



INTRODUCTION

Hello. We're Harry and Jess. We're the Bible Detectives and we're on a special case. We're on an investigation through the second book of the Bible - Exodus - and we've got Click, our computer mouse to help. Before we start, Click has downloaded data to get us started.

The Bible

This is God's book. He used people to do physical writing. Prophets, men of God, the disciples - all wrote down or told other people what God said to them. There are two sections. The Old Testament happened before Jesus was born and the New Testament is about Jesus life, death, resurrection and what his followers did after he went back to heaven.

More Data

The Old and New Testaments are divided into different sections. The Old Testament is the first section of the Bible and is made up of 39 separate books. The New Testament is made up of 27 books. Each book is divided into smaller sections called chapters. Each chapter is divided into smaller parts called verses.

Exodus

The book of Genesis finishes with Jacob's family moving to the land of Egypt. But the opening scene of Exodus takes place 350 years later and things have changed for Jacob's family - and not for the better. Now we find that hundreds of thousands of Jacob's ancestors are working as slaves for the Egyptian task masters. They are working on huge construction projects. It is back breaking work. The book of Exodus then is the story of these people and their God and how he delivers them from slavery. But that is only part of the story. There is a long journey and many dangers along the way for the Hebrew people to face but most importantly they have a lot to learn about the God who has chosen them and who is leading them to a new land. They had lots to learn - and so do we!

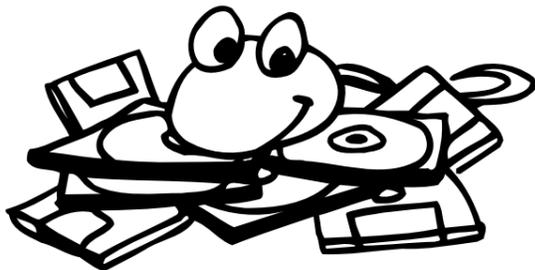
Old Testament

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi.

New Testament:

Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews, James, 1 & 2 Peter, 1,2 & 3 John, Jude, Revelation.

That's great, Click. Thanks for showing us that. So, come on everyone - pick up a pencil, and let's go.



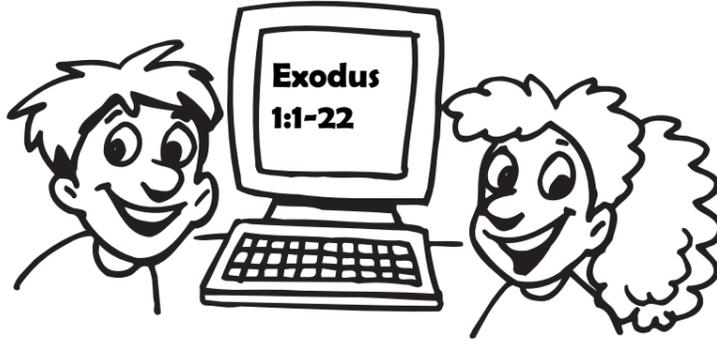
Study One: The Israelites in Egypt

It's fun being a Bible detective. There are so many new things to discover about God and his plan for people throughout history. Are you ready to check out the book of Exodus with us? Then, let's go!

Click has been helping us to recall what happened at the very end of the book of Genesis. We learned about a Hebrew called Joseph, who lived in the land of Canaan. He had eleven brothers and they hated him because he was their father Jacob's favourite son. So, who were the brothers? Click has printed out a key to help us work it out.

Click has printed out a key to help us work it out.

a = 1, b = 2, c = 3 etc



start

18, 14, 5, 21, 2

19, 14, 9, 13, 5

12, 5, 22

9, 18, 19, 1, 8, 3

4, 14, 1, 10, 21

18, 1, 16, 8, 20

5, 19, 8

14, 26, 5, 2, 12, 21

7, 4, 1

14, 9, 5, 14, 1, 10

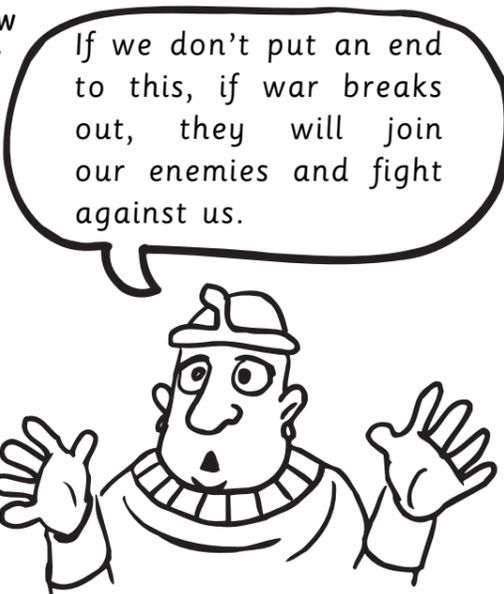
Joseph's brothers sold him into slavery in Egypt, but after a while, God brought him to Pharaoh's notice. Pharaoh was the king of that land and he had had a dream which had really troubled him. Only Joseph could tell him the meaning of it - that there were going to be seven years of bumper harvests, followed by seven years of famine. Pharaoh was so impressed with Joseph that he made him the next most important person in Egypt after himself. We discovered that God had been in control all along, and in the end, he made it possible for Joseph to be reunited with his brothers and his father.

