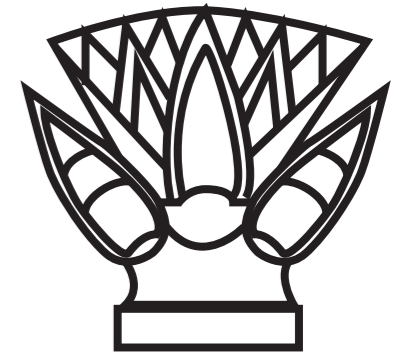


# Ancient Egyptian Life

## Wonders of Egypt: The Great Sphinx



The great riddle of the Sphinx of Giza is who built it. Egyptologists debate who carved and created the great Sphinx. Unlike most temples, obelisks and great monuments of ancient Egypt, the Sphinx does not have the name of its builder on it. The most logical answer is that it was built by Pharaoh Khafra who also built a temple and pyramid closest to the Sphinx. Even in ancient times the Sphinx had been buried up to its neck in sand for a few thousand years, until Thutmose IV cleared away the sand. Over three thousand years the Sphinx was buried by sand again and by the late 1880s it was again buried up to its neck. It has now been completely uncovered for restoration.

The Sphinx has the body of a lion and the face of a man. Even today there is a theory that the Sphinx was built before the Great Pyramids of Giza. It is also theorized that the Sphinx had the face of a lion, but a pharaoh may have changed it to his likeness to show his power over Egypt.

What do you think?

**Create your own story of how the Sphinx came to be.  
Why was it built? What does it represent?**

