

IN BRIEF

Bastet Goes Missing is an ancient Egyptian myth about a cat-goddess who runs away from home. This pack is about Bastet, the other Egyptian gods, and the fascinating culture of ancient Egypt!



1. LITERACY LESSON IDEAS

- It's always fun to learn new words, and reading is a great way to discover some that you don't already know. If you don't recognise a word in this month's magazine, just turn to the **Glossary** and look it up. Try writing a sentence with each word you learn!
- This month's **Class Discussion Sheet** is about the gods of Egypt. What do you think we can learn about the ancient Egyptians by looking at the gods they worshipped?
- Do you know what a *rhetorical question* or a *figure of speech* is? You can find an example of each in the extract on the latest **Reading Comprehension Sheet!**
- Someone has mixed up the events of Bastet's story on the **Story Sequencing Sheet** – perhaps it was Seth, the Egyptian god of chaos and storms? In any case, see if you can work out the correct order they should be read in by numbering each entry...
- Try telling Bastet's tale in your own way on the **Storyboard** page. It's simple – just write in what happened under the cool colour pictures!
- There is an art to telling a good story – it needs to have a setup, a challenge and an ending. It's easy to plan out a story using **The Pyramid of Storytelling!** Answer the questions and fill in information about the story you want to tell, and you'll soon have your own epic legend worked out!
- In this month's legend, Bastet gets a fabulous celebration held for her. But imagine if there was a special celebration held in your honour instead. What would you want it to be like? Write about it on the **A Festival of Your Own** page – and have fun!

Continued on page 2...

1. LITERACY LESSON IDEAS CONTINUED

- Bastet is a goddess with a lot of personality! Tell us all about what you think and know about her on the **Character Sheet: Bastet** page. Remember to draw an amazing headdress for her to wear on her festival parade!
- Why not try writing a new story about Bastet? You can use the **Story Cards** for inspiration! Print and cut them out, then shuffle them and put them face down in a pile. Draw a card – that is the main character or setting of your story. Then, draw more cards to find out which characters or places will appear!

2. HISTORY LESSON IDEAS

- Find out some more about the star of this month's story on the **Purrfect Fun Facts!** page. There's all sorts of cool information about this fabulous feline!
- Want to learn about Bastet's friends and family? Check out the table on the **Egyptian Gods and Goddesses** page. It will tell you how to identify them, what they were gods of, and cool facts about them!
- Egyptians used a kind of writing called *hieroglyphics*. In this system, little pictures were used to represent words and sounds. The **Crack the Code** page challenges you to work out what Bastet has written, using a hieroglyphic key. (Note that the meanings of the hieroglyphics are not 100% accurate – they have been changed a bit to make them easier to understand.)
- If you want to learn more about hieroglyphics and how researchers worked out how to read them, you should definitely look up the Rosetta Stone. This artefact was discovered in the late eighteenth century, and it gave them the key to understanding what hieroglyphics represented. A fun introductory video can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DN7-NFCxX9s>
- Can you name all of the Ancient Egyptian treasures on the **Name Those Objects!** worksheet? It's OK to look them up in a book about Egypt if you don't know right away – and who knows what other things you'll also discover!

Continued on page 3...

3. GEOGRAPHY LESSON IDEA

- The Nile is the longest river in the world – and one of the most important. You can find out why it is so interesting on the **The Power of the Nile** page. Then, see if you can find answers to the questions at the bottom of the sheet in the library or online.

4. ART LESSON IDEAS

- Use your imagination to draw a new Egyptian god or goddess inspired by your favourite pet or other animal on the **Your Pet God/Goddess** sheet. Colour it in and add details at the bottom of the page!
- Bastet needs a makeover! Draw cool Egyptian jewellery and clothes onto the picture of her on the **Dress Up Bastet!** page. You can find inspiration for her outfit in picture books about ancient Egypt.

5. MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

- Even people who care about each other argue sometimes – and that's OK! What matters is how you settle your disagreements and make up afterwards...

In this month's story, Ra and Bastet have an argument, and Bastet leaves. Do you think this was a good way for her to react? What might she have done differently? When he realises that Bastet is gone, Ra sends his friends to apologise and get her to come back – and he also arranges a festival for Bastet so she feels appreciated. Do you think this was a good and kind solution? Think about someone you care about. What are some ways that you could show them that they are appreciated, too?

STORYTIME GLOSSARY

Look up any new words in this handy reference section!

