



**EGYPT
EXPLORATION
SOCIETY**
FOUNDED IN 1882

You will need:

Colouring pens/pencils
Scissors (ask an adult to help you)
Glue

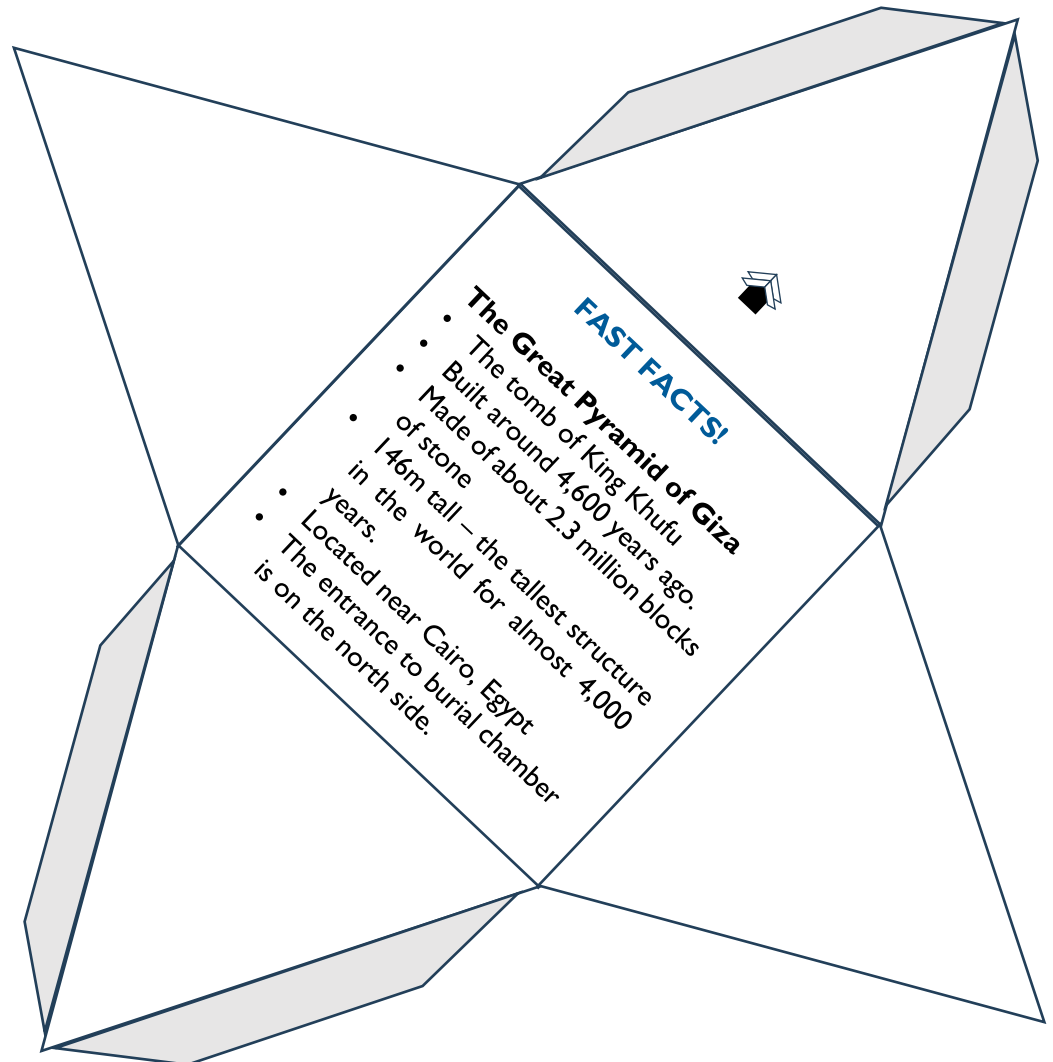
Build your own pyramid

Imagine you are a great ruler of ancient Egypt during the Old Kingdom over 4,600 years ago.

How would you like to be remembered?

Most rulers wanted to be buried in huge pyramids, like the Great Pyramid at Giza. Thousands of people would help to build these enormous monuments using stone blocks. Why not have a go at designing your own pyramid, just like Khufu's?

