



BOOK ONE:

THE
**RED
PYRAMID**

EGYPTIAN EVENT KIT

The first installment in the highly anticipated new series
from *New York Times* #1 best-selling author Rick Riordan

THEKANECHRONICLES.COM

Disney·HYPERION



Greetings, Egyptologists!

On May 4, *The Kane Chronicles, Book One: The Red Pyramid* arrives in bookstores nationwide, following the adventures of Carter and Sadie Kane as they embark on a dangerous journey across the globe to save their father from the Egyptian god Set. Along the way, these siblings discover their family's link to a secret order of magicians that has existed since the time of the pharaohs!

Bring a little Egyptian magic to your school or bookstore with The Kane Chronicles Egyptian Event Kit! Inside you'll find party ideas, reproducible activity sheets, discussion questions, and more to make for an unforgettable Egyptian event. Best of all, you'll find a special activity poster and collectible trading cards from the series, adding a bit of extra magic!

So put on your Egyptian thinking cap, get in the pharaoh mind-set, and get ready to party with The Kane Chronicles!

Have fun,

Rick Riordan



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ANCIENT EGYPT. MODERN PARTY IDEAS.

GET YOUR EGYPTIAN THINKING CAP ON

Eat Like an Egyptian.

Whole grains and wheat were staples in the diet of the Ancient Egyptians. In putting together your Egyptian event, serve up some whole wheat crackers or pita bread and hummus dip. Vegetables were also widely consumed, so for a healthy snack, think about carrot sticks and vegetable dip!

And feel free to add a touch of modern flair with some elements from the world of Carter and Sadie Kane by bringing in snacks from Brooklyn and London! Make mini Brooklyn-style pizzas for your guests, and crumpets or other British sweets!

Decorate Like an Egyptian.

You've probably seen examples of Ancient Egyptian art in the form of hieroglyphics, pottery, and artifacts available at your local art museum. Take that spirit into decorating for your Egyptian event by printing out artwork reflective of this time period to use in setting the tone. Think about visiting your local party store for available materials and supplies in an Egyptian theme. You could even make an art project out of creating life-sized mummies or statues, if you really want to go the extra mile!

Act Like an Egyptian.

Invite your guests to come to your Egyptian event in full Egyptian costume, whether as an Egyptian god or goddess, or as a pharaoh or king. Hand out prizes for the most creative and spirited costumes, such as a medal, an Egyptian headdress, or even a copy of *The Kane Chronicles, Book One: The Red Pyramid*!

The Egyptians Did It First.

Did you know that the Ancient Egyptians were the inventors of the first scissors? And wigs? Ask your guests to do some research before coming to your Egyptian event and bring in one item that was invented by the Ancient Egyptians. Have them share their chosen object with the group and explain a bit of history behind it.

Discussion Questions from *The Red Pyramid*:

1. Carter begins the tale by stating, "If you're hearing this story, you're already in danger. Sadie and I might be your only chance." How does this dramatic opening shape the mood of the novel?
2. Though Carter is only two years older than Sadie, she often teases him for acting like an old man. Is she justified? Why or why not?
3. Given their long-term separation, what are some of the challenges for Carter and Sadie in regard to their relationship as brother and sister? What do you predict will be the most difficult elements to overcome?
4. Using the phrase "This is a story about..." supply five words to describe *The Red Pyramid*. Explain your choices.
5. Throughout the novel, Carter and Sadie take turns recording their story for others like them. Why does Julius Kane train Carter to keep all of his possessions "in a single suitcase that fits in an airplane's overhead compartment"? In what ways does this make Carter better prepared to embark on this adventure?
6. The author uses some unusual titles for the chapters; which of them is your favorite? For what reason?
7. In what ways do the differences in their physical appearance make things challenging for Carter and Sadie as siblings?
8. Amos warns Julius, "If I don't stop you, Julius, they will." What can you infer from this cryptic message?
9. Julius Kane goes to great lengths to attempt to change the fate of his wife. Is he justified in doing so?
10. Both Carter and Sadie wear Egyptian amulets given to them by their father. What does Julius hope will be accomplished by his children's wearing these symbolic gifts? Do you have a possession that makes you feel particularly safe or lucky? If so, why?
11. While holding his father's possessions, Sadie asks Carter, "What's in his workbag?" After sharing that he doesn't know because Julius instructed him not to look, Sadie retorts by exclaiming, "And you never did? God, that is so like you, Carter. You're hopeless." Why is Sadie so frustrated with Carter's choices? Do you agree with his decision to respect his father's instructions? Why or why not?
12. Describe Carter and Sadie. What are three things about each of them that you find most (or least) appealing?