The Clever Frog (Page 6)

- ▷ **Vocabulary** – set of words he knew
- ▷ **Concentrate** – focus
- ▷ **Restless** – unable to stay still
- ▷ **Stump** – part of a tree left in ground after the rest has been cut down
- ▷ **Croak** – a loud rough sound
- ▷ **Rumbled** – said in a deep, rough way
- ▷ **Muttered** – said under his breath
- ▷ **Landmarks** – things he could recognise
- ▷ **Shivering** – shaking with cold or fear

The Ace (Page 9)

- ▷ **Whack** – hit
- ▷ **Afloat** – floating in water
- ▷ **Fancy** – expensive and impressive
- ▷ **Lush** – green and healthy
- ▷ **Spotless** – very clean
- ▷ **Lobbed** – threw
- ▷ **Softball** – game played with bat and ball
- ▷ **Jolt** – shock
- ▷ **Tournaments** – competition
- ▷ **Waddled** – walked in a ducklike way
- ▷ **Petty** – small-minded
- ▷ **Discrimination** – people being treated unfairly

The Swan's Nest (Page 14)

- ▷ **Reeds** – grasslike plants that grow in water
- ▷ **Snug** – warm and comfortable
- ▷ **Cygnets** – baby swans

- ▷ **Clump** – bunch
- ▷ **Huddled** – curled up
- ▷ **Downy** – filled with soft feathers
- ▷ **Hearty** – large and satisfying

Bastet Goes Missing (Page 16)

- ▷ **Opinions** – points of view
- ▷ **Stormed out** – left in a loud, angry way
- ▷ **Prowled** – walked sneakily, as if hunting
- ▷ **Shedding** – losing fur
- ▷ **Summoned** – called for
- ▷ **Underfoot** – in the way
- ▷ **Pounced** – jumped aggressively
- ▷ **Prey** – animals she had caught
- ▷ **Flattered** – influenced by compliments
- ▷ **Solemn** – serious
- ▷ **Worshipping** – praying to
- ▷ **Twitching** – moving slightly
- ▷ **Feasting** – eating large shared meals
- ▷ **Appreciation** – gratitude and recognition
- ▷ **Procession** – parade
- ▷ **Astray** – away from where she should be

The Thing in the Woods (Page 20)

- ▷ **Squealed** – made a screeching sound
- ▷ **Skidded** – slid
- ▷ **Haul** – drag or carry
- ▷ **Musty-smelling** – stale or damp-smelling
- ▷ **Bottom bunk** – bottom of a multi-level bed
- ▷ **Shimmered** – shone with a wavering light
- ▷ **Counsellors** – helpers and supervisors

Continued on page 2...

STORYTIME GLOSSARY

2 OF 2

- ▷ **Ferns** – kinds of plants
- ▷ **Dell** – small valley in woods
- ▷ **Startled** – surprised
- ▷ **Humming** – low regular noise
- ▷ **Roam** – wander
- ▷ **Hooted** – made a loud noise like an owl
- ▷ **Rumbled** – said in a deep, rough voice
- ▷ **Campfire** – an outdoor fire

The Girl Who Knew No Fear (Page 28)

- ▷ **Shrugged** – moved her shoulders to show she didn't mind
- ▷ **Bandits** – robbers
- ▷ **Ruffians** – dangerous criminals
- ▷ **Menacing** – frightening
- ▷ **Wickedly** – evilly
- ▷ **Yonder** – that way
- ▷ **Ancient** – very old
- ▷ **Rapped** – knocked
- ▷ **Coils** – loops
- ▷ **Jagged** – rough and sharp
- ▷ **Raging** – rough and stormy
- ▷ **Commotion** – disturbance
- ▷ **Sacred** – holy
- ▷ **Fluttered** – flew lightly
- ▷ **Summoned up** – called up
- ▷ **Overcome** – defeat

Lucky Hans (Page 33)

- ▷ **Humble** – unimportant or not boastful
- ▷ **Peasant** – common farm worker
- ▷ **Slinging** – swinging
- ▷ **Harness** – leather straps on a horse
- ▷ **Jingled** – made a noise like 'jingle'
- ▷ **Burden** – thing that is heavy to carry
- ▷ **Reins** – straps used to steer a horse
- ▷ **Whooping** – shouting joyfully
- ▷ **Disobedient** – not following commands
- ▷ **Weary** – tired
- ▷ **Nipped** – bit
- ▷ **Blunt** – not sharp
- ▷ **Troublesome** – causing trouble
- ▷ **Cobblestone** – flat stone used on roads
- ▷ **Plummeted** – fell

The Sun's Tale (Page 39)

- ▷ **Howling** – making a loud frightening noise
- ▷ **Downpour** – heavy rain
- ▷ **Glistened** – gleamed
- ▷ **Hither and thither** – this way and that
- ▷ **Glistered** – reflected light brightly
- ▷ **Dye** – substance used to colour things
- ▷ **Daubed** – painted
- ▷ **Melodies** – tunes
- ▷ **Immortal** – undying
- ▷ **Long-winded** – taking a long time

CLASS DISCUSSION SHEET

LET'S TALK ABOUT... **Ancient Egyptian mythology!**

What does this month's story tell us about what the Egyptians believed and what was important to them?

