaster	Alabaster is a white stone that is used for making statues, vases, and ornaments.
desiccate	To preserve something by drying it out.
purifying	An act of ritual cleansing on a body.
ritual	A ritual is a ceremony or action performed in a certain way.
Book of the Dead	A collection of ancient Egyptian religious and magical texts, often written on or placed in tombs.
decomposition	The process of rotting away.
canopic jars	A covered urn used in ancient Egyptian burials to hold the inner organs from an embalmed body
lapis lazuli	A deep blue metamorphic rock.
scarab	A large dung beetle.
shabti dolls	Figures shaped as male or female mummies and placed in the tomb of a deceased person to accompany them to the afterlife.
sarcophagus	A large stone box that held a mummy's coffin. Often richly decorated for Pharaohs.

The Valley of the Kings

The Valley of the Kings was a great burial ground for the Pharaohs. After around 1500 B.C.E the Pharaohs no longer built great pyramids in which to be buried. Instead, most of them were buried in tombs in the Valley of the Kings.



Significant people:

Pharaoh Akhenaten: Tutankhamun's father.

Kiya: One of the wives of Pharaoh Akhenaten and Tutankhamun's mother.

Ay: The father of Nefertiti, the stepmother of Tutankhamun. As a boy Ay was one of Tutankhamun's closest friends and trusted advisors. He was his chief vizier (much like a prime minister today). He became Pharaoh after Tutankhamun's death.

Ankhesenamun: The daughter of Pharaoh Akhenaten and the wife of Tutankhamun (also his half-sister)

Horemheb: He was the last pharaoh of the 18th Dynasty of Egypt. He ruled for 14 years somewhere between 1319 BC and 1292 BC.

Hatshepsut: Queen Pharaoh of Egypt, she married her brother (Thutmose II also known as Tut II) and had a child: Neferure. When Tut II died, they had not had a son but one of Tut's other wives had a son so Hatshepsut became regent. She ruled effectively for seven years but then decided she wanted to be a Pharaoh herself. She came to the throne of Egypt in 1478 BC. At first, she was seen as very feminine. After becoming Pharaoh and more confident, this changed. She wore a false beard. Her reign was peaceful and diplomatic. She built obelisks, remade temples and built her own mortuary chapel.