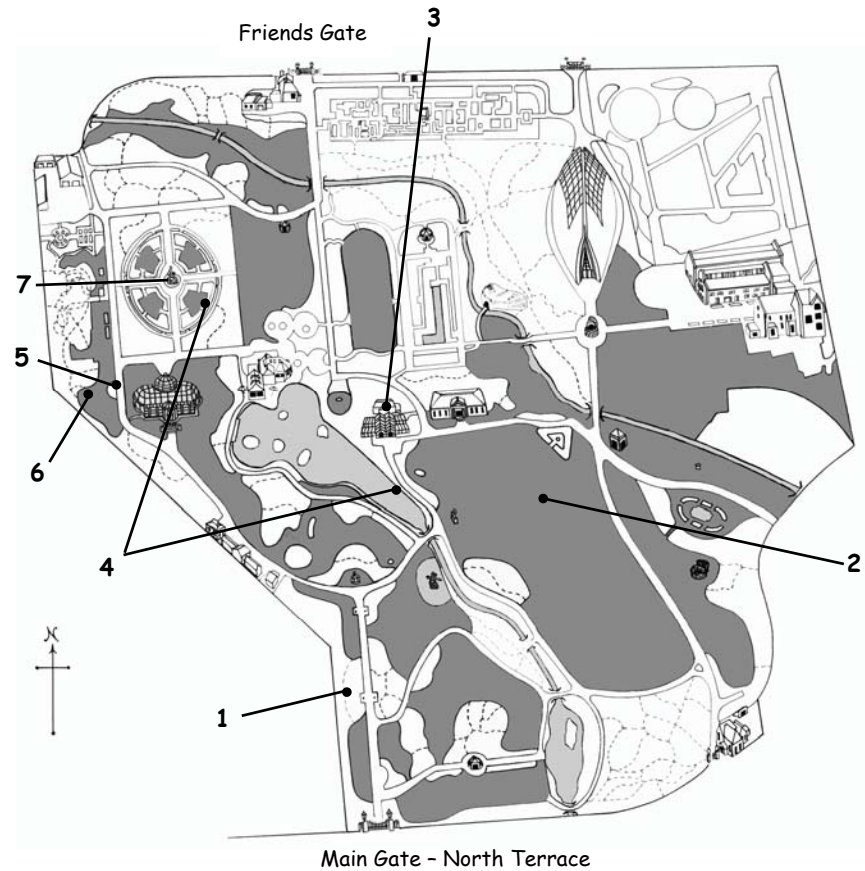


Life and death in Ancient Egypt

Adelaide Botanic Garden



Life and death in Ancient Egypt

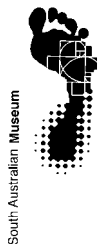


Botanic Gardens
of ADELAIDE



Student Guide

Name: _____



Life and Death in Ancient Egypt

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1. **Sycamore Fig**
Figs were one of the few native trees of useful size in Egypt. The fig fruits were a very popular food.

Find evidence of fruits growing on the tree.

Where do they grow? _____

List advantages for people, animals and the tree to have figs fruits located on this part of the tree.

This fig tree grows **a little/a lot** of fruit.

Most likely the figs were preserved by

I think this tree is **old / young**?

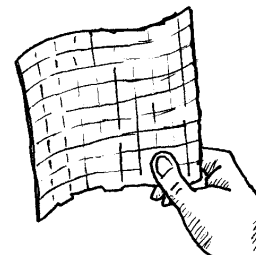
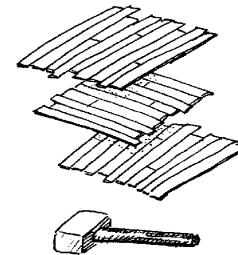
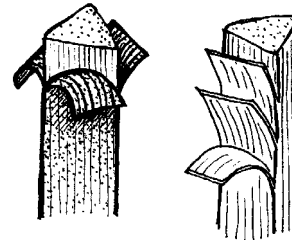
What else could this tree have provided Egyptians?

Life and Death in Ancient Egypt

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Egyptian Paper Making

Use the diagrams below to explain how the Egyptians made paper from papyrus.



Life and Death in Ancient Egypt

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7. Pharaoh's Pharmacy cont'd:

Henna

Mummies had their nails and hair stained by a dye made from the crushed leaves of henna.

Crushed henna leaves produce a rusty red colour.