Sadie Kane



TRUTH OR MYTH?

The history of Ancient Egypt is a rich and fascinating one, leaving an impressive array of modern innovations and a cultural influences in its wake. But how much do you REALLY know about Ancient Egypt?

Take a look at the statements below. Which are true about Ancient Egypt and which are false? Circle "True" or "False" to the left of each question.

- TRUE / FALSE** 1) Ancient Egyptians were the first civilization to develop and wear makeup.
- TRUE / FALSE** 2) Ancient Egypt was built around the Amazon River.
- TRUE / FALSE** 3) The tractor was invented by the Ancient Egyptians.
- TRUE / FALSE** 4) The Great Pyramid of Giza is the last of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World still standing today.
- TRUE / FALSE** 5) Ancient Egyptians invented the 365-day calendar.
- TRUE / FALSE** 6) Ancient Egyptians developed paper.
- TRUE / FALSE** 7) Egyptians invented steam engines.
- TRUE / FALSE** 8) Ancient Egyptians developed the sail.
- TRUE / FALSE** 9) The Rosetta Stone is one of the most important archaeological finds in Egypt because it is the key to deciphering hieroglyphs.
- TRUE / FALSE** 10) Ancient Egyptians created the clock.
- TRUE / FALSE** 11) Ice cream was discovered by the Ancient Egyptians.
- TRUE / FALSE** 12) The Great Sphinx is a mythical beast with the head of a king and the body of a monkey.



CONSTRUCT A PYRAMID

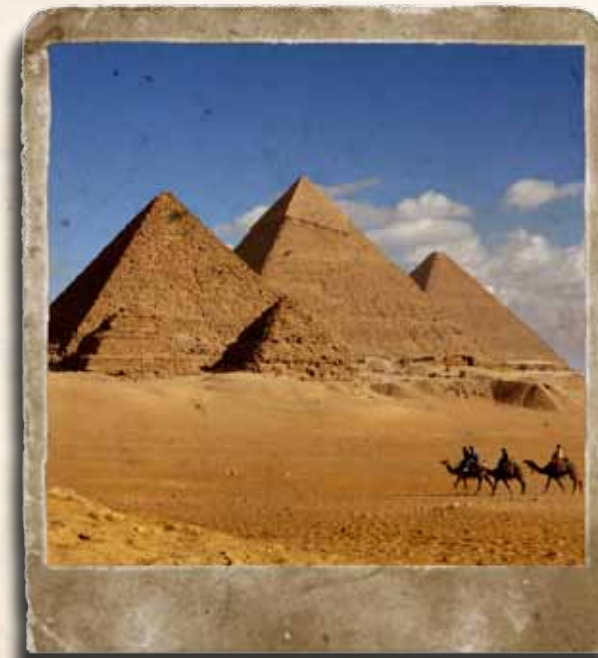
Bring a little added Egyptian flair to your event by creating your own pyramids, using the materials below!

Supplies

- tape
- four 2-foot lengths of lightweight string
- 8 drinking straws
- construction paper or sandpaper
- pencil
- scissors
- white glue thinned with water
- paintbrush
- fine sand (optional)
- sandpaper (optional)

Instructions:

1. Wrap a piece of tape around one end of each piece of string to make it easier to thread.
2. Thread a length of string through three straws to form a triangle. Pull the string snug and knot it firmly. Thread another length of string through one of the triangle sides, then add two more straws. Pull string snug to form another triangle, and knot it firmly. Repeat one more time to form three sides of your pyramid. For the last side, thread a length of string through one side, then down the other side, before adding a straw to complete the base.
3. Trace around one side of the pyramid and cut four triangles of construction paper, taping them to the pyramid's sides.
4. Trace around the base, cut it out, and tape it to the pyramid.
5. Lightly paint the pyramid with the white glue and sprinkle sand on the sides. Or, if you wish, use sandpaper instead of construction paper.
6. Enjoy your pyramid masterpiece!





