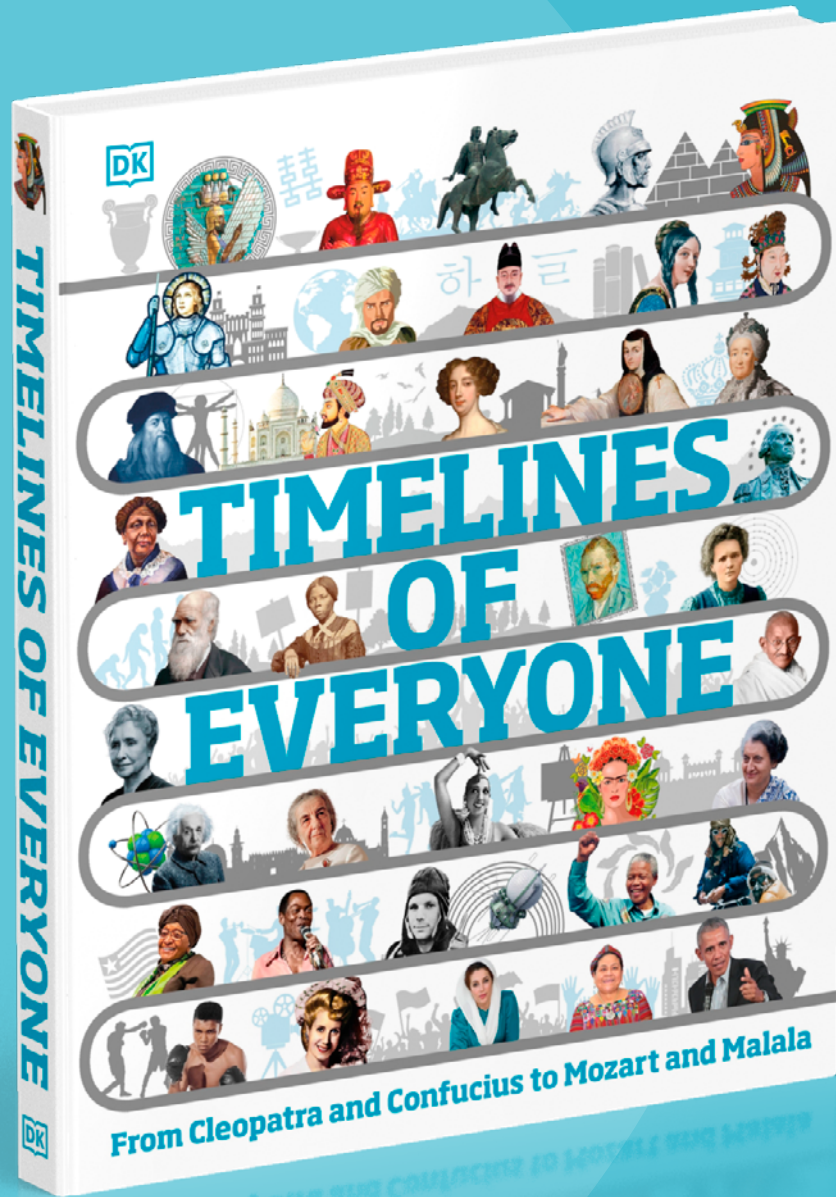


EXTRACT
& ACTIVITIES



TIMELINES OF EVERYONE

Incredible Lives pack



Cleopatra

The life of Cleopatra (69–30 BCE) was intertwined with major political upheaval within Rome. Although Egypt was going through turbulent times, Cleopatra managed to rule the kingdom as pharaoh for almost 30 years. She strengthened her power by forming military alliances with generals and politicians in Rome, including Julius Caesar and Marcus Antonius.



Back on top
Using her political skills, Cleopatra manages to persuade Caesar to her side. She is eventually reinstated as leader, and Ptolemy will soon die. Cleopatra rules alone again.

Caesar assassinated
Caesar appoints himself dictator for life, but his enemies in Rome conspire against him. While Cleopatra is in Rome, a group of rival Roman politicians stab Caesar to death. Cleopatra's main ally is gone and she flees back to Egypt, her rule in doubt.

