



## Maidstone Museum Learning Team

### Ancient Egyptians Workshop Information Sheet

Useful information for before, during and after your workshop.

#### Workshop overview; 1 hour in length

Step back 3000 years to Ancient Egypt and learn about the process Ancient Egyptians followed in order to preserve their bodies for the afterlife. Look at one of the methods they followed (there were many different methods for mummification) and sequence the events, matching artefacts and replicas to the process. Children have the opportunity to get up close and handle 3000 year old Egyptian artefacts and visit Ta Kush, a 14 year old Egyptian, who was mummified around 3000 years ago.

Activities include sequencing the process and matching the artefacts and objects to the process. Opportunities are given for questioning, discussion, collaboration, reasoning and imagining.

#### Key Vocabulary and glossary;

<b>Artefact</b> an object made by people that dates back to the historical period being learned about.	<b>Mummification</b> the process of transforming a dead body into a mummy by embalming and drying.
<b>Replica</b> a close copy of the original object	<b>Shabti</b> a statue of a servant buried in a tomb
<b>Canopic jar</b> jars used by Ancient Egyptians to store internal organs of a mummy - lungs, intestines, liver, and stomach- for transportation to the afterlife.	<b>Afterlife</b> the special place Ancient Egyptians believed they would go to after they died and the reason for being mummified
<b>Preserve</b> to treat something to stop it from rotting	<b>Burial</b> places where dead bodies have been placed in the ground and covered over
<b>Pharaoh</b> The supreme ruler of all of Ancient Egypt. He or she was considered a god	<b>Amulet</b> A charm worn that the Ancient Egyptians thought had magical powers.
<b>Pyramid</b> A stone tomb built for the pharaohs of Egypt. It was had four sides that came to a point at the top in a pyramid shape.	<b>Hieroglyphs</b> a type of writing used by the Ancient Egyptians that used a combination of pictures and symbols.
<b>Sarcophagus</b> A large stone box that held a mummy's coffin.	<b>Natron</b> a salt mixture that helps extract moisture from a body
<b>Eye of Horus</b> good luck symbol that Ancient Egyptians believed protected them form evil	<b>Mummy</b> a dead body that has been preserved using embalming/drying



**Curriculum links;**

**National Curriculum; KS2 History; the achievements of the earliest civilizations** – an overview of where and when the first civilizations appeared and a depth study of one of the following: Ancient Sumer; The Indus Valley; **Ancient Egypt**; The Shang Dynasty of Ancient China

**International Primary Curriculum;** Milepost 2, History – Temples, Tombs and Treasures; Ancient religion and burials.

**Cornerstones;** History Year 5 - Pharaohs

**Key galleries to look in;** Egyptians/Ancient Civilisations

**Craft workshops to accompany main workshop.** Up to 1 hour in length

Mummifying Oranges; children put into practise the process they have just learned using an orange. The process is messy but fun and highlights some of the key parts of the mummification process without the need for a real body!

Clay shabtis and statues; children use inspiration gained from looking at and handling the artefacts and replicas, creating their own clay version of a shabti or god statue.

**Ancient Egyptian Arts Award – Discover in a Day**

This is a 3-4 session day that covers the history of mummification, research into the Egyptian collection, role play, and practical art opportunities. More details available separately, on request.

**Additional website links;**

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/homework/Egypt.html>

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/homework/Egypt.html>

[http://www.ducksters.com/history/ancient\\_egypt.php](http://www.ducksters.com/history/ancient_egypt.php)

<http://www.ngkids.co.uk/history/ten-facts-about-ancient-egypt>

<http://www.historyforkids.net/ancient-egypt.html>