GUIDE TO THE MAJOR EGYPTIAN FIGURES

In addition to the major players covered in the Egyptian Family Tree (see page 6), here's a guide to some of the other prominent figures, gods and beyond, in Ancient Egyptian history.

Gods and Goddesses:

Anubis – God of Funerals and Death. He is often seen painted on the walls of tombs as he was thought to protect the dead. He is shown as a jackal or wild dog.

Bast – Goddess of Cats, Women, and Children. She can be both gentle and fierce. Shown as a cat-headed woman. Welcomed in Egyptian homes as the goddess of hearth and home.

Ra – God of Creation. He is believed to have created the world. Falcon with the sun on his head.

Sekhmet – Goddess of Medicine and War. Lionheaded goddess.

Serqet – Scorpion Goddess and servant of Set

Set – God of Evil, Chaos, and Darkness. Son of Geb and Nut, husband and brother to Nephthys, and brother to Osiris and Isis. He murdered his brother Osiris out of jealousy and scattered pieces of his body and plucked out the eye of Horus. Associated with the color red.

Thoth – God of Wisdom and Writing. He had two forms, the ibis and the baboon. He helped Isis bring Osiris back from the dead.



Set

Other Key Figures and Places:

Duat: One of the ancient names for the afterworld, the dark realm of death in Egyptian mythology, situated west of the Nile (in later times considered to be beneath the earth). The sun passes through this place on its return journey from west to east. This underworld is represented by the hieroglyph for a star. It is here that the souls are judged by Osiris.

Per Ankh/House of Life: A small temple or building where records were kept (medicine, astronomy, geography, law, mathematics, and interpretation of dreams). Magicians studied magical texts and other sciences. They served as custodians of all the knowledge of the temple and guarded their secrets carefully. Much like a modern day library, they served as a center for education.

Magicians: There were two kinds of magicians in ancient Egypt; the first were trained priest-magicians who served in large temples and were part of the religious hierarchy. They were looked upon with wonderment by the common people. These magicians had a special place in the temple – they worked in the House of Life. The second type of magicians were “lay” magicians. These men and woman practiced magic but were not attached to any temple.

Monsters, Unusual Creatures, and Devices:

Apophis: Giant serpent whose evil intention is to destroy creation.

Face of Horror: Set's minion who bears the hideous face of a decaying corpse and the feet of a rooster.

Magic Wands: These devices are called apotropaic (meaning to “to escape bad luck”); magic wands are meant to turn away or avert evil spirits. Most often carved of ivory and inscribed with magical figures to protect their owners. Wands were often used for drawing magical circles on the ground to create a “safe spot” that would repel evil spirits.

Shabti: These are magical clay figures. Shabti is the Egyptian word for “answerer.”

Serpopards: Referred to as “longnecks,” these creatures bear both reptilian and leopard features.

Rosetta Stone: A large inscribed stone discovered during Napoléon Bonaparte's Egyptian Campaign (1798–1799). The stone enabled early linguists to translate and read the myths of ancient Egypt. The large black stone has three different scripts, including hieroglyphs, Demotic (a late form of Egyptian writing), and Greek. The stone contained the same message written in Greek and the two Egyptian scripts and allowed scientists to decode the ancient Egyptian hieroglyphic language.



The Rosetta Stone

See page 16 for source information for this guide



THE ULTIMATE EGYPTIAN GOD

There are many different gods and goddesses who make their way through The Kane Chronicles, as well as throughout Ancient Egypt. But what about the god of breakfast cereal? Or the goddess of summer vacations?

Have your guests break up into pairs to come up with a new god or goddess from Ancient Egypt to add to the ranks of the famous deities already in existence. To get you started, fill out the information sheet below!

1. What is the name of your god/goddess?
2. Is your god good or evil? Explain:
3. What is your god's power?
4. What is your god's main weapon?
5. What is your god's biggest weakness?
6. What is your god's favorite food?
7. Where does your god live?
8. Who does your god keep company with?
9. Does your god have any fears? What are they?
10. What is your god's favorite color?



