Ancient Egypt
The Middle and New Kingdoms

Egyptians Farming – Using Donkeys and Harvesting Grain
Middle Kingdom

- **Old Kingdom falls around 2200 BCE**
  - Nobles took power from Pharaoh and fought over it
  - There was no central ruler – lots of chaos for 160 years

- **2050 BCE** - Mentuhotep II defeats his rivals and controls Egypt
  - Begins Middle Kingdom
  - Middle Kingdom – A period of relative stability that lasted from 2050 BCE – 1750 BCE

- Middle Kingdom had many problems
  - Internal disorder
  - External invaders
Middle Kingdom

- Middle Kingdom falls quickly (lasts only 300 years)
  - Hyksos (from Southwest Asia) invade Egypt and conquer
    - They used horses, chariots, and advanced weapons
    - Occupy Lower Egypt for 200 years (1750 BCE – 1550 BCE)

- The Egyptians eventually will drive the Hyksos out
  - Ahmose of Thebes leads the Egyptians against the Hyksos
  - Ahmose will defeat the Hyksos and begin the New Kingdom
    - Begins the 18th Dynasty
New Kingdom

- New Kingdom – The time period when Egypt reached its height of power
  - New Kingdom lasts 1550\textsubscript{BCE} – 1050\textsubscript{BCE}
  - Conquest and trade brought lots of wealth
- Egypt conquers Hyksos, Assyrians, and Kush
  - Made conquered people pay gold or other expensive items
- Egypt became an Empire during New Kingdom
Egyptian Empire
1450 B.C.

Thebes
New Kingdom

- Egypt greatly expanded its trade routes during the New Kingdom
  - Trade Routes - Paths used by traders

- New Kingdom is also the time of Queen Hatshepsut
  - One of a few queens to rule Egypt
  - Hatshepsut expanded trade and built many monuments
Queen Hatshepsut

- One of the few queens who ruled Egypt
- Her husband died, so she ruled
  - Called herself king, dressed as a man
    - Even had a fake beard
  - Built many monuments
  - When she died, new pharaoh removed most of what she had built
    - Tried to erase her from history
Egyptian Life in the New Kingdom

- The New Kingdom is the first time Egypt had a standing army
  - Soldiers were paid with land
  - The soldiers could keep treasure from wars

- Farmers were at bottom of social scale
  - Most of the population
  - Paid taxes with crops and worked for the pharaoh

- Slaves were at the very bottom

- Some women did have some rights
  - Own property, deal with legal issues, etc.
Egyptian Life in the New Kingdom

- **Scribes were very honored**
  - Usually worked for temples or government
  - Did not have to pay taxes

- **Artisans were highly valued too**
  - Artisans – People whose jobs required advanced skills
  - Sculptors, Builders, Carpenters, etc.
Ramses the Great

- In the 1200’s BCE, Ramses II comes to power
  - One of the greatest Egyptian rulers
- One of the longest reigns in Ancient Egypt
- Ramses led many military campaigns
  - Was an Army Captain at 10 years old
- Ramses fought Hittites (Asia), Tehenu (West)
  - Greatly increased the size of his kingdom
- Ramses was considered last great Pharaoh
  - Great warrior and had great monuments built
Abu Simbel
Abu Simbel
Abu Simbel
Abu Simbel – Second Temple
Abu Simbel – Second Temple
Abu Simbel – Second Temple
Abu Simbel – Second Temple
Valley of the Kings
Valley of the Kings
Ramses the Great
Invasions of Egypt

- After Ramses’ death, different groups invade Egypt throughout the years
  - The Tehenu and The Sea Peoples

- After hundreds of years of fighting, Egypt will lose its Empire around 1050 BCE

- The New Kingdom came to an end with more violence and disorder in Egypt

- Egypt will be controlled by different groups on and off for the next several hundred years