1. The Ancient Egyptians believed in many different gods, but Bastet's father Ra was the king of them all. What was he god of? Why do you think the Egyptians thought he was the most important god?

2. The Egyptian people were worried when Bastet left, because she made sure the that the river Nile flooded regularly to water their crops. What does this tell you about how the Egyptians got their food and where they lived?

3. Many ancient peoples were *polytheistic*, which means they worshipped many different gods. Can you name any other cultures that had lots of different gods? (Think of myths and legends you might have read in issues of **Storytime!**)



MOVING WITH THE TIMES!

The Egyptians worshipped gods that were linked to things that were important to them. What do you think modern people might have gods of, based on what is important to us nowadays?

NAME _____

CLASS _____

READING COMPREHENSION SHEET

This month’s challenge is to find a rhetorical question and work out what a figure of speech means. Can you do it?

66

“Please come back to Egypt with us!” Shu begged her. “We have been looking all over for you!”

Bastet turned up her nose at him. “Why should I go back? I am so much happier here, where nobody tells me what to do!” she replied.

99

1. What do you think the phrase ‘all over’ means in this extract? Can you think of a word that could replace it?

2. ‘Turned up her nose at him’ is a *figure of speech* – this means that it is a phrase that has a different meaning from what it literally says. What do YOU think it could actually mean?

3. The extract has a *rhetorical question* in it. This is a question that is not meant to be answered, but is said to make a point. Can you spot it?

COMPARATIVES!
The word ‘happier’ in the extract is a *comparative adjective*, used to compare things. **Which ordinary adjectives are ‘happier’ and these other two comparatives based on?**

Happier _____

Smaller _____

Darker _____

NAME _____ CLASS _____

Answers: 1. ‘All over’ means ‘everywhere’, and you could use this word to replace it; 2. It actually means ‘rejected’; 3. ‘Why should I go back’ is a rhetorical question. **Comparatives!** Happy, small and dark.

STORY SEQUENCING SHEET

What happened when? Number all these events from the story to show the correct order they should be read in!

The sun-god called for his friends, Shu and Thoth. He asked them to go in search of Bastet.

From then on, Bastet was honoured every year in a special festival that lasted for many days.

Finally, the two gods went south to Nubia. As they were walking along a path, Bastet pounced on them.

The cat-goddess Bastet was the daughter of the Egyptian sun-god Ra and lived in his palace with him.

Shu and Thoth returned to their normal forms. Shu asked Bastet to come back to Egypt with them, but she refused.

She was taken home in a grand procession, and the people of Egypt were glad to have her back.

Ra was worried about his daughter, who made sure the river Nile flooded so the Egyptians' crops could grow.

Bastet liked being the centre of attention, so she agreed to go back to Egypt with Thoth and Shu.

Shu and Thoth turned themselves into baboons and went in search of the goddess. They looked to the east and west, but couldn't find her.

Thoth tried flattering the goddess, saying that people would hold festivals in her honour if she returned.

One day, though, Ra and Bastet had an argument. She stormed out of his palace and went south to the jungles of Nubia.

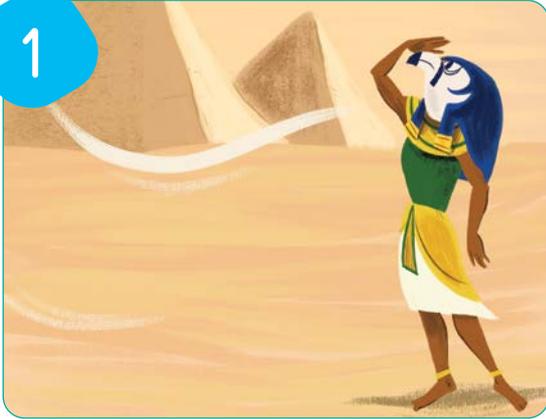
NAME _____

CLASS _____

STORYBOARD

Retell the tale of the cat-goddess who ran away by writing in what happened to her under the illustrations below!