COLOR WHEEL

Colors had very special meanings for Ancient Egyptians. Each color had a corresponding purpose and history. Take a look at the colors below, and write down what you think the Egyptian meaning is behind each color. If you don't know, make up your own definition. Then share with the group.



- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Black: _____ | Green: _____ |
| Blue: _____ | Red: _____ |
| Gold: _____ | White: _____ |



WHERE IN THE WORLD IS CARTER KANE?

In the opening chapter of *The Red Pyramid*, Carter offers readers an opportunity to be introduced to some of the important characters in the story as well as the landscape in which the story takes place.

In this activity, consider the story's initial setting by listening to the audio sampler from *The Red Pyramid* enclosed in this kit. As you listen, have guests mark the London map they've been provided with as a way to better understand the story's setting.

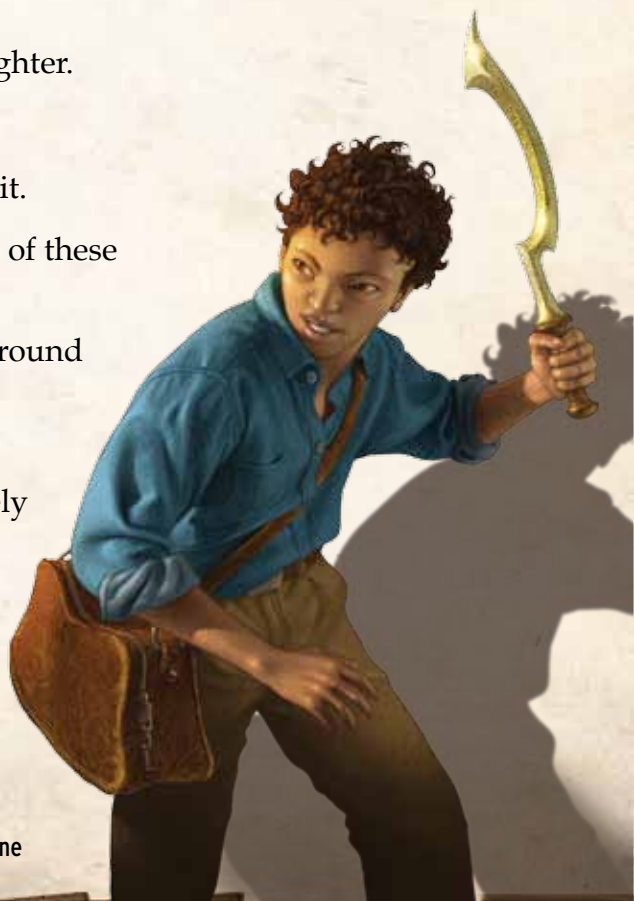
Supplies:

- A map of London with notable landmarks (develop on Google Earth or Google Maps)
- Highlighters

Directions:

1. Provide each guest with a map of London and a highlighter.
2. Play the CD sampler of Chapter 1 of *The Red Pyramid*.
3. Each time a London landmark is mentioned, highlight it.
4. After listening, lead a discussion about the significance of these places (or objects) to the city of London and the story.
5. Give listeners the opportunity to predict other places around the world that may come into play in the story!

Optional: Consider playing the CD sampler in its entirety first, allowing your guests to simply listen. After hearing it once, distribute the maps and follow the directions above.



Carter Kane

EGYPTIAN CHARACTER STUDY

Throughout the first chapter of *The Red Pyramid*, Carter not only introduces us to a number of important characters, he also offers specific details about them that are invaluable to readers. In this activity, your guests will listen to the audio sampler as a means to discover and identify character qualities and details.

Supplies: • Paper • Colored pencils • Crayons • Markers

Directions:

1. Distribute supplies to each guest.
2. Play the enclosed CD sampler of Chapter 1 of *The Red Pyramid*.
3. As they listen, have them make lists of the qualities Carter offers about each character.
4. Select a specific character and create a character sketch for that person in the space below.
5. After all participants have completed their sketches, allow time for them to share what they discovered about their selected character!

