

Gods, Goddesses and Religion

The ancient Egyptians had many gods and goddesses. At one point they worshipped 2,000 deities, though at another time they only worshipped one.

Here's a list of some of the more well-known Egyptian gods and goddesses.

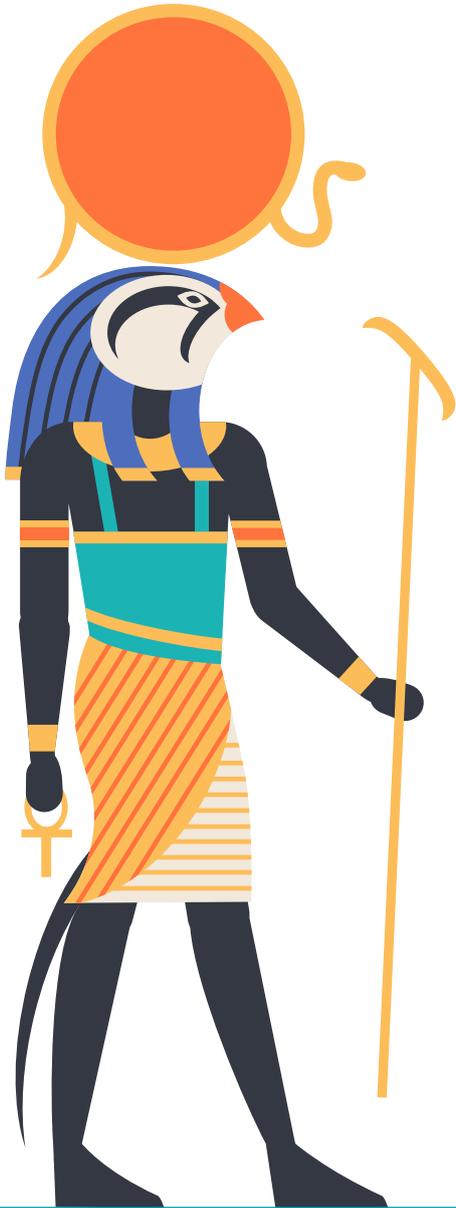


Name	God / Goddess of...	Description
Anubis	Embalming and the dead. Guardian of the City of the Dead	Head of a jackal
Horus	God of the sky. Protector of the Egyptian peoples. The pharaoh is believed to be the 'living Horus'	Head of a hawk
Ra	God of the sun	Head of a hawk with a sun disk headdress
Isis	Believed to be the mother of Horus and a protective goddess	Woman with a headdress in the shape of a throne
Osiris	God of the dead and ruler of the underworld	Mummified man wearing a headdress with feathers
Bes	Dwarf with features of both a man and lion, or a dwarf wearing a lion skin	Protector of families
Bastet	A protective goddess. Believed to be a daughter of Ra	Head of a cat
Tefnut	Goddess of moisture (i.e. air, dew, rain)	Head of a lioness
Sobek	God of the Nile and protector of the pharaoh	Head of a crocodile
Amun	Creator god and 'King of the gods'	Man wearing an ostrich plumed hat



A teaching activity created for
Petrie Museum of Egyptian and
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As a Class discuss:



Why would they have more than one god?

Which gods do you think would have been more popular?

If the Egyptians once worshipped over 2,000 deities, what is a deity?

Deity is another term for god or goddess. Usually they are seen as supernatural beings and have power over some aspect of the world or nature.

In today's world, what types of deities would be the most important to the environment, culture, and society?

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