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Researching the Historical Representations of Ancient Egypt in Trade Books

[Lieren Schuette](#), *Eastern Illinois University*

Graduate Program

Elementary Education

Degree Name

Master of Science in Education (MSEd)

Semester of Degree Completion

2015

Thesis Director

John H. Bickford III

Abstract

State and national education initiatives require that historical information be introduced in the classroom through the utilization of multiple diverse texts. The role of non-fiction in the English/language arts classroom, as well as informational texts in the history/social studies classroom, increased considerably. The use of trade books allows teachers to connect the two curricula, while also meeting the standards. Primary sources can assist in filling the informational gap left by trade books and textbooks, which allow students to gain a more balanced view of historical events. Teachers, however, are not given direction as to which specific curricular materials are most appropriate. My research empirically evaluated how ancient Egypt is represented in trade books, a curricular topic that appears in world history. I reported misrepresentations that were found to be present within the data pool. My findings can direct classroom teachers in selecting appropriate literature about ancient Egypt.

Recommended Citation

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Ancient Egyptian trade consisted of the gradual creation of land and sea trade routes connecting the ancient Egyptian civilization with the ancient India, Fertile Crescent, Arabia and Sub-Saharan Africa. Epipaleolithic Natufians carried parthenocarpic figs from Africa to the southeastern corner of the Fertile Crescent, c. 10,000 BCE. Later migrations out of the Fertile Crescent would carry early agricultural practices to neighboring regions—westward to Europe and North Africa, northward to Crimea, and The Oxford History of Ancient Egypt by I Shaw (Oxford University Press, 2000). Tales from Ancient Egypt by JA Tyldesley (Rutherford Press, 2004). Egypt's Golden Empire: The Age of the New Kingdom by JA Tyldesley (Headline, 2001). Top. About the author. Author and broadcaster Joyce Tyldesley teaches Egyptology at Manchester University, and is Honorary Research Fellow at the School of Archaeology, Classics and Egyptology, Liverpool University. She is author of Tales from Ancient Egypt (Rutherford Press, 2004) and Egypt: How a Lost Civilization was Rediscovered (BBC Publications, 2005), writ