Sketching Area



ANSWER KEY

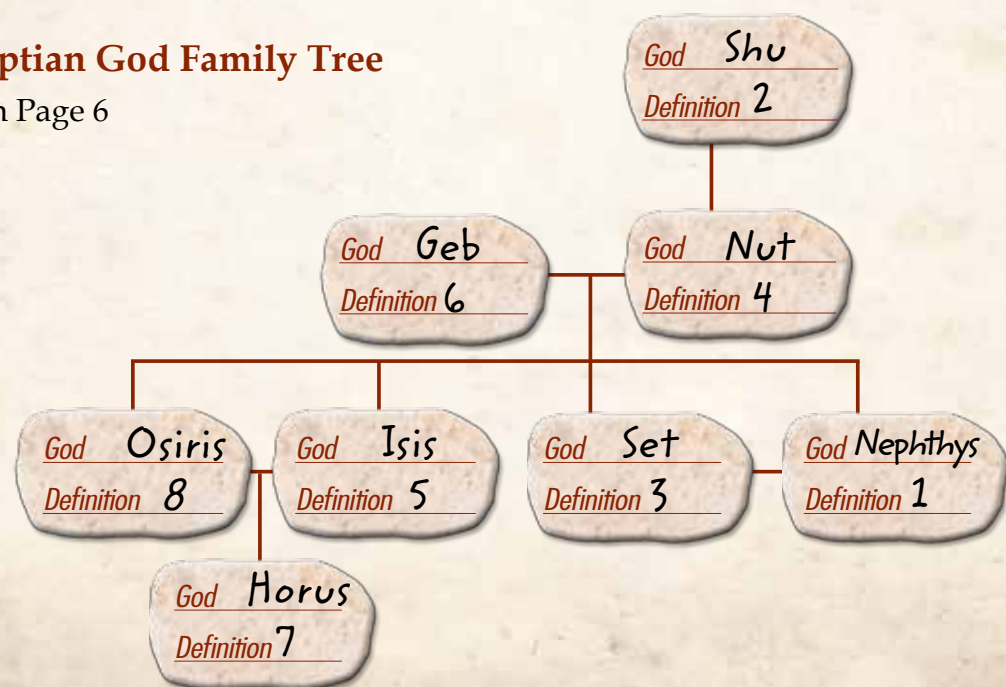
Hieroglyphics Scrambler

From Page 5

- 1) Ancient Egyptians often used **Honey** to sweeten their food.
- 2) The **Rosetta** Stone was an artifact that was essential to the development of hieroglyphic writing.
- 3) A **shabti** is a figurine often placed in the tombs of Ancient Egyptians to act as a servant for the deceased.
- 4) The Book of the **Dead** was a guide to the deceased's journey in the afterlife in Ancient Egypt.
- 5) The famous river that runs through Egypt is known as the **Nile**.

Egyptian God Family Tree

From Page 6



ANSWER KEY

Truth or Myth?

From Page 7

- 1) TRUE / FALSE Ancient Egyptians were the first civilization to develop and wear makeup.
- 2) TRUE / FALSE Ancient Egypt was built around the Amazon River.
- 3) TRUE / FALSE The tractor was invented by the Ancient Egyptians.
- 4) TRUE / FALSE The Great Pyramid of Giza is the last of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World still standing today.
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- 8) TRUE / FALSE Ancient Egyptians developed the sail.
- 9) TRUE / FALSE The Rosetta Stone is one of the most important archaeological finds in Egypt because it is the key to deciphering hieroglyphs.
- 10) TRUE / FALSE Ancient Egyptians created the clock.
- 11) TRUE / FALSE Ice cream was discovered by the Ancient Egyptians.
- 12) TRUE / FALSE The Great Sphinx is a mythical beast with the head of a king and the body of a monkey.

Resources for Event Kit:

- Egyptian Amulets*. 2010.
http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/egam/hd_egam.htm
- Kings and Queens of Egypt*. 2010.
http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/kqae/hd_kqae.htm
- McDevitt, April. *Symbols: Colors*. 2008.
<http://news.egyptianmyths.net/colors.htm>
- Remler, Pat. *Egyptian Mythology A to Z*. New York: Facts on File, 2006.
- UXL Encyclopedia of World Mythology*. Farmington Hills, MI: Gale Cengage Learning, 2009.