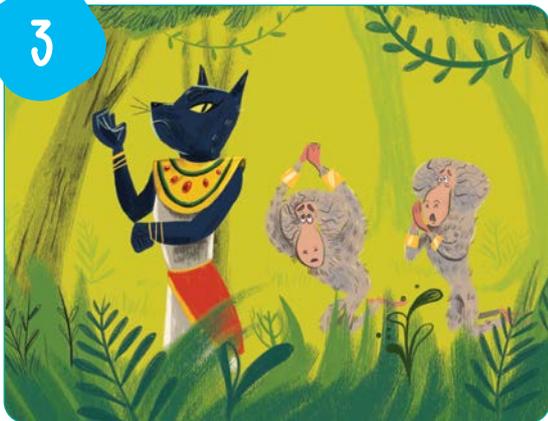
1



2



3



4

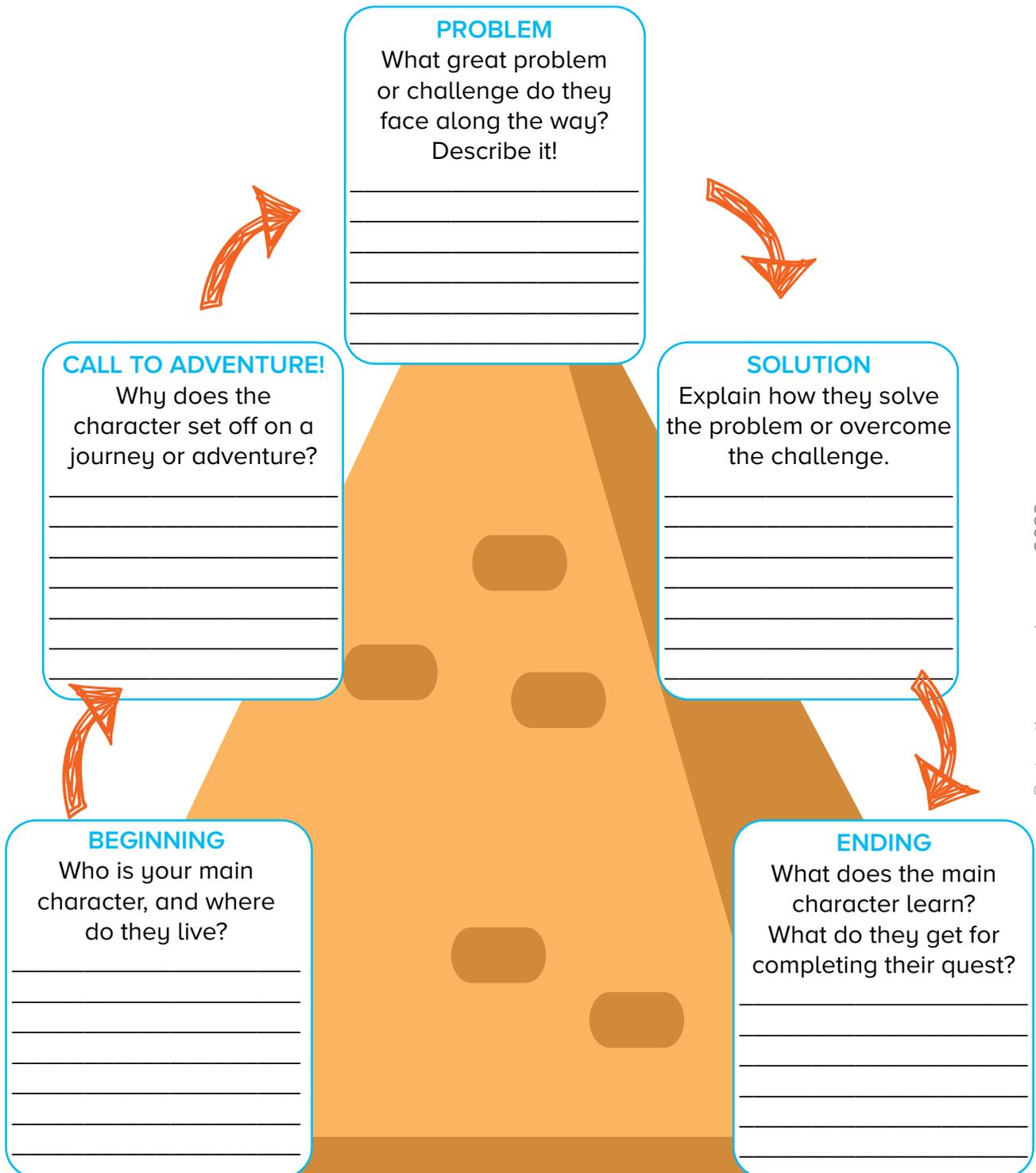


NAME _____

CLASS _____

THE PYRAMID OF STORYTELLING!

