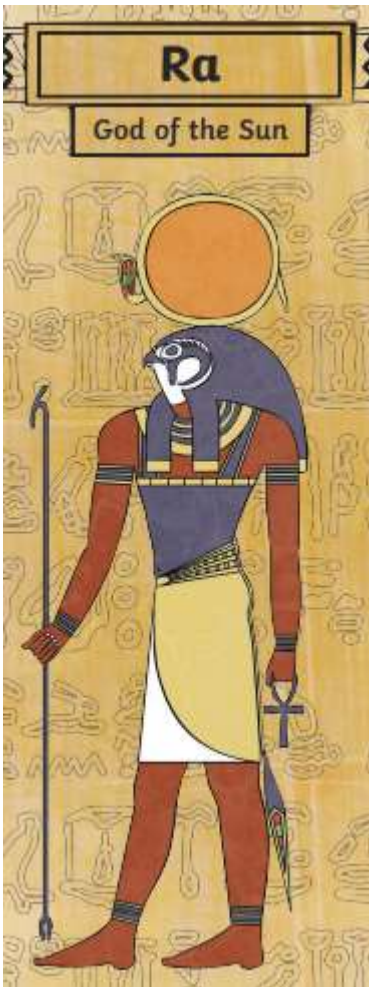


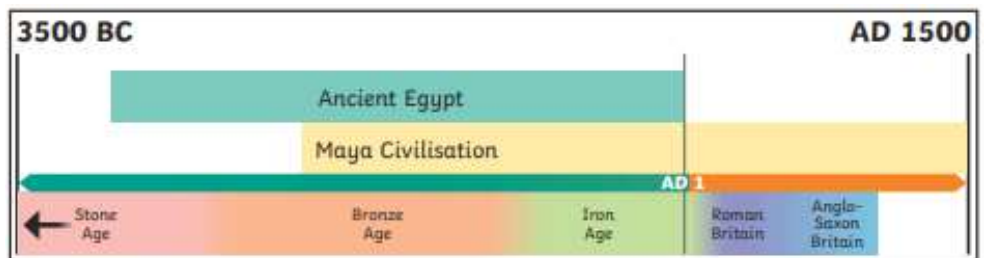
Who was the boy behind the golden mask?



Key Vocabulary	
Ancient	Something from a very long time ago.
BC	Used to show a date that is before AD 1. Counted backwards, so 200 BC is before 100 BC.
AD	Used to show a date after AD 1. This is counted forwards, so AD 100 is before AD 200.
Civilization	A human society with well-developed rules and government, often where technology and the arts are considered important.
Pharaoh	A ruler of ancient Egypt.
Pyramid	A pyramid is a structure whose outer surfaces are triangular.
Tutankhamun	A pharaoh of ancient Egypt known more recently as 'the boy' king because he became pharaoh at 9 years old.
Monument	A structure that is built to commemorate a person or event.
Canopic jars	Containers that were used during the mummification process to store and preserve the organs of their owner for the afterlife.
Mummification	The method of embalming and treating the dead body in order to prepare it for the afterlife.
River Nile	The river that runs through Egypt. It was essential to life in ancient Egypt.
Tomb	A sealed room where a person was placed after death.
Hieroglyphics	A system of writing consisting of pictures and symbols instead of words.
Gods and Goddesses	Egyptian gods and goddesses took human and animal form. The ancient Egyptians worshipped many deities, who they believed were responsible for different aspects of life and death.

The Ancient Egyptian Empire

In c. 3000 BC, King Menes united two **Egyptian** kingdoms to build the empire of **ancient Egypt**. It lasted until 30 BC when the Romans took over.



The River Nile

Life in ancient Egypt revolved around the River Nile. Every year it flooded and left behind a black silt that enriched the soil for growing crops. The river was also used to irrigate fields in other areas.



The Nile was used for water, fishing and trade. Mud from the river was used to make bricks for building and papyrus plants were used to make paper.

Most people in ancient Egypt lived along and around the Nile and this is still true in Egypt today.

Writing (Hieroglyphics)

In **ancient Egypt**, scribes wrote on papyrus. Papyrus was a thick type of paper made from reeds that grew along **the Nile**. Scribes were mostly men who went to a special school to learn to write.

Scribes wrote using **hieroglyphs**. **Hieroglyphs** were used for religious texts and inscriptions on statues and **tombs**. They were also used for counting crops and animals so that the right taxes could be taken.



Did You Know...?

The Rosetta Stone was discovered in 1799. It was written in **hieroglyphs** and two other languages, including **ancient Greek**, which language experts could still read. They translated the **hieroglyphs** by comparing the languages. It took 20 years to translate all the text into modern language.



The Discovery of Tutankhamun's Tomb

In 1922, after many years of work, the British archaeologist Howard Carter uncovered the tomb of the pharaoh Tutankhamun in the Valley of the Kings.

There were over 5000 items in the tomb which took Carter many years to catalogue. During this time some items were sadly stolen but most made their way to museums, where they can still be seen today.

The discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb was significant because it is the only royal burial found undisturbed and intact in modern times. This gave archaeologists and historians a better understanding of the religion, rituals and culture of the ancient Egyptians.