Ousted from power
Ptolemy XIII manages to oust Cleopatra from the throne. In joining a power struggle with generals complete to be powerful leaders of the Roman Republic, Julius Caesar and Pompey become enemies. Pompey eventually wins, and becomes dictator of Rome.

Egyptian queen
Cleopatra's father passes away. In his will, he requests that Cleopatra and her younger brother, Ptolemy XIII, co-rule Egypt. Cleopatra is 18 years old, and as her brother is still a child, she, in effect, rules alone as pharaoh.

Birth
Cleopatra is born in the Egyptian city of Alexandria, the daughter of Ptolemy XIII and Cleopatra. Around this time, important figures begin to play an important role in Egyptian politics.

Female pharaohs

Although most pharaohs were men, hundreds of years before Cleopatra women achieved positions of great power in ancient Egypt.

Sobekneferu (reigned 1806–c.1802 BCE)

The first woman known to have become pharaoh was Sobekneferu, though some scholars believe as many as five women assumed the role before her. She succeeded her father, Amenemhet III, who ruled over a golden age for Egypt's Middle Kingdom, and continued his peaceful reign.



Hatshepsut (c.1507–1458 BCE)

Egyptian architecture flourished during Hatshepsut's reign. She was regent for her stepson, Thutmose III, but ended up ruling for more than 20 years. She established important trade links, boosted the economy, and built major monuments. Many likenesses of her from the time show her in male regalia, even wearing a fake beard, to fit in.



Nefertiti (c.1370–c.1330 BCE)

Queen Nefertiti ruled Egypt alongside her husband, Akhenaten. Their reign was a period of great wealth, but also major upheaval: they banned traditional Egyptian gods and set up a cult around the sun-god, Aten. Some scholars believe Nefertiti ruled alone for a while after her husband's death.



Marcus Antonius
Caesar's nephew Octavian and Caesar's close friend Marcus Antonius join forces to defeat Caesar's rivals at the Battle of Philippi in Greece. Cleopatra and Antonius fall in love, and have three children.



Broken alliance
Antonius and Octavian soon fall apart. Octavian accuses Antonius of being a traitor. Cleopatra's self-interest means that she wants to join Rome herself. War is looming.

Defeat at Actium
When Octavian declares war, Cleopatra uses her considerable wealth to support Marcus Antonius, but in the end, she slips away from the Battle of Actium, leaving Octavian totally triumphant. Cleopatra and Antonius flee to Egypt.

Death of Marcus Antonius
Octavian pursues Marcus Antonius and Cleopatra to Egypt. Severely outnumbered, Marcus Antonius's soldiers are hopeless; he stabs himself and dies.

Death of Cleopatra
Rather than allow her self to be taken prisoner, Cleopatra commits suicide. Some claim she did this by drinking a poisonous snake bite. Her sons and daughter are killed. Her eldest son, Caesarion, is murdered and Egypt becomes a Roman province. The tale of the pharaohs is over.



