



GIFTS OF THE NILE RIVER

Geography- MAP IT!



Isolation

- The harsh desert acted as a natural barrier to keep enemies out
- The Mediterranean Coast was swampy and didn't have good harbors
 - This caused early Egyptians to stay close to home

What did the Nile give “us”?

- As you know from Mesopotamia, water is an important element in ancient civilizations, Egypt is no different.
- The Nile River provided the Ancient Egyptians with “gifts”
- These gifts are:
 - Agriculture
 - Natural Resources
 - Transportation

Agricultural “Gifts”

- Irrigation
- Shaduf
- Silt
- Predictable Floods
 - Development of the calendar
- Food
 - Wheat, yeast → Bread
 - Lettuce
 - Radishes
 - Asparagus
 - Cucumbers
 - Dates
 - Figs
 - Watermelon
 - Grapes

Natural Resource “Gifts”

- Riverbank mud
 - Shelter
 - Bricks- mud mixed with dried marsh grass
 - Pottery
 - Statues
- Plants
 - Papyrus
 - Paper- Record Keeping
 - Roofing Material
 - Mats
- Flax
 - Linen- Cloths, sheets, mummifying materials
- Marsh grass
 - Sandals
 - Mats
 - Roofs
- Reeds
 - Boats
 - Rafts

Natural Resource “Gifts”

- Animals- come to the river to drink and can be hunted
 - Fish
 - Crocodiles
 - Hippopotamus
 - Birds
 - Ibis
 - Quail
 - Ducks
 - Geese
- WATER...DUH!
 - Drinking
 - Bathing
 - Laundry
 - Washing Dishes
 - Boiling/ Cooking Food

Transportation “Gifts”

- Down River (NORTH) with current
- Up River (SOUTH) with wind, sails and oars
- Trade
- Travel

“Egypt is the gift of the Nile.”- Herodotus

- What this means is:
 - The Nile gave us a gift, Egypt
 - Egypt wouldn't't exist without the Nile