Egyptian Transportation Research Paper

Section One

For my project I chose to do Egyptian transportation. I picked this topic because I knew some stuff about it but wanted to learn more stuff like the type of transportation they used other than the Nile. What I already know is that: they travelled down the river in boats, they had animals pull plows for farming, they did a lot of walking to get supplies or water, some boats were made out of papyrus and papyrus roots. Some things I would like to know about this topic are: where did they get their supplies to build their ways of transportation, how long would it take to build the boats, what were the reasons they had to use transportation, what were other ways of transportation and what animals were used for farming. I plan on finding these answers by looking in my Ancient Civilizations textbook and researching information about ancient Egyptian transportation on a variety of websites.

Section Two

**What I Already Know**

1. They travelled down the river in boats.

“The Nile River provided a natural highway for transporting large quantities of goods in Ancient Egypt.”

**Source:** http://historylink101.com/n/egypt\_1/a-transportation.htm

**Author:** Historylink101.com

**Copyright:** 2000-2014

1. They had animals pull plows for farming.

“Domesticated animals such as donkeys and mules were the most common load carriers in Ancient Egypt and were used for farming.”

**Source:** <http://www.eternalegypt.org/EternalEgyptWebsiteWeb/HomeServlet?ee_website_action_key=action.display.topic.details&language_id=1&trait_item_id=10000032>

**Author:** Eternalegypt.org

**Copyright:** 2005

1. They did a lot of walking to get supplies or water.

“A day's march was between 20 and 40 kilometres”

**Source:** <http://www.reshafim.org.il/ad/egypt/timelines/topics/means_of_transportation.htm>

**Author:** Reshafim.org

**Copyright:** 2001

1. Some boats were made out of papyrus.

“Early Egyptians learned to make small boats out of the papyrus plant”

**Source:** <http://www.ducksters.com/history/ancient_egypt/boats_and_transportation.php>

**Author:** Ducksters.com

**Copyright:** 2014

1. The pharaohs got to ride in chariots.

“However, in ancient Egyptian art the image of the pharaoh riding into battle on his chariot was a very popular device for proving to everyone that the pharaoh was the brave military leader of his people.”

**Source:** <http://www.ancientegyptonline.co.uk/chariots.html>

**Author:** Ancientegyptonline.co.uk

**Copyright:** 2010

**What I Want to Know**

1. Where did they get their supplies to build their ways of transportation?

Papyrus is made from the papyrus root which grows in freshwater marshes along the Nile River.

**Source:** http://www.touregypt.net/featurestories/papyrus.htm

**Author:** Jimmy Dunn

**Copyright:** 1996-2013

1. How long would it take to build the boats?

A thirty metre long transportation barge took seventeen days to build. It would be made out of papyrus or papyrus reeds.

**Source:** http://www.reshafim.org.il/ad/egypt/timelines/topics/navigation.htm

**Author:** Reshafim.org

**Copyright:** 2010

1. What were the reasons they had to use transportation?

Travelling on the Nile by boat or ferry was the preferred way to get around, certainly if distances were large or one had to transport goods, where walking was for not as long distances and for smaller loads. A day's march was between 20 and 40 kilometres

**Source:** http://www.reshafim.org.il/ad/egypt/trade/travel.htm

**Author:** Reshafim.org

**Copyright:** 2001

1. What were other ways of transportation?

The major means of getting about was by foot. They also used litters which were carrying chairs. Sometimes they were apparently adapted and strapped to the back of donkeys as a sort of primitive saddle. For their daily use even the pharaohs preferred the chariot.

**Source:** http://www.reshafim.org.il/ad/egypt/timelines/topics/means\_of\_transportation.htm

**Author:** Reshafim.org

**Copyright:** 2010

1. What animals were used for farming?

Domesticated animals like donkeys and mules were the most common for farming.

**Source:** http://www.eternalegypt.org/EternalEgyptWebsiteWeb/HomeServlet?ee\_website\_action\_key=action.display.topic.details&language\_id=1&trait\_item\_id=10000032

**Author:** Eternalegypt.org

**Copyright:** 2005

**What I Learned**

I learned that papyrus and papyrus reeds were used for different things. The papyrus reeds were used for the smaller boats where the papyrus was used for larger boats carrying bigger and heavier supplies. I also learned that if you weren’t a pharaoh you only got to use carts or go by foot. Only the pharaohs got to use chariots. The fifth thing that I learned is that camels were not introduced to Egypt until around 200 B.C. Many of the roads were a result of canal digging.