



Mummy Cases*

Grades K-8

Overview	Students will study Ancient Egyptian mummy casings and how symbols decorated the coffin and depicted what their life was like while living. The purpose of this project is to show students how art was a form of communication in Ancient Egypt for burial purposes. Students will be able to see the mummy casings as an art form and a form of communication between the Ancient people.
Objectives	They will then create a 3-dimensional mummy case from paper mache to use symbols to depict their own lives. They will also learn facial and body proportions in a 3-D perspective. To gain access to ideas it is required that all students research the different symbols that are on the mummy casing.
Standard	Visual Art standard 1.1- Students understand the significance of visual art in relation to historical, social, political, spiritual, environmental, technological, and economic issues.
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newspaper, • masking tape • newspaper • water and paste mixture (mache) • tempera paint • paint brushes and small bowls for cleaning brushes • Cellblock website
Procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The teacher will upload an educational video to the Cellblock website that refers to the background of a mummy and information concerning the symbols and their meanings. 2. Each student will be asked to watch this video and then comment on the video about their thoughts and symbols they may be using. 3. Each student will then be asked to upload a photo of a symbol they find that will be most inspiring that they will be using on their mummy casing. 4. Each student will make a human form in the shape of the mummy case with newspaper, paying careful attention to the position of the parts of the body. Wrap the newspaper form tightly with masking tape. 5. Cover the newspaper forms with paper mache and let the forms dry thoroughly. 6. The mummy cases were covered with painted symbols of objects and events relating to the life of the man inside the case. Have your students think about people, objects, and events important to each of them, and then paint these personal symbols on the surfaces of their cases. 7. Higher grade levels will be expected to write a short summary writing how their symbols present figures that are relevant in their life.

Evaluation	Review the Cellblock website to see if all students replied to the video and uploaded their own picture of a symbol. Check to see that all students used the materials given to them appropriately. Check that the students are representing figures in an aesthetically pleasing manner (more will be expected out of students at a higher-grade level). Higher-grade levels will also be graded on how well they described their symbols in their short essays. If project is complete and is well crafted, they will have passed for the project.
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*Adapted from: <http://www.artic.edu/cleo/Teachfolder/Paankhtml/FINAL/Paank.Art.2.html>