Ancient Egyptian Society Level Pyramid

- Pharaoh
- Vizier, nobles and high priests
- Scribes
- Skilled artisans and craftspeople
- Peasant farmers and laborers
- Servants and slaves

Maxwell Museum of Anthropology Ancient Civilizations: Egypt
Egyptians are famous for the physical pyramids that they have built throughout ancient times, but did you know their ancient society was made up like a pyramid also?

Their society functioned with a single ruler, the pharaoh having the bulk of the wealth and power at the top and the majority of the population, the farmers, servants and slaves at the bottom of society. Other members of society, priests, scribes, artisans and craftsmen existed in middle levels of this hierarchy.

**Construct your own pyramid to show how this ancient society was organized.**

**Materials needed:**

1. Pyramid template printed on heavy paper
2. Writing pens of two colors
3. Scissors
4. Glue
5. Access to webpages linked below

**Instructions:**

1. Visit these webpages to learn more about the lives of people at each level of society.


   [http://www.ancientegypt.co.uk/life/home.html](http://www.ancientegypt.co.uk/life/home.html)

2. Then follow the instructions on the template page below to create your own ancient Egyptian society level pyramid.

3. We’ve included a completed sample with our ideas of the roles people at each level of society played.

Check out the resources listed below to learn more about pyramids, build a pyramid with a fun online game and 3D print your own pyramid.
Make your own ancient Egyptian Society Pyramid!

1. Cut the figure out along the outside edge. Set these instructions aside.
2. With one pen color, list the levels of ancient Egyptian society down each space of one triangle.
3. With another pen color, describe who that person or persons is/are and list some things they do along the same level of each of the other triangles.
4. Fold inward along the lines on the side of each triangle.
5. Fold the tab inward and glue beneath the open side.
6. Now your pyramid is finished for you to enjoy and use as a reference!
Pyramids Resource List:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xtc0LQuA3z4
FreeSchool video on the history and construction of the Pyramids of Giza

https://www.thingiverse.com/thing:296260
3D model of Egyptian pyramid for printing

https://tasks.illustrativemathematics.org/content-standards/tasks/1899
How to solve for the volume, height and base length of a pyramid

UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) World Heritage Sites:

https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/86/
Giza Pyramids and Memphis, Egypt

https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1481/
Ziggurat of Ur, Iraq

https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1336
Archaeological Sites of the Island of Meroe, Sudan

https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/414
Pre-Hispanic City of Teotihuacan, Mexico

https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/592
Borobudur Temple Compounds, Indonesia

https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/64/
Tikal National Park, Guatemala

https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/483/
Pre-Hispanic City of Chichen Itza, Mexico

Build a Pyramid – National Museums Scotland

Harvard Art Museum Coloring Ancient Egypt book
Google Earth tour of pyramids and pyramid-like structures around the world

- Start by clicking “Present” from the menu on the left.
- Scroll in and out and around the site to see details and structures.
- Click on and scroll through the pictures in the upper right corner to see alternate views of the site and for more information. Click the arrow in the upper left corner to return to the main map.
- Click on 3D and Street View in the lower right corner to see 360° views of the site if possible. Click on the arrow in the upper left corner to return to the main map and your place in the presentation.
- Click on the arrow in the “Table of Contents” in the lower left corner to advance to the next site.

Society Level Pyramid photos:

- King Tut burial mask
- Ancient Egyptian priest
- Seated scribe
- Artisans and craftspeople (detail)
- Egyptian farmer
- Offering bearer
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Lulu appreciating the usefulness of models.