

Historical Egyptian Artefacts (HI00517)

This collection contains a variety of iconic Egyptian figures. These detailed resin replicas will help enhance your learning about Ancient Egypt.

Contents: -

1. 1x Sarcophagus with removable Mummy
L16xW5cm
2. 1x Sphinx
L8xW3xH6cm
3. 1x Pharaoh Bust
W7xH9cm
4. 1x Pyramid
W5xH6.5cm
5. 1x Anubis
W5.5xH13cm

Please note contents and designs may vary.



Questions you could ask children about the artefacts

Initial Discussion

- What is this object?
- Does it resemble anything the children have seen?
- What do you think the item was used for and by whom?
- Does anyone know what it is called?

Collect any other questions the children might have about the artefacts and display them as you try to find the answers through your learning sessions.

Other questions to consider:

- Where does the object come from?
- Who might have made this object? And how were they made?
- Why were they made?
- **What do the objects tell us about life in Ancient Egypt?** *This last question can be returned to at the end of the investigation.*

All About the Artefacts

1. Sarcophagus and Mummy

When a pharaoh or wealthy person died their body was mummified, then placed inside a decorated sarcophagus, before being laid to rest in their tomb.

Mummification is the process of cleaning and preparing a body for burial. The body was washed, and organs removed. Some organs were placed into canopic jars and the heart was put back into the clean body. Next the body was stuffed with spices, rags and plants to keep its shape. Finally, the body was wrapped in linen bandages.

A sarcophagus is a coffin made of stone, decorated with carvings and paintings. A sarcophagus typically had the person's name included in the decorations as Egyptians believed that remembering a person's name would ensure they lived on in the afterlife.

Explore further the different layers of Tutankhamun's sarcophagus and find out more about canopic jars.

2. Sphinx

The sphinx is a mythical creature with a human head and a body of a lion. The sphinx was an important image in Egyptian art and legend. The Great Sphinx at Giza was carved out of limestone in 2500BC. It is believed to have taken a hundred labourers three years to carve the stone using hammers and chisels.

The Great Sphinx has the face of pharaoh Khafre.

Explore further who pharaoh Khafre was and what happened to the nose of the Great Sphinx.

3. Pharaoh

Ancient Egyptian pharaohs were the religious and political leaders of the land, like the kings and queens. They were often thought of as one of the gods. They were expected to make sure people were safe, and the country made a profit. Only men were intended to take the role of pharaoh, however some women did take the position.

Pharaohs were expected to start building their burial tomb as soon as they came into power!

Egyptian pharaohs often commissioned busts of themselves to maintain their legacy after they were dead.

Explore further who the youngest pharaoh was, and which pharaoh reigned the longest. Hatshepsut was the first woman to give herself the title of pharaoh- what did she wear to make people accept her as the ruler?

4. Pyramid

Pyramids were built as burial places and monuments for kings and pharaohs. Egyptians believed they should be buried with everything they might require in the afterlife, this included food, clothes, jewellery, and furniture.

The pyramid housed the main burial chamber as well as smaller rooms for other family members, a temple and storage rooms.

Explore further- Once finished the pyramid was covered in white limestone- what was the cap covered with?

5. Anubis

Anubis was one of the earliest Egyptian gods and thought to be one of the most important. He was often depicted as a man with the head of a jackal and was associated with mummification and the afterlife.

Wild dogs, or jackals were often seen hanging around in cemeteries, so it was thought they watched over people in the afterlife.

The ancient Egyptians believed that it was Anubis who weighed the hearts of the deceased to determine whether they were worthy of entering the afterlife. If a person's heart was heavier than the feather of Ma'at they were deemed unworthy of the afterlife. Ma'at was the goddess of truth and justice, and she is depicted with wings on each arm.

Explore further- Anubis was an embalmer- what does this mean?

Reference Websites:

<https://discoveringegypt.com/>

<https://www.britishmuseum.org/learn/schools/ages-7-11/ancient-egypt>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/egyptians/>