It's easy to write your own cool story using this chart! Answer the questions below to create your own exciting tale...

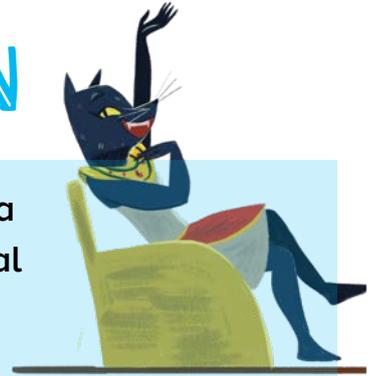


© storytimemagazine.com 2022

NAME _____

CLASS _____

A FESTIVAL OF YOUR OWN



At the end of this month's story, the people of Egypt held a special festival in honour of Bastet. If people held a festival in your honour, what would you want it to be like?

My festival would be called: _____

When would it be held? _____

Where would it be celebrated? _____

What things will people do on this day? _____

What special treats will people enjoy? _____

NAME _____

CLASS _____

CHARACTER SHEET: BASTET



What did you find out about Bastet in this month's tale? See if you can come up with answers to all these questions about her!

What three words would you use to describe Bastet's personality?

What do you think are Bastet's favourite foods?

What would you do to cheer Bastet up if she was grumpy?

Bastet thinks she deserves a special crown. Create a magnificent headpiece for the cat-goddess!



Why was Bastet important to the people of ancient Egypt?

NAME _____ CLASS _____

STORY CARDS

See if you can imagine your own sequel to Bastet's tale! Cut out these cards and then draw one to find out who the main character is. Then, draw others one at a time to find out where they go or who they meet!

BASTET



RA



GUARDS



BABOON



PYRAMIDS



JUNGLE



PURRFECT FUN FACTS!



Bastet was the coolest (and cutest) goddess of them all. Check out this info about her!

Bastet had many names! She was also known as Bast, Ubasti and Pasch. Her name means **‘devourer’**.

Bastet was originally **a lion-goddess** – but after her city of Bubastis was conquered, she became a cute kitty-cat instead!

Bastet was said to protect **women, children and cats**. She was the goddess of sunrises, music, dance and pleasure as well as family, fertility and birth.

A festival for Bastet was held every year. Worshippers would sail down the Nile in boats, clapping and singing songs in honour of the goddess.

Women who wanted kids sometimes wore an amulet with a picture of **Bastet with kittens** on it. The number of kittens showed how many children a woman wanted to have!

To get the blessings of the goddess, Egyptian people would offer her **spices, water, wine, milk, bread and meat**. Bastet was also said to be fond of gold, diamonds, silver, perfumes and other riches.

Her city of **Bubastis** was also called Per-Bast, which translates as ‘the domain of Bast’. The ruins of the city still exist today, but they have been renamed ‘Tell Basta’.

You couldn’t miss the **temple of Bastet** in Bubastis! It was huge and stood in the centre of the city. Worshippers came from all over Egypt to pray to Bastet there.

FIND A FACT!

What have YOU found out about Bastet?

EGYPTIAN GODS AND GODDESSES

The Egyptians worshipped many unique gods and goddesses – find out everything you need to know about the most important ones on this handy reference table!

Name:	How to spot them:	What were they god of?	Fun fact:
Bastet 	She has the head of a cat and is covered in fur!	Cats, mothers, children, the Nile.	She was later worshipped by some Romans!
Ra 	He has the head of a falcon!	Creation and the Sun. Also king of the gods.	He drove the sun across the sky in a chariot every day!
Osiris 	He has green skin and bandage-like wrappings around his arms and legs.	Death, the underworld and resurrection.	He was killed by Seth and then brought back to life!
Seth 	He has a strange anteater-like head with a long, droopy nose!	Chaos, darkness and storms.	The evil brother of Osiris.
Anubis 	He has the head of a jackal.	Mummification and the dead.	He weighed the hearts of the dead to see how good they had been!
Thoth 	His head is like that of the ibis, a kind of waterbird.	Wisdom and the moon. He was the judge of the gods.	He invented hieroglyphic writing (see next page).
Isis 	Her headdress is shaped like a throne.	Healing.	She was the sister <i>and</i> wife of Osiris!

CRACK THE CODE

The Egyptians wrote using special symbols called hieroglyphics, and it took scholars a long time to work out how to read them! We have used hieroglyphic symbols to write some messages from Bastet on this page – can you use the key on the right to work out what they mean?

DID YOU NOTICE?