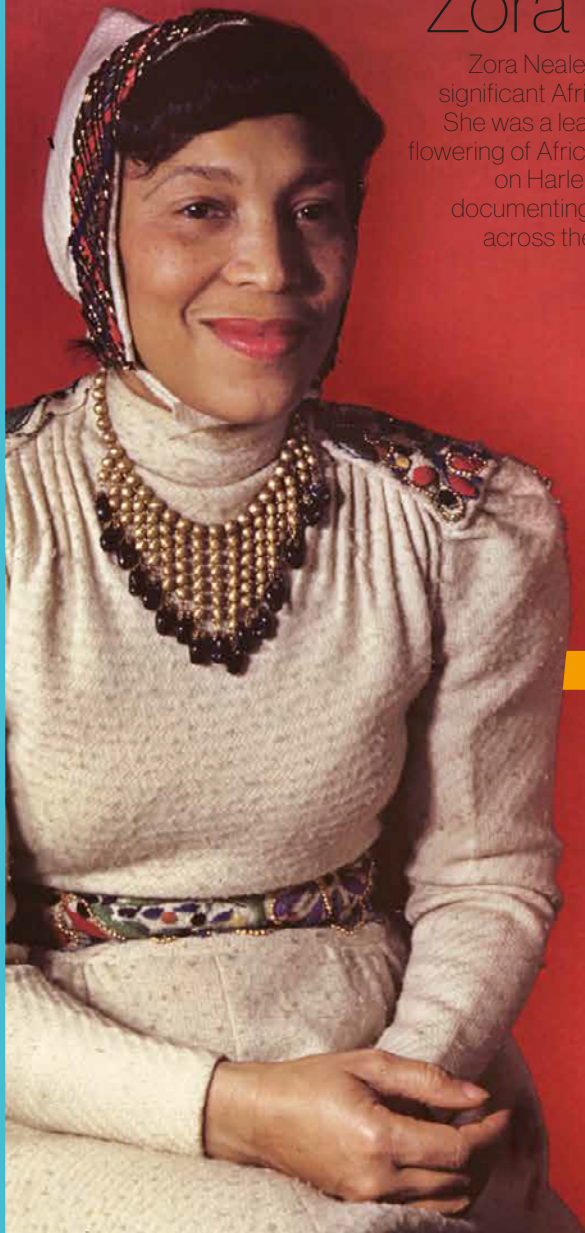
Cleopatra was not the first female pharaoh but certainly the most famous! What moments in your life have been influenced by the people around you? Suitable for 9-12 years

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Zora Neale Hurston

Zora Neale Hurston (1891–1960) was one of the most significant African-American writers of the 20th century. She was a leading figure in the Harlem Renaissance – a flowering of African-American culture in the 1920s focused on Harlem, New York City. Hurston travelled widely, documenting the stories and traditions of black people across the US, the Caribbean, and Central America.



American writers

The 20th century was a vibrant period for American literature. Many authors wrote about the difficulties of living in modern American society.

Alain LeRoy Locke (1886–1954)

The gifted scholar and teacher Alain LeRoy Locke was a major figure in the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s. He brought together African-American writers, musicians, and artists, and encouraged them to look to African culture for inspiration.



Langston Hughes (1902–1967)

A talented poet, playwright, and novelist, Langston Hughes was a key voice in the Harlem Renaissance. His works celebrated African-American culture, spirituality, and humour, and addressed issues such as racism and poverty. Hughes loved the African-American musical genre jazz, and often used jazz rhythms in his poetry.



Flannery O'Connor (1925–1964)

Considered one of the greatest 20th-century American writers of short stories, Flannery O'Connor set her works in the rural southern states of the US. Her stories often focus around the relationship between individuals and God.



Tragedy strikes

Zora is just 13 when her mother dies. Her father remarries and sends Zora away to boarding school. In time, he stops paying the school fees, and Zora is forced to leave. At the age of 16, she joins a theatre company as a maid, and tours with them across the US.

University studies

Zora continues her studies at Howard University, Washington, D.C. She co-establishes *The Hilltop*, a student newspaper. She also has her first short story, 'John Redding Goes to Sea', published in a literary magazine.

Southern travels

Zora travels through the southern US states recording African-American folk tales. She meets former enslaved person Cudjoe Kazoola Lewis, the last survivor of the final slave ship to cross from Africa to the US. She writes a book based on their conversations.

Travels to the Caribbean

Zora is given an award to research the rituals of voodoo (a West African religion) in Haiti, and *obeah* (spiritual healing) in Jamaica. She documents her findings in the book *Tell My Horse*.

Autobiography

Zora's autobiography, *Dust Tracks on a Road*, is published. She gains praise for the quality of her writing. She wins the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award for the book's contribution to the understanding of race relations.

Death

When Zora dies, she is buried in an unmarked grave because there is no money for a headstone. Much later, in 1973, the novelist Alice Walker locates Zora's grave and adds a headstone with the words 'Zora Neale Hurston: A Genius of the South'.

1891...

1904...

1917

1921...

1925...

1927...

1932...

1936...

