

National Geographic Kids Readers: Cleopatra

Notes for parents: reading this book with your child

- Before your child shares this book with you, look at the front cover and talk about the picture of Cleopatra. Ask your child who they think she was and why she is famous.
- Look at the contents list together. Help your child to deduce that Cleopatra was a queen in Egypt, and that there were some problems in her reign.
- Here are some ways you can help your child as they learn to read more complex information books:
 - Look at the glossary together and read the words and explanations.
 - Relate some of the glossary words to children's wider experiences, e.g. *adviser, co-ruler, declare, defeat, empire, legend, loyal, rumour, scholar, scroll, senate*.
 - Help your child to read challenging names of people and places: *Plutarch, historian, Mediterranean, Alexandria, Ptolemy, Caesar, Isis, Octavian, Parthia*.
 - Look closely at the images of Cleopatra in the paintings and other artefacts. Discuss what she looked like and what she wore.
 - Ask your child simple questions as you read together. Encourage them to raise questions for you to answer too.
 - Talk about the deaths of Antony and Cleopatra and help your child to understand the steps that led up to their deaths. Discuss the definition of 'legend'.
- Enjoy taking the quiz with your child and looking for the answers. Talk about what made Cleopatra a remarkable ruler, and why she is still famous today.

Pronunciation guide: Plutarch (plooo-tark), Ptolemy (Tol-um-ee), Caesar (See-zer), Isis (lgh-sis), Octavian (Oc-tay-vee-un), Parthia (Par-thee-uh)