

WALT understand the importance of the Nile for farmers in Ancient Egypt.

WILF:

- *Understand the importance of the Nile for farmers.*
- *Name some foods farmed in Ancient Egypt*
- *Describe how a shaduf mechanism worked*
- *Create a shaduf.*



Why was farming important in Ancient Egypt? How did they do it?

Click the image to watch the video and find out:



Farmers in Ancient Egypt grew their food on the banks of the Nile, on rich black soil or 'kemet', which was perfect for growth after the Nile's flooding.



Foods grown included many we eat today, such as: corn, wheat, barley, flax, onions, leaks, cabbages, cucumbers, beans, lettuce, figs, melons, pomegranates, vine plants. Many types of trees that were fruit bearing. Wheat and barley were the most popular crop because they used wheat to make the bread that everyone ate and barley was used to make beer. They used flax to make linen.

Ancient Egyptian Farmers divided their year into three seasons, based on the cycles of the Nile River:

Akhet - the inundation (June-September): The Flooding Season.

No farming was done at this time, as all the fields were flooded. Instead, many farmers worked for the pharaoh (king), building pyramids or temples. Some of the time was spent mending their tools and looking after animals.

Peret (October-February): The Growing Season.

In October the floodwaters receded, leaving behind a layer of rich, black soil. This fertile soil was then ploughed and seeded.

Shemu (March-May): The Harvesting Season.

The fully grown crops had to be cut down (harvested) and removed before the Nile flooded again. It was also the time to repair the canals ready for the next flood.

Hapi was the god of this flooding, so was important to many. ->

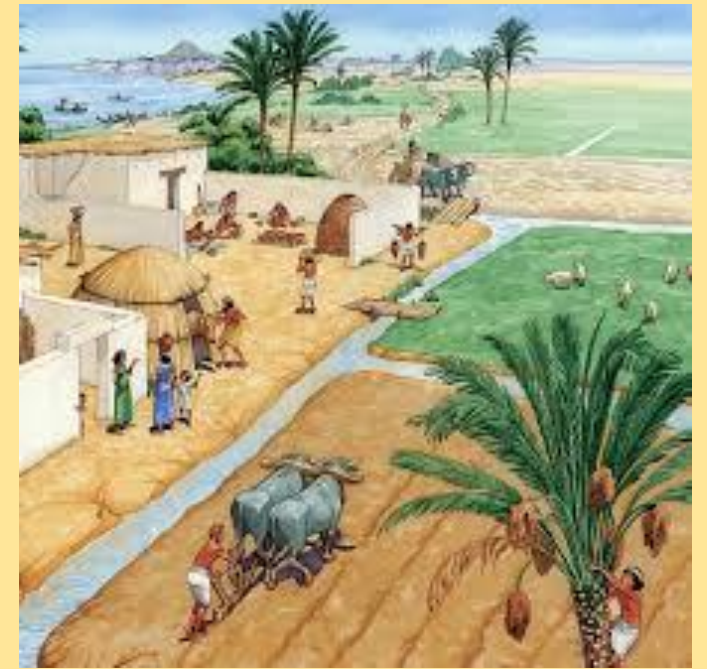


An impressive accomplishment of the Ancient Egyptians was digging irrigation canals to fill their reservoirs during the Nile's floods. You can see these here -> bringing water from the Nile through their living area.

In order to lift water from these, they used a **shaduf**.

A shaduf is a large pole balanced on a crossbeam, a rope and bucket on one end and a heavy counter weight at the other. By pulling the rope it lowered the bucket into the canal. The farmer then raised the bucket of water by pulling down on the weight. He then swung the pole around and emptied the bucket onto the field.

This allowed them to lift water from a lower place to a higher one, in order to water their crops.



Today, I would like you to build a Shaduf prototype! 😊

Once it's built, take a photo for Seesaw.

Then, test it with different capacities of water to see if it works.

You can find the instructions for this at: '*Week 2. Friday. Shaduf Instructions*'.

If you cannot find anything to make one with, you can draw and label one, explaining how it worked and why it was important.

Enjoy!