1937

1942

1950s

1960

Early life

Zora is born in Notasulga, Alabama, but moves with the rest of her family to Eatonville, Florida, at the age of three.

Bending the truth

At the age of 26, Zora goes back to high school in Baltimore, Maryland. To gain admission, she fakes her age, pretending to be 10 years younger than she is. She keeps to this deception for the rest of her life.

Harlem Renaissance

Zora earns a scholarship to study at Barnard College, New York City. She moves to Harlem, a vibrant, mainly African-American neighbourhood which is the centre of an explosion of art and ideas called the Harlem Renaissance. She befriends the poet Langston Hughes and other rising stars. They launch a magazine called *Fire!!* in 1926.

Writing

Zora adapts her folk tale research into a play, *The Great Day*, which features African song and dance. Two years later, her first novel, *Jonah's Gourd Vine*, is published. Her work is well received, but does not give her mainstream success.



Literary classic

Her second novel, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, is published. It becomes her most influential book, and many people today see it as a classic of the Harlem Renaissance.

Financial struggles

Zora finds it difficult to get her work published. She takes a job as a substitute teacher in a school, and writes occasional articles for newspapers. She is often underpaid because of her race and gender, and struggles with debt and poverty.

"Mama [told us] to 'jump at de sun'. We might not land on the sun, but at least we would get off the ground".

Zora Neale Hurston, *Dust Tracks on a Road* (1942)



Zora Neale Hurston was one of the most important writers of her time. What things have you created that you are proud of in your life?

Suitable for 9-12 years

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Dwayne Johnson

American Dwayne Johnson (b.1972), first won fame as a professional wrestler, known as "The Rock" – a brash and entertaining character armed with many catchphrases. He later became a movie actor and a producer, and is now one of the highest-earning stars in US film history.



Career changes
 Following up a successful career in one field with one in another field is very difficult, but these people have made it look easy.

Johnny Weissmuller (1904-1984)
 American swimmer
 Weissmuller set more than 50 world records and won 5 Olympic gold medals before going on to star in 12 *Tarzan* movies.
 He was awarded a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 1960, in recognition of his acting talents.

Arnold Schwarzenegger (b.1947)
 An Austrian-American, Schwarzenegger moved from an early career as a bodybuilder to become a huge Hollywood star. He's best known for his roles in the films *Conan the Barbarian* and *The Terminator*. He took time out from acting to become Governor of California (2003-2011).

Ronda Rousey (b.1987)
 American Ronda Rousey won Olympic bronze in judo in 2008, and then moved into mixed martial arts (MMA). After that, she became an actor and, later, a professional wrestler.

"In 1995, I had seven bucks in my pocket. I knew two things: I'm broke as hell and one day I won't be".
 Dwayne Johnson, *Twitter* post (17 December 2011)



Dwayne Johnson has been a wrestler, movie star, and producer! What passions do you have? What excites and inspires you?

Suitable for 9-12 years

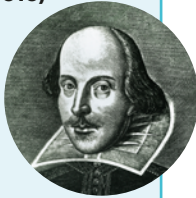
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Timeline of you!

After reading the previous pages, think about what events have been important in your life. When you're ready, use the space on this page to have a go at drawing and creating your very own timeline of your life so far! For extra fun, why not imagine what your future will look like too? If you are stuck for ideas, have a read about some life events of inspirational people below.

William Shakespeare (1564 - 1616)

Generally considered to be the greatest writer in the English language, William Shakespeare wrote incredible plays and famous works of poetry throughout his lifetime!



Ching Shih (c.1775–1844)

One of the most feared pirate lords in history! Ching Shih led her fierce band of outlaws against the Chinese navy in many battles she also fought in.



Alan Turing (1912–1954)

Though unrecognized during his lifetime, Alan Turing is now famous for being a mathematical genius. His work was crucial to the development of modern computing, artificial intelligence (AI), and to the Allied victory over Nazi Germany in World War II.

Indira Gandhi (1917–1984)

From her childhood, and through Indian independence, Indira Gandhi's life was dominated by politics. She served three terms as prime minister and became one of the world's most powerful women.



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