



## Orientation

Ensure that you have read about using the plan in the Program Guide.

### Book summary

Read the following summary to the student.

The pyramid of King Cheops contains about two million stone blocks, placed so closely together that you can't slide a sheet of paper between them. How the Egyptians managed to build such an enormous structure so accurately and without any machinery is one of the wonders of the world.

### Introduction

Foster interest and activate the student's background knowledge. Be concise – focus on motivating and involving the student. Encourage prediction by using the text and illustrations on the cover of the book. Discuss new vocabulary and remind the student to use the glossary (when applicable). Also remind the student to ask him/herself questions before, during and after the reading.

Together, find Egypt and the Nile on a map or globe. Explain that the pyramids were built along the Nile and that a pyramid has a square or triangular base and sloping triangular sides that meet in a point at the top. Ask the student to use the cover picture as a model to build a pyramid from Cuisinaire rods, Jenga blocks, books, or another kind of cube. Discuss its size, shape, and balance, and problems that arise when building it. Ask the student to imagine a pyramid made from two million blocks each weighing more than 2.5 tons – the average weight of a hippopotamus.

## Conferencing

### Check how well the student reads

When you are conferencing, the student reads all or part of the book to you. Then:

- praise, pause, and prompt appropriately;
- check for accuracy (by counting mistakes) and fluency;
- check for understanding by using one or more of the following methods:
  - asking the comprehension questions provided and any others that seem necessary;
  - asking the student to retell the story in their own words;
  - asking questions about and discussing aspects of the story, such as the theme, plot, main ideas, sequence and characters;
  - encouraging the student to confirm the predictions they made during the orientation.

### Decide what the student does next

Next recommend that the student:

- practices some more on the same book, with or without the audio;
- completes one of the activities provided that is related to the book;
- practices with another book from the same level; or
- is assessed for promotion to the next level.

## Comprehension questions

1. Why was the Great Pyramid built?
2. What problems did the Egyptians encounter?
3. Why do you think pharaohs wanted such huge burial tombs?
4. If you were a pharaoh, what would you want your pyramid to be like?
5. What else would you like to know about pyramids?

## Answers to the Comprehension questions

1. To bury King Cheops, his family, and his treasures.
2. Accept any of the following: working with tools made from soft metal; ground that was hard and stony; raising the blocks as the pyramid grew higher.
3. Answers will vary but may include: they wanted their pyramid to be bigger than the others; they wanted to fit more family members and treasures inside it.
4. Answers will vary.
5. Answers will vary.

## Supporting English Language Learners

The following are suggestions for optional lessons to take with your English language learners. See the overview chart in the Program Guide for a summary of the text features of this book.

### Purpose

Exploring base words and suffixes

### Introduce the concept and practice

Categorizing verbs requires the student to explore the base word and suffix relationship and provides them with a useful spelling strategy.

When the student has read the book, ask them to return to page 7 and to list all of the past-tense verbs that end with "ed" ("died," "placed," "sealed," "intended," "buried," "robbed," "existed," and "entered"). Help the student to write the base word next to each verb, for example, "die." Discuss how each base word has been changed to show the past tense, for example: adding "ed"; adding "d"; changing the "y" to "i" and adding "ed"; or doubling the final consonant and adding "ed." Together, think of other verbs that change in the same ways and add them to the list.





Name: ..... Date: .....

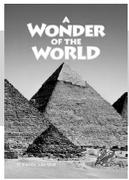
Introduction: The pyramid of King Cheops contains about two million stone blocks, placed so closely together that you can't slide a sheet of paper between them. How the Egyptians managed to build such an enormous structure so accurately and without any machinery is one of the wonders of the world.

Errors M S

Fit for a Pharaoh Around 4,000 years ago, the Egyptians built enormous pyramids on the west bank of the Nile River. Some of these are \_\_\_\_\_ standing today. Pyramids were \_\_\_\_\_ for Egyptian kings, or pharaohs, \_\_\_\_\_ ruled Egypt from \_\_\_\_\_ 3,100 B.C. to 661 B.C. \_\_\_\_\_ most famous pyramid is \_\_\_\_\_ Great Pyramid, which was built \_\_\_\_\_ King Cheops. The Great Pyramid \_\_\_\_\_ the largest stone \_\_\_\_\_ in the world and \_\_\_\_\_ made from about two million \_\_\_\_\_ blocks. Each block \_\_\_\_\_ more than 2.5 tons – \_\_\_\_\_ about the average weight \_\_\_\_\_ a hippopotamus. Some researchers \_\_\_\_\_ that the pyramid could \_\_\_\_\_ taken more than 100,000 \_\_\_\_\_ 30 years to \_\_\_\_\_. Inside the pyramid, passages \_\_\_\_\_ large chambers where the \_\_\_\_\_ and his family were buried. \_\_\_\_\_ most impressive chamber \_\_\_\_\_ King Cheops's pyramid is \_\_\_\_\_ Grand Gallery. This chamber \_\_\_\_\_ so large that huge \_\_\_\_\_ were needed to hold up the ceiling.