Isis



ANSWER KEY

Color Wheel

From Page 12

BLACK: Black is not a true color but the absence of light and is associated with death, the necropolis, and the mummy. Osiris, as ruler of the Netherworld, was called “the black one.”

BLUE: Blue was the color of infinity, the cosmos, and the sky.

GOLD: Gold was the skin of the gods, the divine metal that never tarnished, and symbolized eternal life in the next world.

GREEN: Green was the color of life, renewal, regeneration, and vegetation. Osiris, the god of resurrection, bore the title “The Great Green.”

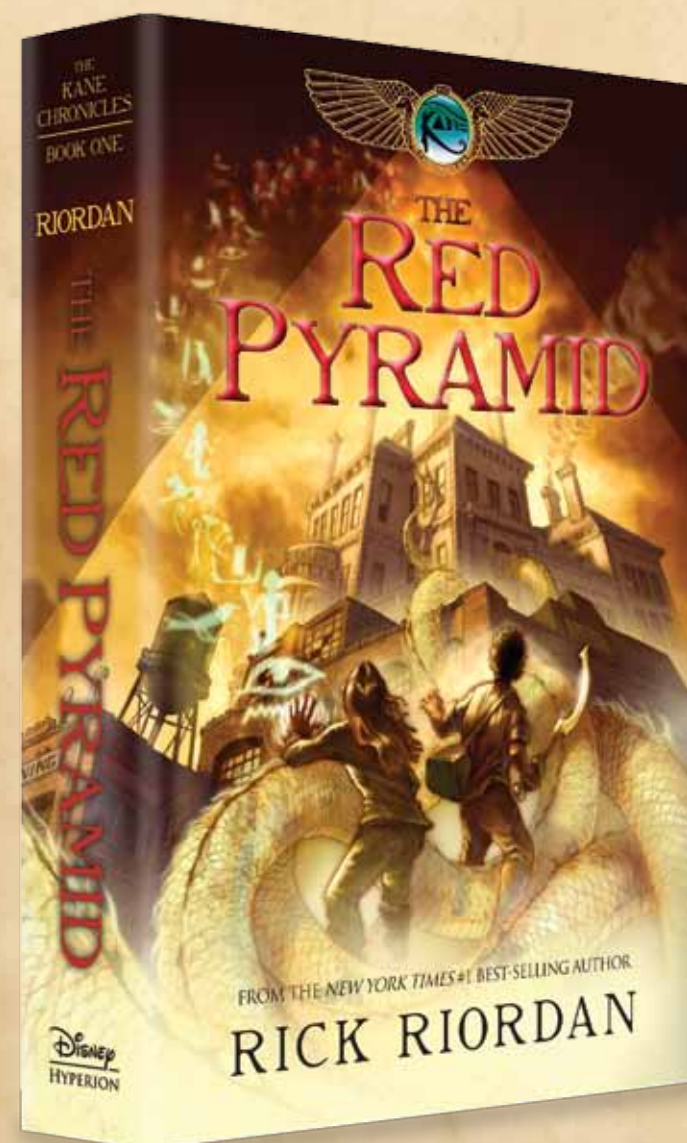
RED: Red was both a positive and negative color. Red symbolized life energy and victory. It was also the color of the desert, the barren wasteland thought to be the domain of evil and the god Set. To do “red things” was bad, the antithesis of doing “green” or good things. Red was an expression of anger, and a person with a “red heart” was enraged.

WHITE: White, the absence of color, represented purity.



**BE CAREFUL
WHAT YOU SUMMON...**

**Join the Kanes for the
Ultimate Egyptian Party!**



DATE:

TIME:

PLACE:

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The Kane Chronicles, Book One: **THE RED PYRAMID**

By Rick Riordan



About the Author: Rick Riordan is the author of all the books in the *New York Times* best-selling Percy Jackson and the Olympians series: *The Lightning Thief*, *The Sea of Monsters*, *The Titan's Curse*, *The Battle of the Labyrinth*, and *The Last Olympian*. His previous novels for adults include the hugely popular Tres Navarre series, winner of the top three awards in the mystery genre. He lives in San Antonio, Texas.

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