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| **HA Resource Hub Submission Form** |
| **Resource Title: Life in Ancient Egypt** | **Age Range: Key Stage 2** |
| **Author name and email contact:**Alf WilkinsonSue.alf@btopenworld.com  | **Resource Details: (e.g. how many documents does it consist of? In which order?)** one |
| **Necessary prior learning to complete this:**Some knowledge of everyday life and farming in Ancient Egypt | **What does it lead to next?** Further reading about Ancient Egypt – possibly the lives of other people [not farmers] such as craftsmen, scribes or soldiers.You could write your own story set in Ancient Egypt – but make sure it is historically accurate. |
| **Explanation: How should this resource be used?** Read the book – it is short and very interesting.Discuss the three bullet points. The first one compares Qen’s life with their own, allowing discussion of similarity and difference. The second one asks the children to compare Qen’s life with that of farmers in other topics or periods they have studied; helping them to build up a ‘Big Picture’ history of their own. And the third asks them to be critical of the story, comparing it with what they already know about Ancient Egypt and reaching a conclusion about the reliability/historical accuracy of the story. This might entail the need for more research into life in Ancient Egypt. |

**Life in Ancient Egypt**

‘Ma’at’s Feather’ by Juliet Desailly is a story set in Ancient Egypt. You can usually pick up second-hand copies online.



# Qen is a boy who lives in ancient Egypt. His family are farmers and he is happy helping on the farm. When the River Nile floods and they can’t work in the fields the men help building a new temple and Qen longs to be big enough to help. But Qen’s life changes when his dad has an accident whilst building a pyramid when their farmland is flooded by the River Nile.

Here are some things to think about after you have read the story:

1. Similarity and Difference.

How similar is Qen’s everyday life to your own? What do each of you do all day? What do you eat? Drink? Where do you sleep? Who would you rather be, yourself or Qen? Why?

How similar is Qen’s life to other people you have studied in Ancient Egypt? Perhaps you have studied the life of the Pharaoh, or scribes, or soldiers.

1. Change over time.

You might already have studied the Stone Age or the Bronze Age, Romans, Anglo-Saxons or Vikings. Qen is a farmer. How has farming changed from Ancient Egyptian times? Think about other topics you have studied. Do they grow the same crops? Do they use the same tools? Do they keep the same animals? If you know a farm today, or there is one near you, compare it with other topics you have studied. Make a list of the changes you can discover.

1. Sense of Period. What was it really like for ordinary people living in Ancient Egypt?

How realistic do you think the story of Ma’at’s Feather is? Does it help you get a feel for what it was really like to live in Ancient Egypt? Do you think Juliet Desailly has done her research? If you were writing this book, is there anything you would change? Why?

*Alf Wilkinson, March 2020*