Grade 5 Social Studies
CHAPTER 2: NUBIA
Glossary of Important Terms:

NAME: _____

1. **Cataract:** a shallow, rocky area in a river where the water moves very quickly (rapids).

2. **Climate:** the weather conditions prevailing in an area in general or over a long period.

3. **Delta:** a piece of earth formed by the sand and soil that collects at the mouth of a river.

4. **Desertification:** when fertile land becomes a desert.

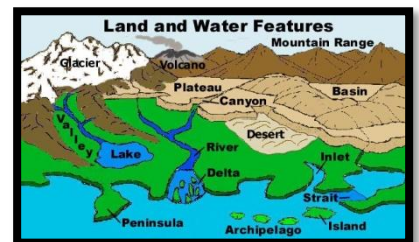5. **Domesticated:** a wild animal that has been tamed to become a farm animal or pet.

6. **Fertile:** earth (soil) that is rich in nutrients and capable of growing healthy vegetation (crops).

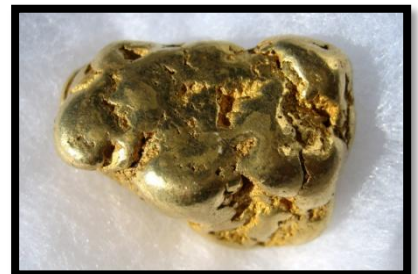7. **Fertilizer:** a substance added to soil to make it more fertile.

8. **Geographic Features:** physical characteristics of Earth; landforms (eg. mountains, islands, plains, islands), and waterforms (eg. lakes, rivers, bays, oceans)

9. **Irrigate:** to water land or crops using a system of pipes, hoses or channels.

10. **Mineral:** a naturally occurring substance that is neither plant nor animal. Eg. gold, silver, diamonds, iron ore).

11. **Mouth** (of a river): Where a river empties into a sea or lake.

12. **Papyrus:** a grassy plant that grows along the Nile River and is used to make paper.

13. **Plantain:** a plant similar to the banana plant (a source of food for Nubians)

14. **Recede:** to flow back (as a river or water in general)

15. **Smelting:** heating rock to a very high temperature to extract the valuable minerals.

16. **Sorghum:** a type of grass Nubians grew for grain.

17. **Source:** (of a river). Where a river begins – usually from streams that flow out of lakes).

18. **Tributary:** a stream that flows into a larger river.

19. **Vegetation:** all the plants or plant life of a large place or area.

20. **The Nile River:** the longest river in the world. It is over 6,670 km in length and is. The ancient Egyptians and Nubians lived and farmed along the Nile, using the soil to produce food for themselves and their animals.