

Geography and History and the importance of the River Nile

SDG14+15 - Life Below Water and Life On Land

Group: Roberta

Primary

1) Ask the class about a river nearby, or a lake, or coastal area. Ask them how important it is for their lives. If necessary, accept suggestions in the mother tongue, but write up suggestions in English on the screen or board.

2) Tell the class they are going to look at the longest river in the world. Do they know what it's called?

3) Hand out the River Nile worksheet with the river and 6 empty boxes. Show the video on the River Nile

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W0mAzYBugCc>

Tell the children to colour in green the areas which were fertile and in brown the desert areas they see in the film.

4) Now hand out the picture cards cut up and tell the children to watch again and place the images in the order they see them in the film.

5) Next, give out the headings and word cards and tell the children to place them with the right image.

6) Get your students into groups of 3 and make a model of a shaduf.

<https://www.twinkl.bg/resource/how-to-make-a-shaduf-craft-instructions-t2-h-5794>

How to Make a Shaduf

You will need:

- four pieces of wooden dowel (three cut into 20cm lengths and one of 30cm)
- bowl of water
- plasticine
- yoghurt pot
- string
- sticky tack
- pencil
- scissors
- ruler, saw and clamp (if you are cutting the dowel yourself)

A shaduf is a hand-operated machine used to transport water from a lower level to a higher one. It was used by the ancient Egyptians to help water crops. Follow these step-by-step instructions to make your own shaduf.

Instructions:

1. If you are cutting the dowel yourself:
 - use a ruler to measure three lengths of 20cm and one of 30cm. Mark each measurement using a pencil.
 - Put the dowel into a clamp and then carefully saw each length.

Sewing Safety Tips!

- Use long work to wear safety goggles.
- Securely attach a clamp to the table and then fix the dowel in it to make sure the wood doesn't slip.
- If you are right handed, you need space to the right side of the bench for cutting the lengths of wood, this space will be on the opposite side if you are left handed.
- Hold the saw with the hand you use to write with and place the other hand away from the saw on the table.
- Pull back with the saw before pushing forward.

2. Your shaduf will need to be on a raised surface so that the container can reach down to pick up water from a lower level.

3. Place the three dowels of the same length together, ensuring they are apart at the bottom but touching at the top to make a tripod.

4. Secure the dowels to your surface by pulling a lump of plasticine at the base of each one. At the top, the ends should be joined using a lump of plasticine but with the three ends sticking up above the plasticine.

5. Place the longer piece of dowel in the middle of it rests on top of the tripod in between the three ends. You may want to loosely secure it with a piece of plasticine - don't push down too hard though as this piece needs to pivot back and forth.

6. Put holes at the top of the yoghurt pot on either side.

- Place the pot on its side and put a piece of sticky tack underneath it where you want the hole to be.
- From the inside of the pot, use a pencil to press through the pot and into the sticky tack.
- Repeat on the other side.

7. Cut a length of string to 30cm.

8. Put one end of string through one of the holes in the yoghurt pot and tie a knot on the end - shake the pot so that it can't come back out. Repeat for the other hole so you have a loop.

9. On one end of the long piece of dowel, put a lump of plasticine. This is your counterweight.

10. On the other end of the longer piece of dowel, place the string with the yoghurt pot dangling down. Fix the string in place with a small piece of plasticine.

11. Put the bowl of water on to the lower level near the yoghurt pot. Pull the pot down so it reaches the bowl and fill with water.

12. Pull on the counterweight to lift up the pot of water. And that's basically how the ancient Egyptians moved water.

Challenge

Using other equipment, can you find a way to make the shaduf spin round so the water can be emptied on the other side?

Can you make a shaduf using different construction equipment or toys?

ink saving Eco

7) Hand out the language support for writing about the importance of the River Nile in Ancient Egypt to each student and get them to write a text explaining about the uses the Ancient Egyptians made of the River Nile.

The importance of the River Nile in Ancient Egypt.