Accuracy Chart (Exact word replacement only)		
Words Entered	Score	Level
More than 11 correct		Independent
10 or 11 correct		Instructional
Fewer than 10 correct		Frustration

**Errors**  
**M** = Meaning (makes sense) \_\_\_\_ **S** = Syntax (sounds right) \_\_\_\_  
 Heard  Seen  Unseen   
 Comments: \_\_\_\_\_



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Around 4,000 years ago, the Egyptians built enormous pyramids for their kings, or pharaohs, who ruled Egypt from about 3,100 B.C. to 661 B.C. The most famous pyramid is the Great Pyramid, which was built for King Cheops. It's the largest stone building in the world and is made from about two million stone blocks.

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Each block weighs more than 2.5 tons. The Great Pyramid could have taken more than 100,000 people 30 years to build. Inside the pyramid, passages join large chambers where the king and his family were buried. The most impressive chamber in King Cheops's pyramid is the Grand Gallery.

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This chamber is so large that huge pillars were needed to hold up the ceiling. The Grand Gallery leads into the King's Chamber where King Cheops was placed following his funeral. His body was put in a coffin, or sarcophagus, that was surrounded by precious objects. The size and shape of the pyramid was carefully calculated.

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For the top point to be exactly in the center, the Egyptians figured out the height and angle of the pyramid's sides. If the pyramid wasn't precisely balanced, then it would collapse. To make the pyramid, workers cut huge rough blocks of limestone from quarries in the desert. This was a difficult task because the tools they used were made from soft metals such as copper.

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Iron, which is a harder metal, hadn't yet been discovered. After the stones had been split they were taken to the building site. Workers built the pyramid up in layers. Gaps were left in each layer to create passages between the entrance and the different chambers. The inside walls were painted with scenes from the life of the pharaoh.

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One of the most difficult jobs the workers had would have been raising the enormous blocks of stone as the layers of the pyramid grew higher. How did the Egyptians do this? We may never know the answers to this and many other questions. The Great Pyramid will remain one of the wonders of the world.

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Name: ..... Date: .....

Words can be found in these directions:



The letter in each square can only be used in one word.

s	t	r	a	i	g	h	t	d	b	w	e	i	g	h	t
u	b	e	t	w	e	e	n	i	t	e	e	a	c	h	w
s	a	n	c	i	e	n	t	f	o	b	l	t	h	e	h
e	a	v	e	r	a	g	e	f	g	u	d	i	a	s	e
p	t	e	l	l	a	r	e	e	e	i	i	o	e	a	r
t	r	h	n	a	e	p	o	r	t	l	f	u	m	v	e
i	r	o	o	o	r	s	f	e	h	d	f	t	o	m	e
m	d	e	t	u	r	g	s	n	e	i	i	s	d	i	a
p	e	a	a	e	s	m	e	c	r	n	c	i	e	l	r
r	s	b	m	s	c	a	o	e	i	g	u	d	r	l	o
e	e	o	a	h	u	t	n	u	p	s	l	e	n	i	u
s	r	u	k	t	i	r	i	d	s	e	t	i	t	o	n
s	t	t	e	y	o	s	e	v	b	m	o	l	i	n	d
i	e	n	t	r	a	n	c	e	e	y	d	p	o	s	o
v	i	n	f	o	r	m	a	t	i	o	n	r	l	n	r
e	p	r	e	c	i	o	u	s	b	u	i	l	t	e	g

**Words to find:**

- |          |            |             |            |          |
|----------|------------|-------------|------------|----------|
| about    | built      | impressive  | modern     | the      |
| ancient  | by         | information | of         | thousand |
| are      | desert     | is          | or         | to       |
| around   | difference | it          | outside    | together |
| as       | difficult  | large       | people     | treasure |
| average  | each       | less        | precious   | use      |
| believe  | enormous   | long        | protective | weight   |
| between  | entrance   | make        | straight   | where    |
| building | his        | million     |            |          |

Use the letters that are left to make the word that tells what the Egyptians built for their Pharaohs.....





- ★ Spin the numbered spinner.
- ★ The highest number starts.
- ★ You need to spin the exact number to move onto the END square.

**START**  
 You are an Egyptian builder working on the Great Pyramid for King Cheops.

**1**

**2** One hundred thousand people are helping you to build the Great Pyramid. Go on to 6.

**3**

**19**

**20**

**21** You pour water in front of the sleds to make them move more easily. Go forward three spaces.

**22**

**4**

**18**

**END**  
 The Great Pyramid will be the largest stone building in the world and will become one of the wonders of the world.

**23**

**5** It will take you 30 years to build the pyramid. Miss a turn.

**17** You pour water onto wooden wedges to split the blocks. Spin again. Go forward that number.

**30**

**24**

**6**

**16**

**29**

**25** You start work on the burial chamber. Spin again. If you spin an odd number, go on to 28.

**7**

**15**

**28**

**27** It's difficult to raise the enormous blocks as the pyramid grows higher. Go back four spaces.

**26**

**8** You need two million stone blocks to make the Great Pyramid. Spin again. Go back that number.

**14** You have to use tools made from soft metal to cut the blocks. Go back to 10.

**13**

**12**

**11** Each block weighs 2.5 tons. Name two numbers. If you spin one of them, go back to 7.

**10**

**9**