The Egyptians used 'Reed' for 'E' and 'I', 'Horned Viper' for 'F' and 'V' and 'Quail Chick' for 'U' and 'W'. This makes it a bit more difficult to work out what the messages say!

 A	 B	 C	 D	 E
 F	 G	 H	 I	 J
 K	 L	 M	 N	 O
 P	 Q	 R	 S	 T
 U	 V	 W	 X	 Y
 Z	 CH	 KH	 SH	

A        

B         

C             



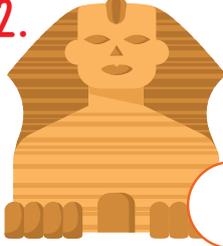
NAME _____

CLASS _____

NAME THOSE OBJECTS!

The ancient Egyptians left many strange and wonderful items behind for archaeologists to find. See if you can match each item with the correct description – look in books about Ancient Egypt to get hints!

1. 

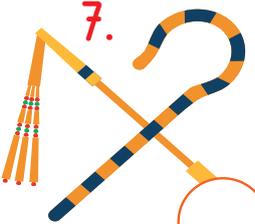
2. 

3. 

4. 

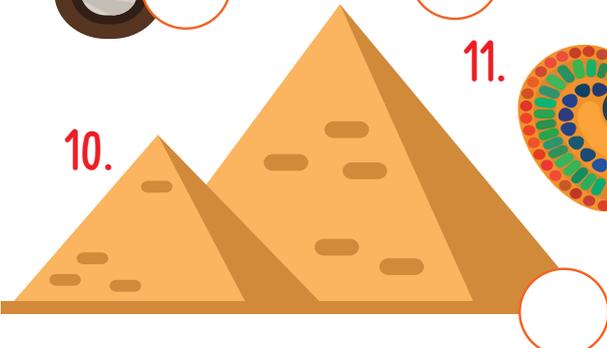
5. 

6. 

7. 

8. 

9. 

10. 

11. 

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| A. Camel | G. Mummy |
| B. Brazier | H. Sphinx |
| C. Pharaoh | I. Ankh |
| D. Pyramids | J. Scarab |
| E. Canopic Jars | K. Crook and Flail |
| F. Papyrus | |

WHAT MAKES A PYRAMID?

Egypt is famous for the huge stone pyramids that were built as tombs for its rulers. A pyramid is a shape whose sides are made up of triangles that meet at a point (the apex). The base of an Egyptian pyramid is square, but pyramids can have bases that are other shapes instead. The Egyptian pyramids may have been modelled on a sacred, pointed stone called the *ben-ben*. The angles of this stone represented the rays of the sun!

NAME _____ CLASS _____

THE POWER OF THE NILE

The Nile was vital to ancient Egyptians for many reasons! Find out all of the ways in which they used this incredible river. Then, read more about it online and see if you can answer the questions at the bottom of the page...

LIFE-GIVING FLOODS!

The river Nile usually flooded once a year – and it carried millions of tons of rich black soil which was left behind on the river banks. This soil helped the Egyptians to grow plenty of food!

DID YOU KNOW?

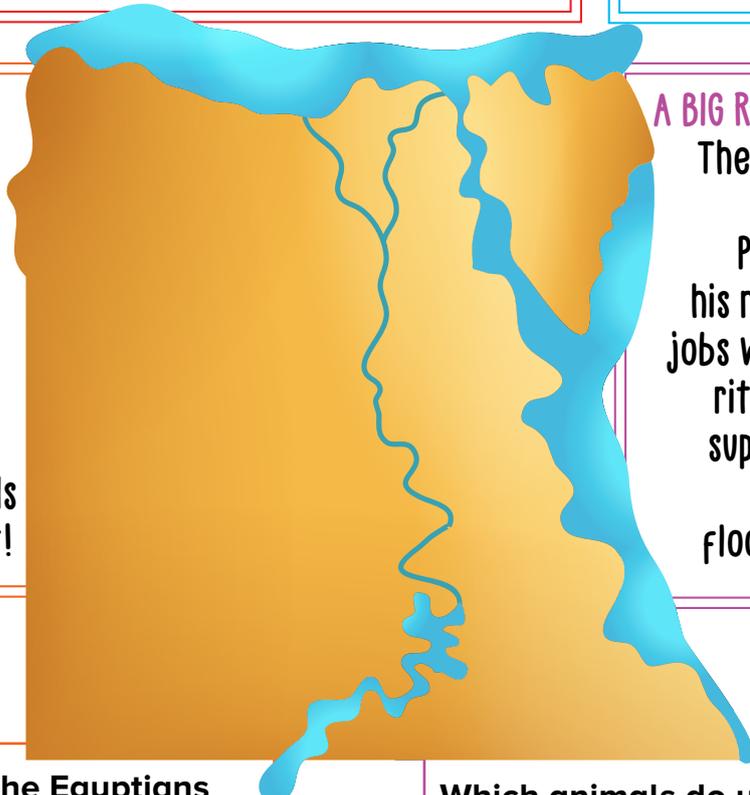
The Nile is the longest river in the world – stretching for a massive 6,695 km!

