

## On the Nile!

On a map, locate Africa, Egypt, the Nile River, the Sahara Desert, and the Mediterranean Sea. Explain to students that the Nile River, which flows through Egypt, is the longest river in the world. Using the internet or nonfiction texts, research the importance of the Nile to ancient Egypt. Why was the river so vital? How did it affect life for ancient Egyptians? Why was mud its greatest gift? Brainstorm activities that would take
 place along the river, such as boating, hunting, fishing, and washing clothes. Look at pictures of this area today and discuss how it has changed over time. What are the similarities and differences?

CURRICULUM: Social Studies•Geography

## Pyramid Power!

Build a pyramid from either shoeboxes on tissue boxes.
Divide the class into groups and have each group measure the height of one student from that group, and estimate the number of boxes it will take to build a pyramid the height of that student. Allow students to problem-solve and work cooperatively to piece the boxes together and to recond their success and failures. Each group should record the time they start and end. When finished, have students check their estimation. Then have them calculate the weight of their pyramid. As a follow-up activity, have students compare the dimensions, weight, and number of stones to that of a real pyramid. What tools were used to cut and move the heavy stones? Who built them?

CURRICULUM: Math • Social Studies • History

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