Joseph forgave his brothers. He knew that God had allowed everything to happen so that his family could be saved from starvation when the famine came. Joseph moved his whole family to the land of Egypt - and now the book of Exodus begins. Click's printed us out a puzzle on the next page. Can you fill in the gaps to update us on the situation in Egypt?

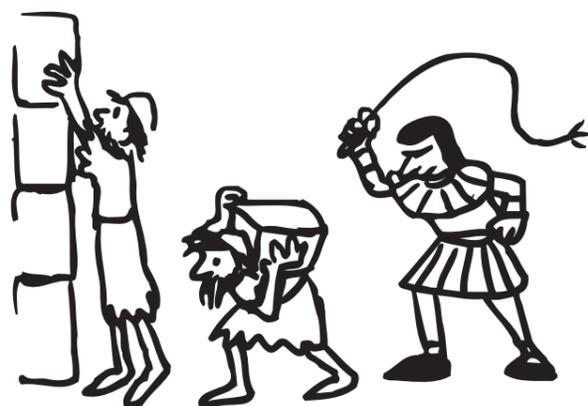
Joseph and his brothers . But their descendants had many 
 and . They multiplied quickly and soon filled the .
 died  grandchildren  land  children

A new king came to the throne of Egypt. He didn't know anything about Joseph or what he had done. He simply took note of all the Israelites living in the land and felt threatened.

So the Egyptians made the Israelites their slaves and treated them very harshly. They forced them to build two cities as supply centres for the king. Let's investigate. Take the first letter of each picture to find out what the cities were called.

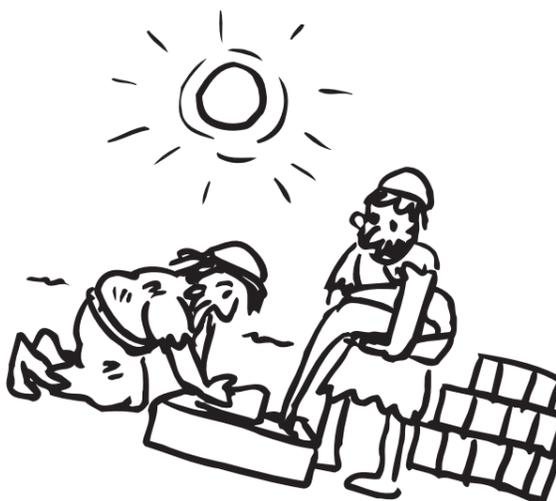


- 1      
 and
- 2       



It's a strange thing, but our research shows that the worse the Egyptians treated the Israelites, the more they grew in number. This was far too threatening, and further action had to be taken. Click has discovered some pictures to show us what the Egyptians did.

The Egyptians were so alarmed, they decided to make life even more unbearable for the slaves.



They were ruthless, forcing the Israelites to make bricks and mortar and to work long hours in the fields.



Then Pharaoh gave an order so terrible, it must have sent shock waves through the land. Work out what it was that Pharaoh said by breaking the code below. Each circle stands for a particular letter as shown.

Calling the Hebrew midwives to him, he demanded:

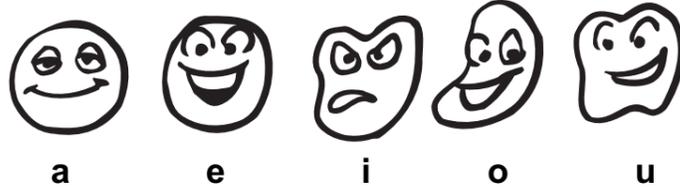
When you help the Hebrew women to give birth,



A B E H I K L N O R S T Y



It was a shocking order, but did the midwives obey the king? Click has just printed out some more information, but some of the letters are missing. Can you help us to make sense of it by filling in the blanks?



a e i o u

B _ t b _ c _ _ s _ th _ y f _ _ r _ d G _ d

th _ y d _ s _ b _ y _ d th _ k _ ng _ nd

l _ t th _ b _ ys l _ v _ .