GETTING AROUND!

Boats helped Egyptian traders to travel up and down the country, and ships carried stone for the amazing temples, tombs and pyramids the Egyptians built!

A BIG RESPONSIBILITY!

The ruler of Egypt was called the Pharaoh. One of his most important jobs was to perform rituals that were supposed to make sure the river flooded regularly.

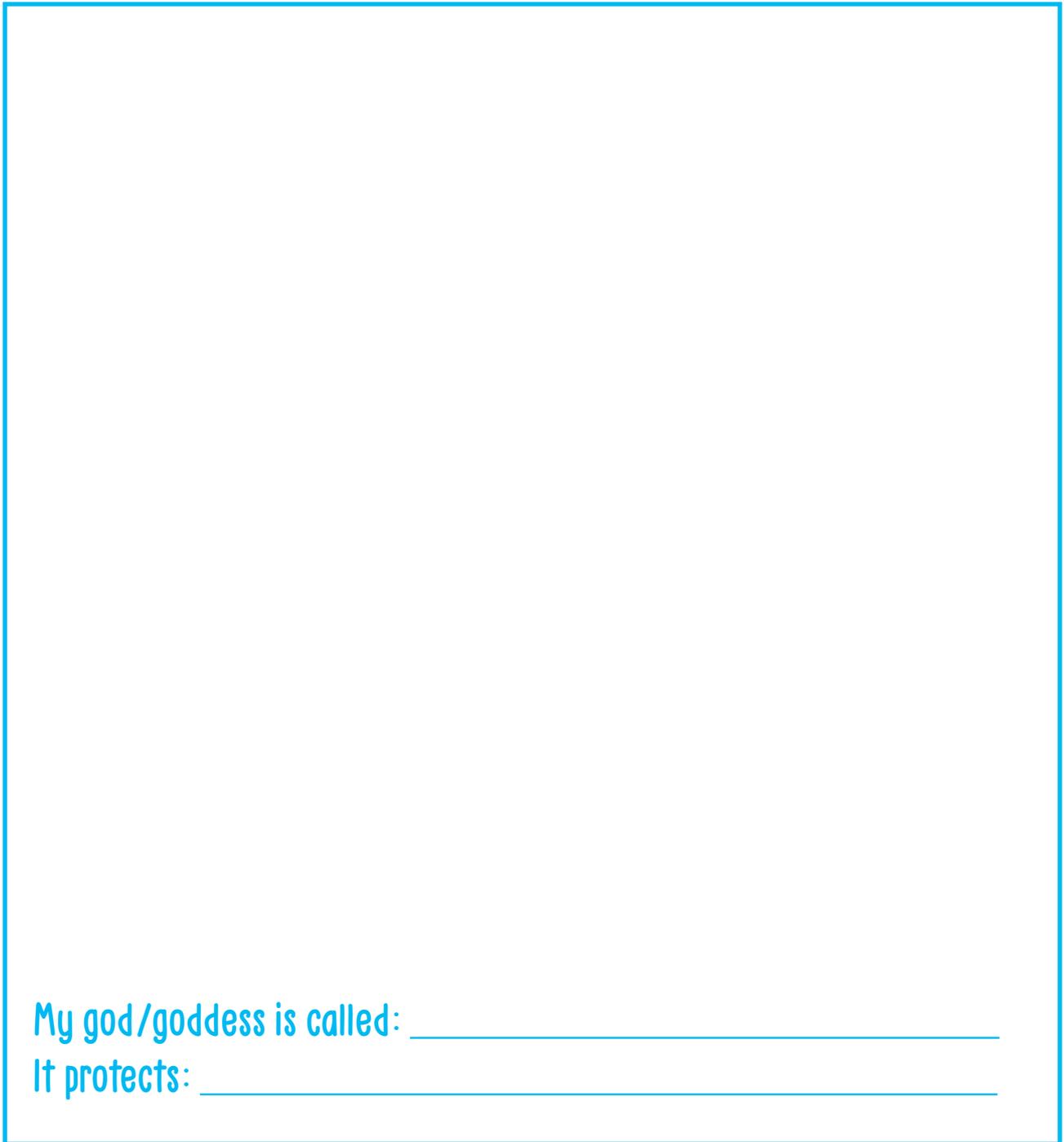


Which crops did the Egyptians grow on the banks of the Nile?