Is this the colour of the growing leaves? _____

Find out what chemicals we use today to paint our nails and dye our hair with.



More Herbs

Use a detailed information label in the garden to list 3 other uses of herbs.

List some of the herbs you have at home and how they are used.

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2. Cedar of Lebanon

No big timber trees grew in Egypt. Egyptians had to import wood for important objects like coffins.

List the features of the trunk that made this a good timber tree.



The shape of the cedar tree resembles a **circle/ triangle/ square?**

Cedars can grow to about 30 metres tall.

Estimate how tall this one is _____

What fraction of its possible height is it? _____

Describe the feel of the leaves.

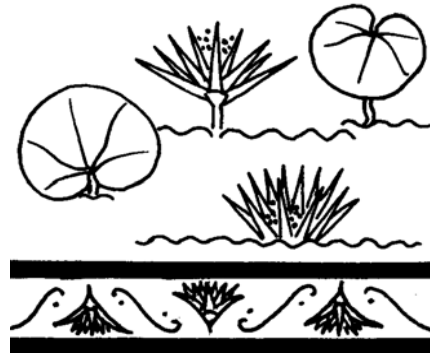
This tree is related to other trees in the lawn because it produces seeds using **flowers/cones?**

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3. Blue Lotus of Egypt

The Blue Lotus was an important symbol of the creation of life to the ancient Egyptians. The flower was painted on their tombs and in temples.



Look at the lotus growing in the pond.
Features that help their leaves float include:

The blue lotus grows in **shallow/deep** water.
It would be found in the Nile where the water is **calm/rough**.

The centre of the blue lotus is **green/yellow/blue**.

Where can you see the Blue Lotus in the SA
Museum? _____

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7. Pharaoh's Pharmacy cont'd:

Wild Garlic - *Allium vineale*

The builders of the pyramids used garlic to increase stamina and endurance. It was also used to relieve pain and help healing.



The garlic plant grows as a **bush / bulb**

What other uses of garlic have you heard about?

Rosemary

Rosemary was used as a cleansing incense.

Its smell reminds me of _____

What food would it go well with? _____



Find a rosemary bush that has been pruned into a special shape. Draw it.



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7. Pharaoh's Pharmacy

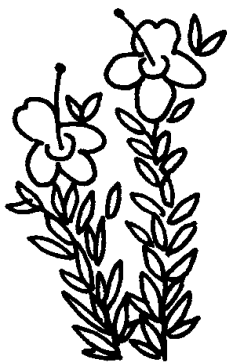
Egyptians used plants in many different ways including medicines. Egyptian doctors used a variety of herbs to treat illness.

This garden area is full of different herbs. To enjoy their fragrances gently touch the leaves and smell your fingers. Please do not damage the plants in any way.

Fennel was used for arthritis.

Find some.

Its smell reminds me of



Thyme was used as an antiseptic.
How many types of thyme can you find in this area? _____

It mainly grows as a
bush / groundcover

The smell is _____

Thyme would go well with _____

Life and Death in Ancient Egypt

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4. Papyrus

Papyrus was used by ancient Egyptians to make paper and boats.

By the Lake

Look around.

What kind of environment does papyrus grow in naturally?



Papyrus is a type of **tree / reed**.

At Station 7 (Pharaoh's Pharmacy)

The stem of Papyrus feels **spongy/hard** as if it is filled with **air/wood**.

Papyrus stems are in the shape of a **square / triangle / circle**.

What features do you think made the papyrus good for making boats?

What part could be used to make paper?

Life and Death in Ancient Egypt

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5. Date Palm

Dates are a delicious sweet food. Egyptians often planted date palms around oases.

This type of date palm is a **clumping/single** stem palm that produces **a lot/a little** fruit.

The dates grow in **single fruits/bunches of fruit** that are **smaller/bigger** than the ones you buy in supermarkets.



Palms only grow from the top of trunk. How does this palm protect its new growth?

Is this date palm in flower at the moment?

Life and Death in Ancient Egypt

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6. Prickly Juniper

Juniper oil was used to anoint dead bodies before mummification. Bandages wrapped around mummies contained the juniper berries.

The berries were also eaten.

Look carefully on the tree and on the ground for berries.

They are about the same size as a **5c/20c/50c** piece. This tree could also provide _____

Investigate the leaves of this tree and list three of their features.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Find out what drink is made from juniper berries.