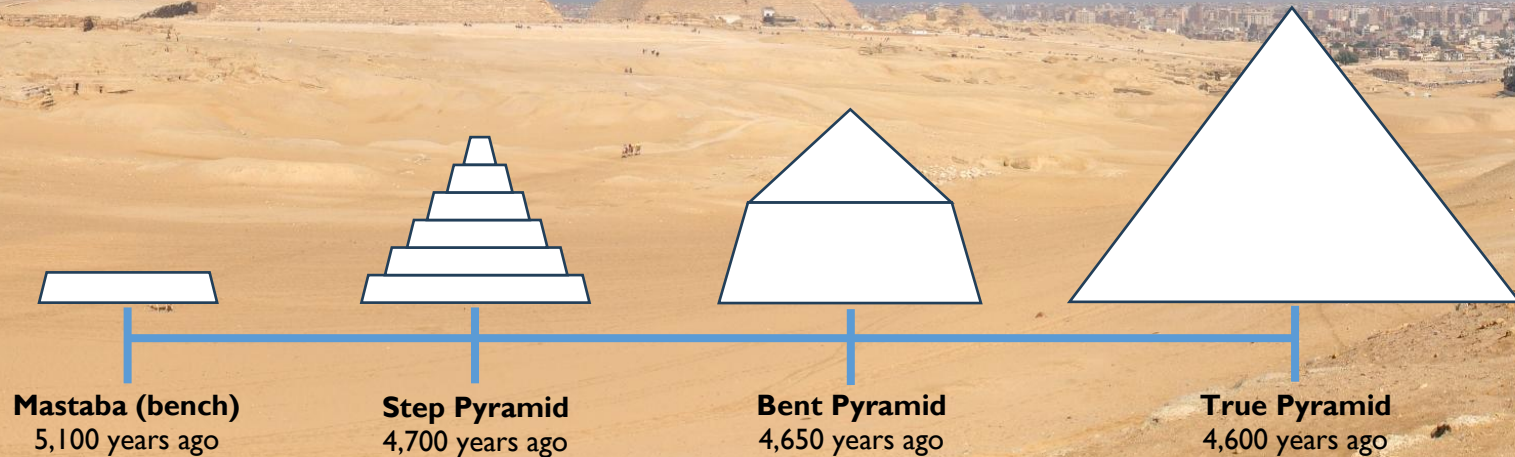
Design a colourful pyramid on the template opposite. Then, ask an adult to help you carefully cut out the pyramid template on the right. Fold along the lines and use the grey tabs to glue your pyramid sides together.



What are pyramids?

The ancient Egyptians began building pyramids almost 5,000 years ago. At the start, they simply stacked low bench-like tombs, called mastaba, on top of each other to create a Step Pyramid. Over just 100 years, they perfected the smooth-sided pyramid like three great pyramids at Giza (above).

The ancient Egyptians stopped burying their rulers in pyramids around 2,500 years ago. After this, they buried them in tombs carved deep underground in the Valley of the Kings.



Did you know?

Even though he had the largest pyramid, Khufu's only known depiction is one of the smallest! It is made of ivory and is only 7.5cm tall.



It was discovered by the Egypt Exploration Society in 1903 at Abydos, almost 600km away from Giza.

Today it is on display in the Egyptian Museum in Cairo alongside other sculptures of Khufu's family who were buried in the other pyramids at Giza shown above.

Can you see his name in the rectangle on the lefthand side of his throne?

Who built the pyramids?

In 1988, archaeologists working to the south of the pyramids at Giza uncovered a settlement where the workers building the pyramids lived. Thousands of men, women, and children were involved in moving the stone blocks into place, as well as carving them to create the smooth sides, and supplying the workforce. Not only did they receive rations of food and drink, but they also had some of the best medical care at the time!

How did they build the pyramids?

Thousands of workers toiled in the hot Egyptian sun to drag enormous stone blocks into place probably using ropes, sledges, pulleys and ramps. You can see a scene of men pulling a colossal statue on the right.