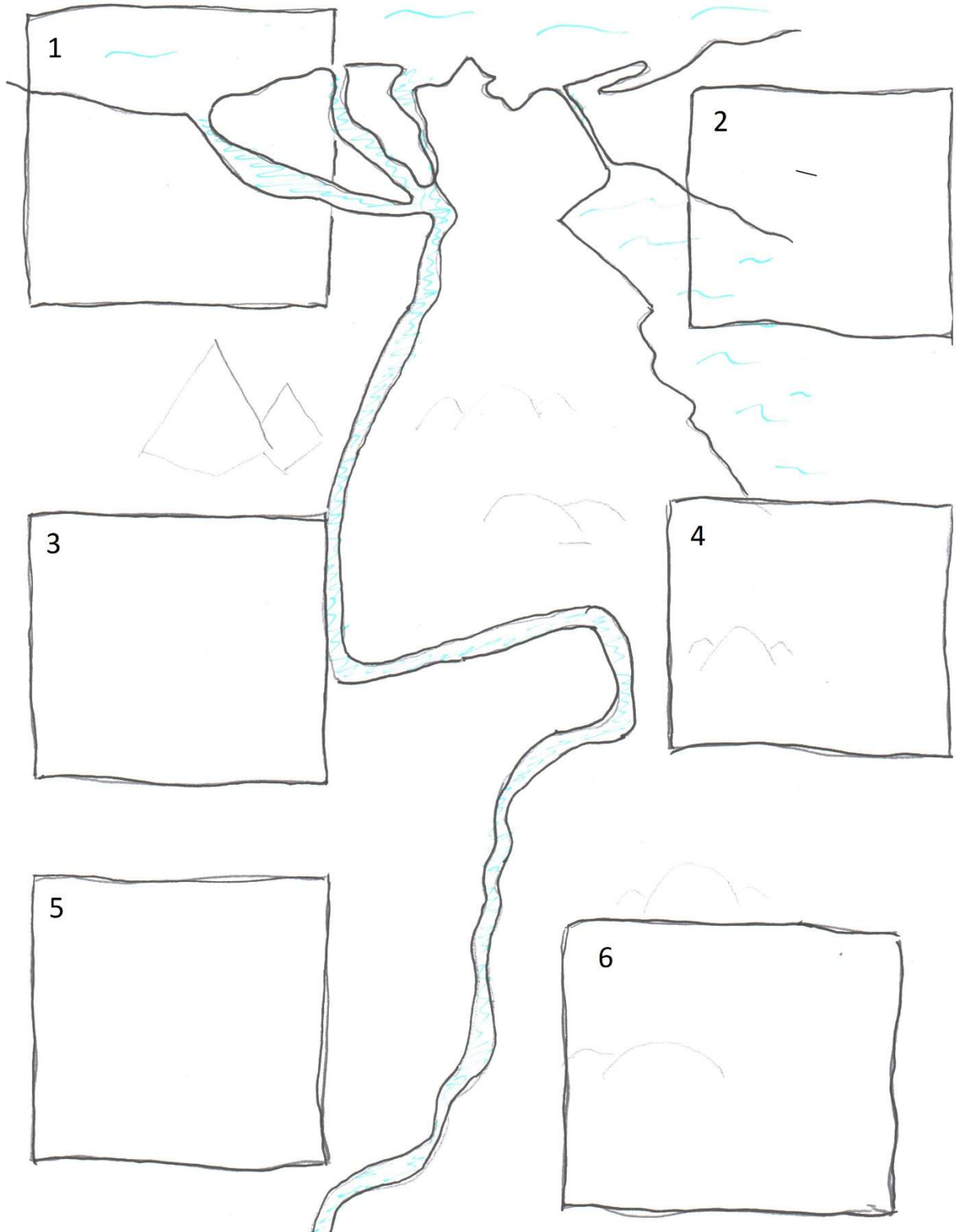
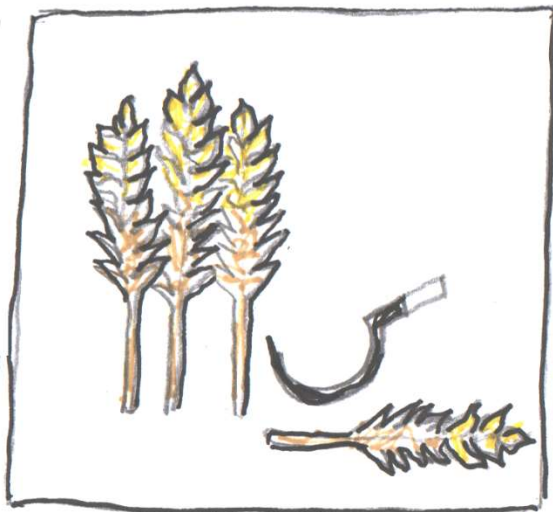
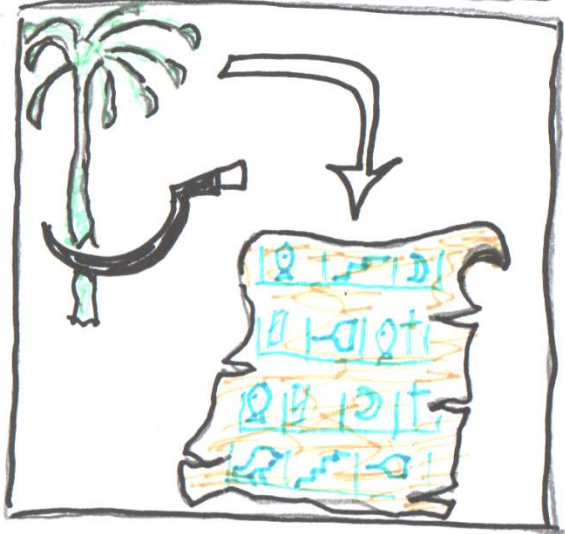
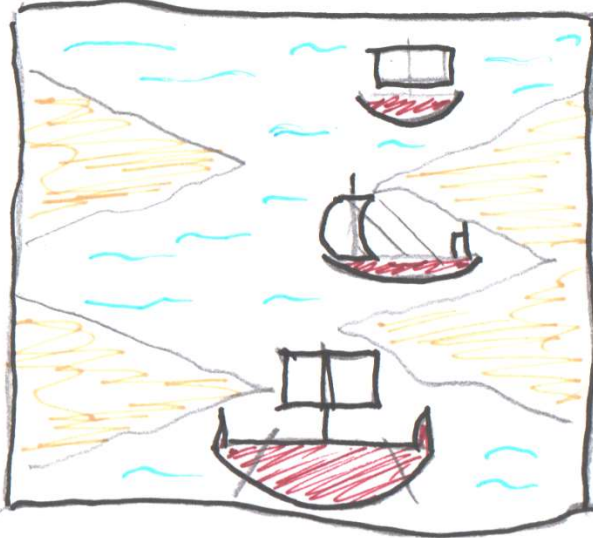
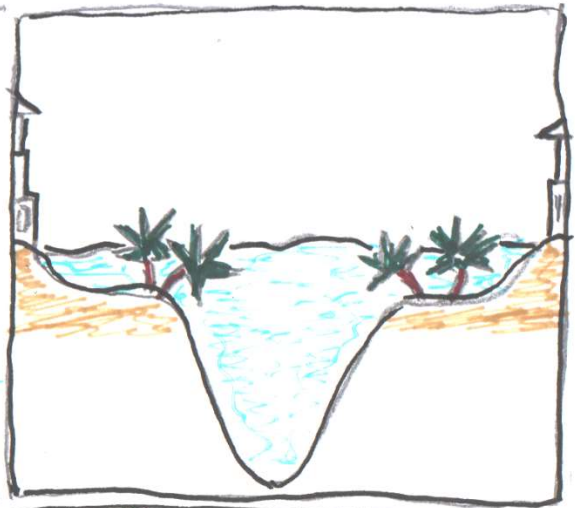
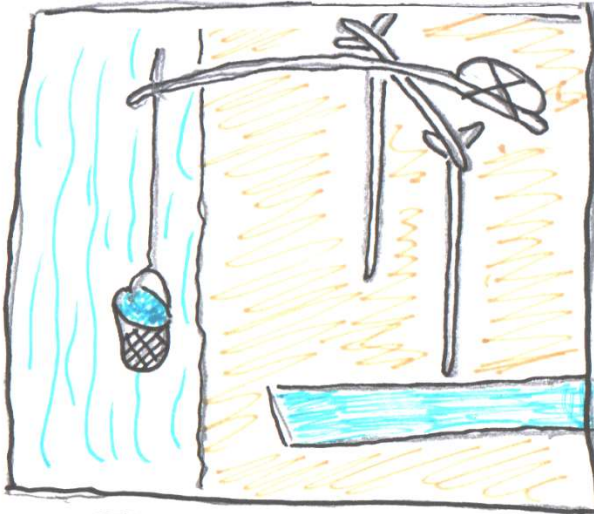


Image cards



Word cards

Water source (shaduf)	Flooding (rich black soil)
Other foods (birds, fish)	Transport (boats)
Farming (wheat, barley)	Communication (papyrus)

Writing about the importance of the River Nile in Ancient Egypt – Language Support

The Nile was important	as a water source.	
	for	food. farming. flooding. transport. communication.

The Nile The flood water	brought	animals like birds and fish.
		silt.
		rich black soil.

The ancient Egyptians	built used made	nets	to lift water from the river.
		boats	to make bricks for building.
		reeds	to irrigate the land.
		spears	to transport their goods and foods for sale.
		canals	to make papyrus.
		mud	to catch fish and shrimp.
		the shaduf	to travel up and down the Nile.

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The shaduf			for travelling up and down the Nile.	

The ancient Egyptians	travelled	crops (wheat, barley) in the rich soil.
	communicated	birds and fish for food.
	caught	by boat on the Nile.
	grew	by sending messages on papyrus.