The myth of Isis and Osiris

A long time ago, when the earth was new and everything was just beginning, the earth was covered with water. An egg floated on the water, just one egg.

When that egg hatched, Ra was born. Ra did not want to spend his time floating around, doing nothing, so he flew into the sky and became the sun.
Ra dried up much of the water and made the land. Ra was lonely, so he made a wife. He named her Nut. Ra made many gods and goddesses to keep him company. He put them all to work. His children were very busy running the world.

Still, they took time out to have children, because children were glorious things to have! Soon, there were many gods and goddesses. Ra was the father of them all.
Osiris

Ra loved all his children but one child was especially important. That child was his grandson, Osiris. Osiris had a brother named Set.

Isis and Osiris

To show Osiris how much he was loved Ra made Osiris the first Pharaoh of Egypt. Osiris then went on to marry his true love Isis, they then had a son named Horus.
Osiris brother, Set, was very jealous. Why should Osiris be named Pharaoh and not him? In a fit of anger, Set killed his brother Osiris and chopped him into little pieces. He threw the pieces into the river Nile.

Before long, Isis found out, she went to the river and gathered the pieces of her beloved Osiris. She brought these pieces to her good friend Anubis, the jackal-headed god. Anubis was very clever and put all the pieces back together but he could not bring Osiris back to life.
When Ra heard about it he was furious! He gave Osiris a better job, he made him god of the dead, which was the most important job of all but he would live forever in the land of the dead.

When the young prince Horus heard what his uncle Set had done, although he was still only a boy, he tracked down his uncle Set and killed him.
In honour of the god Osiris, the kings (pharaohs) of Egypt carry a crook and a flail, the signs of Osiris. The crook looked a great deal like a snake and was made from wood.

From then on, and even today, once each year Isis travels to the riverbank. Remembering, and dreaming, tears fall from her eyes. That is why the river Nile rises each year, to bring life to everyone and everything along the Nile. When Isis cries, the Nile will rise! And that is a very important thing.

The End.