

A Kid's Day: Then and Now

Week 5 • Thursday • Comparing Your Life to an Egyptian Kid's

Reading Time

Let's follow Meri, a made-up boy living in ancient Egypt 4,000 years ago. Meri wakes at sunrise in his mud-brick house. Breakfast is bread and dates. Then it's chore time: he fetches water and feeds the goats. Most kids like Meri did not go to school — only a few boys trained to be scribes did.

In the afternoon, Meri swims in a safe spot in the Nile and plays ball with his friends. His sister Nefret helps their mother bake bread and weave cloth. At night, the family eats fish and vegetables together and tells stories under the stars.

Your day is different: you go to school, read books, and maybe watch shows. But some things match: chores, playing with friends, family dinners, and bedtime stories. Kids have been kids for thousands of years!

Reading Questions

1. What chores did Meri do?

2. Who got to go to school in ancient Egypt?

3. Name two things about Meri's day that are like YOUR day.

My Day vs. Meri's Day

Fill in the table. Compare your day to an Egyptian kid's day.

Part of the day	Me today / Meri then
Breakfast: Meri ate bread and dates. I eat...	
Chores: Meri fetched water. My chore is...	
Play: Meri played ball and swam. I play...	
Learning: Meri mostly worked. I learn by...	

True or False

Write T for true or F for false in each circle.

- ☐ Most Egyptian kids went to school every day.
- ☐ Egyptian kids did chores like fetching water.
- ☐ Egyptian families ate dinner together.
- ☐ Egyptian kids played ball games with friends.
- ☐ Kids today and kids in Egypt have NOTHING in common.

Show What You Think

1. Would you like to live one day as an Egyptian kid? What would be fun? What would be hard?

2. What is one thing from YOUR life you wish you could show Meri?

Draw It!

Draw two pictures: your day (left) and an Egyptian kid's day (right).

Two empty dashed boxes for drawing, one on the left and one on the right, separated by a vertical dashed line.

Review

I learned...	Circle one
What an Egyptian kid's day was like	YES / NOT YET
What is the same and different about my day	YES / NOT YET