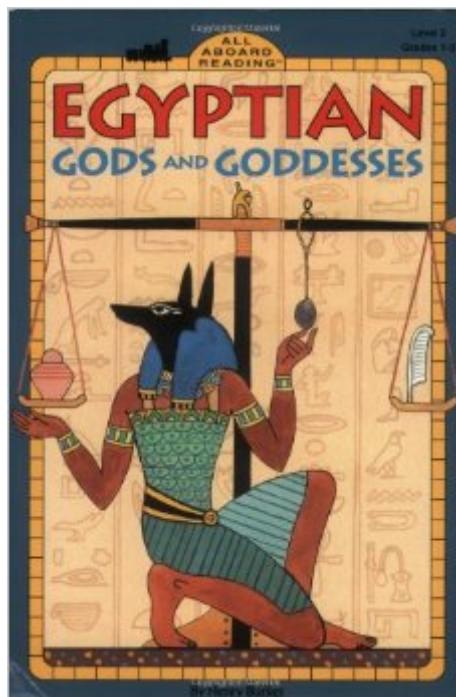


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# Egyptian Gods And Goddesses (Penguin Young Readers, Level 4)



## **Synopsis**

For the budding historian, this Level 4 reader gives a comprehensive introduction to Egyptian gods and goddesses, including Horus, Re, and Anubis. As an added bonus, there is tons of neat information about pyramids, mummies, and the afterlife!

## **Book Information**

Series: Penguin Young Readers, Level 4

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: Penguin Young Readers; 37778th edition (October 25, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0448420295

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Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (15 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #161,842 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #52 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Religious #65 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Ancient Civilizations #99 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Other Religious Fiction

Age Range: 8 - 9 years

Grade Level: 3 - 4

## **Customer Reviews**

So many beginning readers are fiction, so it is nice to run across something in the non-fiction genre. This particular book's focus is death and the afterlife in ancient Egypt. It begins with a discussion of the more familiar gods -- Osiris, Isis and Anubis -- what they looked like and what attributes they had. It then goes on to describe the dangers to the soul that were thought to exist as it transitioned from life to death. Including the final judgement at the end. Other points of interest are the burial practices. The book actually goes into a considerable detail about how mummies were made. Very cool, but not gross. There is also a discussion of pyramids including some of the typical contents that might be found inside: items such as glassware, chairs, and musical instruments. Examples of cuneiform are shown. The book finishes by noting that modern Egyptians are mostly Muslim and that they pray to one god - Allah. The publisher lists this book as a Level Two and suggests it as a practice reader for those in first, second, and third grades. However, the Accelerated Reading

designation for this book is 3.2 -- which means that that group feels that the book is best suited for new Third Graders.[The AR designation is a general "guide" that rates books on a relative scale of difficulty. Children can certainly read at levels above or below their group range, so that this number should only be used as a aid to help choose books that are appropriate and not frustrating.] You find vocabulary words such as: festival, people, prayed, thousand, special, powers, brought, warmth, guarded, warriors, protected, etc. Four Stars. Okay Read-aloud. In general, I think this book is a nice introduction to a historical period most young children wouldn't otherwise be exposed to for years. Content is fascinating and even I learned something. Annoyingly there is no pronunciation guide. Most adults may know the names, but children probably won't.

I bought this book for my daughter who is studying Ancient Egypt, and is fascinated with their mythology. Unfortunately, this book is far too simplistic for a "Level 4" reader, and talks more about burial traditions than about the stories of their gods. There were over 1,000 Egyptian gods ... this book names 8, and goes into minimal (if any) detail about them. At the end, the book actually takes time to reassure us that modern Egyptians don't actually worship these gods anymore and that now most Egyptians are Muslims who worship Allah. I have no idea why that was necessary. My daughter's only positive comment was that the art work was interesting.

I'm a Devotee of Susan Wise Bauer and my kindergartner has a huge thirst for history due in no small part to Bauer's books: The Well Trained Mind, and The Story Of The World. My 6 year old has been on fire for Egyptology for about two years now. She asked specifically for more books about Egypt and I was pleased to find this as she is able to read it herself. This is the sort of book that will lead your child to ask many questions, but that means your kid is thinking! Be bold! Pass up the potato chip brain food and introduce your small children to history and science and art and math. You will be amazed and delighted by the pleasure they find in it when you make it regularly available to them.

My young daughter has gotten into mythology and ancient religion and this is one of the few books I've found geared towards the young reader. It contains a lot of good beginner information about the Gods/Goddesses of Egypt. I highly recommend this book for the Level 2 reader.

Ok, if you are teaching little kids about Ancient Egypt, you must have this book. I was homeschooled my older children but looking for something that my kindergartner and first grader

could read too, and this book was perfect. It is easy enough for your first/second grader to read, it is only \$3.99, and it is a great introduction to Egyptian religion without being too weird. I confess I am super picky and conservative about my resource choices... I don't want my kids freaked out by pictures of dead Tut or lured into the "mummy's curse" type garbage. I was surprised that the book, despite the title, was not an introduction to the whole Egyptian pantheon. If you want that, you need another book. Rather, it walks the reader through the story or process of the dead person and their soul. The surprisingly simple text was helpful even for me, to think through the connections to my own faith. I was able to interpret the ancient practices in a more helpful light than usual. I think the main strength of the book is its information, which is non-fiction but not dry, even for a little kid. It doesn't regurgitate the common facts about how to make a mummy, but rather explores the religious reasons underneath such practices. The illustrations are good and the author presents the polytheism without making it seem overly intriguing, spooky, or confusing... high praise for a little kids' book on Egypt. After going through a mini-library on the subject of ancient Egypt, I keep coming back to this one because it is so level-headed. Even my older readers benefited from "the basics" given here.

I'll admit that I was looking into books for research on Egyptian History and Mythology, with a limited budget. That's how this made its way into an order and to my house. I'm giving it four stars, because it a great book, short book for young children. It will help kids get into historical and mythological events and perhaps develop an interest in our past. For older readers, I would recommend this no more than as a simple overview of information that just brushes the basics. It's a nice, simple read for those days when you feel the need to just relax and read something that doesn't strain you. I'd also recommend it to parents of younger children. With its pictures and simple writing, it's a great way to spend some time with your kids - a story before bed or just for fun. Overall, it's a decent book if used right, but not something I'd recommend for hardcore researchers. Because of that, I give it 4/5 stars.

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