

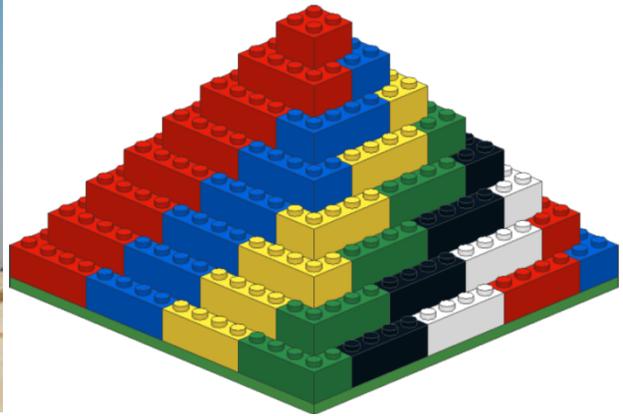
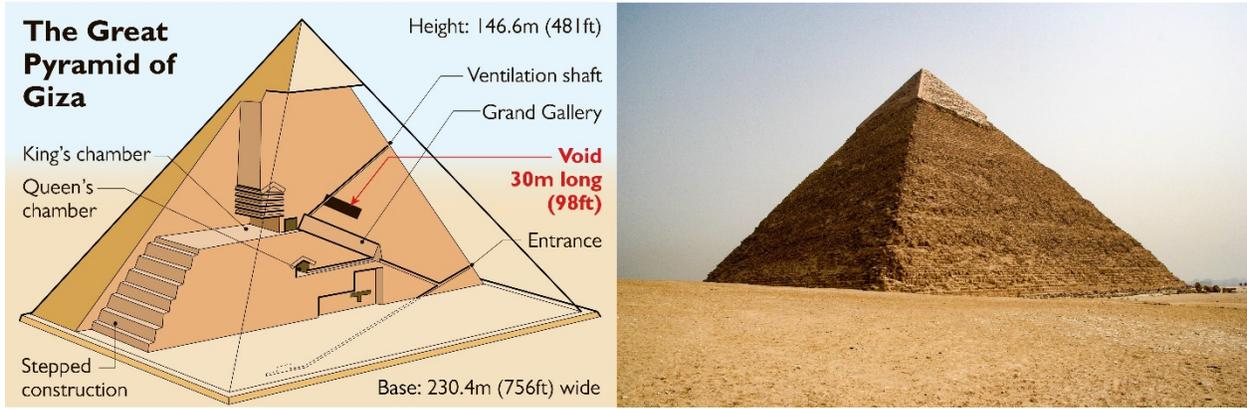
Hi everyone!

We hope you have been enjoying learning and building with us over the past few weeks! This week, we'll be building and learning about some of the most amazing structures people ever created, pyramids!

You may have seen or heard about pyramids before, but here are some facts you may have not heard about that will tell you a little more about pyramids.

- Most Ancient Egyptian pyramids were built as tombs for Pharaohs (Egyptian Kings) and their families when they died. These ancient kings wanted to have a grand structure with all of their favorite things included because they believed they would need them in the afterlife.
- Pyramids took a long time to build! The Great Pyramid of Giza is said to have taken 20 years to build!
- There are many theories about why the pyramid shape was chosen, some say there was a religious reason while others say that the shape was chosen for its strength. When you build your LEGO pyramid does it seem like it is a very strong shape compared to just a rectangular tower?
- Ancient Egyptian pyramids are the most well-known pyramid structures, but did you know that some pyramids were built in places such as Mexico, India, and Greece?
- Over 130 pyramids have been discovered in Egypt.
- The first Egyptian pyramid is believed to be the Pyramid of Djoser, it was built in Saqqara around 4650 years ago (2640 BC) and it looks most like today's LEGO model.
- The Great Pyramid of Giza is the oldest and largest of three pyramids in the Giza Necropolis. Also known as the Pyramid of Khufu, it is the oldest of the Ancient Wonders of the World and the last one still largely intact.
- For over 3800 years, the Great Pyramid of Giza was the tallest man-made structure in the world until 1221 when the Old St. Paul's Cathedral was completed.
- Although it has lost around 10 meters (33 feet) in height, it still stands around 146 meters (480 feet) above the ground.
- Nearly all Egyptian Pyramids are located on the west bank of the Nile.
- Egyptian Pyramids often contain multiple chambers and passages.
- Bodies placed in the tombs were preserved by mummification.
- Egyptians buried their dead with burial goods that ranged from everyday items they believed would be useful in the afterlife to more expensive items such as jewelry.
- Tomb robbers targeted many of the royal tombs and most were eventually robbed.
- One tomb that was left largely intact was that of Tutankhamun in the Valley of the Kings. Rediscovered in 1922 by Howard Carter, this famous tomb is best known for the solid gold funerary mask of Tutankhamun.

- Tutankhamun was a pharaoh (like a king in ancient Egypt) from 1332 BC to 1323 BC.



Do you want to learn more about the pyramids and ancient Egypt? Here's a brief video that will tell you more! **(Parents we recommend reviewing this video before your child):**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GtJW-8ZvNE8>