Which animals do you think live in the river? List them here!

YOUR PET GOD/GODDESS

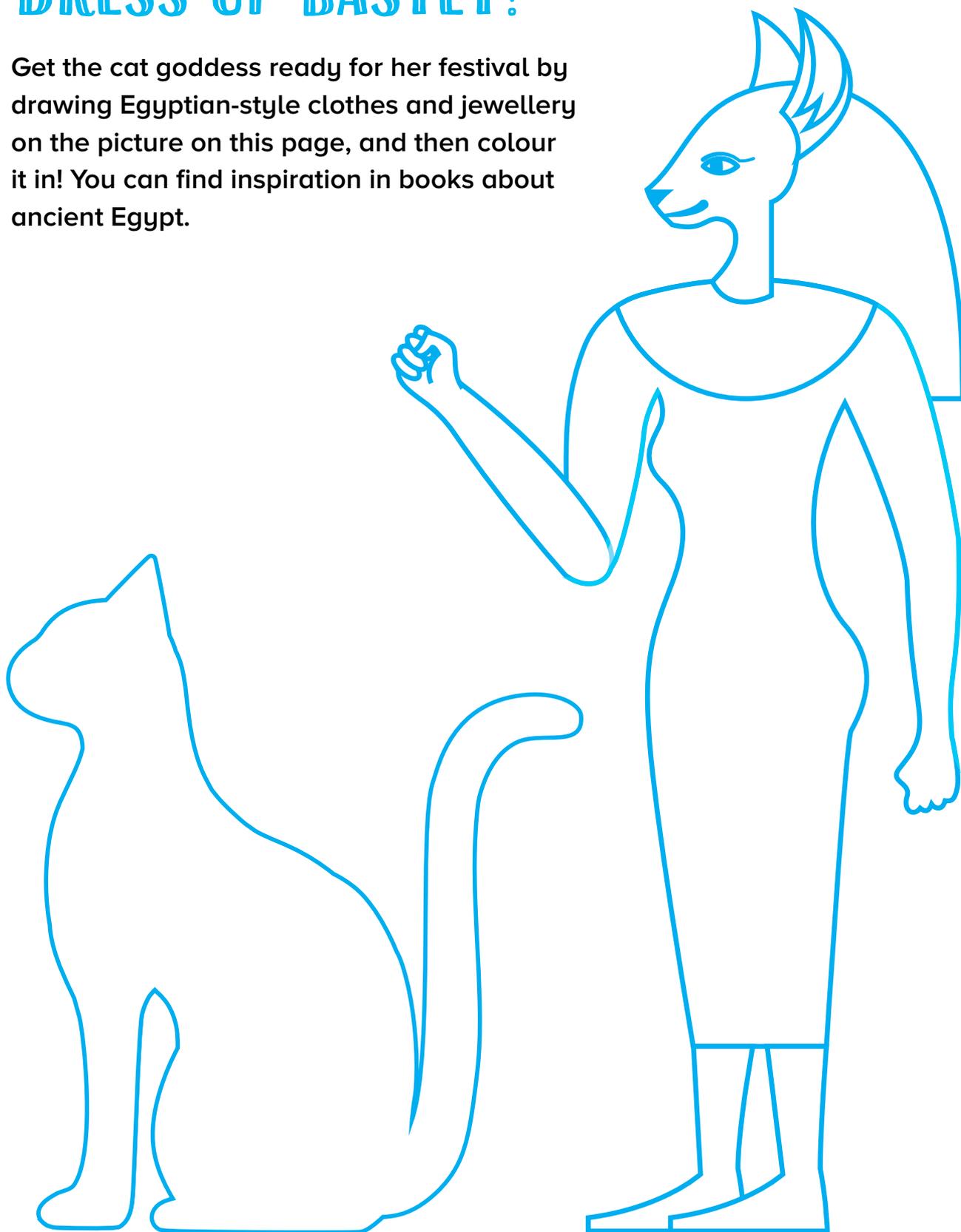
Imagine if there was an Egyptian god or goddess inspired by your favourite pet or animal. What would it look like? Draw your animal-headed god in the frame below, and write in its name and what it protects underneath!



My god/goddess is called: _____
It protects: _____

DRESS UP BASTET!

Get the cat goddess ready for her festival by drawing Egyptian-style clothes and jewellery on the picture on this page, and then colour it in! You can find inspiration in books about ancient Egypt.



NAME _____

CLASS _____