**Egyptian Contributions**

* **Religion – polytheistic: believed in many gods. Ra was their main god, the sun god. Most of their gods had the head of an animal and the body of a human.**
* **Mummification – 70 days to mummify a body. This was to prepare the body for the afterlife. The Egyptians believed a person had to be ready for the weighing of the heart ceremony and the afterlife.**
* **Hieroglyphics – written language of Egyptians. It had over 700 symbols. Scribes put inscriptions in temples and tombs; this is how we know so much information about the Egyptians.**
* **Papyrus – a paper material the Egyptians created. It was made from a plant that grew along the Nile River. (first to create a paper like material)**
* **Pyramids and temples – many built as tombs for their pharaohs. Temples were built to honor gods.**
* **Math – applied geometry to determine land boundaries and to build pyramids. They had to measure area, volume, etc.**
* **Architecture – (pyramids & temples) great pyramid at Giza, the Great Sphinx.**
* **Irrigation – created large-scale irrigation of the Nile River including canals for travel and trade.**
* **Shipbuilding – invented ships about 3000BC, they were originally made from papyrus and reeds. (canoes) Then they began using wood. This enabled them to trade and bring back goods such as ivory, gems, spices and cattle.**
* **Calendar – Egyptians developed a 12 month calendar with 365 days. This enabled them to keep track and record events.**
* **Rosetta Stone – famous artifact that enabled us to read hieroglyphics because it had 3 languages on it. One of the languages was Greek and we were able to translate the hieroglyphs.**
* **Scribes – they kept up records and information. They put it on temple walls.**
* **Government – they had a hierarchy (pyramid: the pharaoh then priest at the top) which helped their government run smoothly. They collected goods or work in way of taxes. The pharaoh had viziers and others who assisted him, including the priest.**

**\*\* Other Notes\*\***