



materials for the arts

Global History and Geography: Ancient Egypt and Hieroglyphic Printmaking

Teacher: Ms. N. Torres

Unit Topic: 9th Grade Global History & Geography

Essential Question: How did the achievements of ancient civilization contribute to modern society?

Focus Question: How did geography influence the development of Ancient Egypt's Writing System?

Common Core Standards:

- ✓ Standard 2: Students will use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of major ideas, eras, themes, developments, and turning points in world history and examine the broad sweep of history from a variety of perspectives. They will interpret and analyze documents and artifacts related to significant developments and events in world history.

Blueprint Visual Arts Standards:

- ✓ 1: Recognizing the Societal, Cultural, and Historical significance of Art; Connecting Art to other disciplines
- ✓ 2: Developing Visual Arts Vocabulary- Printmaking, Cartouche
- ✓ 3: Create a print that demonstrates foam printmaking techniques including registration, inking, lifting, observation of detail, and careful planning and execution.
- ✓ 4: Community and Cultural Resource: The MET, Tomb of Pernab

Universal Design Learning (UDL) using Multiple Entry Points (MEP):

- Map
- Poem
- Video
- Chart

Student Objects (SWBAT):

- ✓ Identify and describe the geography of ancient Egypt
- ✓ Explain the role of the environment in the choice of tools used for the creation of hieroglyphics
- ✓ Examine the role of scribes in the development of Ancient Egypt's writing system
- ✓ Demonstrate an understanding of the history and culture behind ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics
- ✓ Design and create a print cartouche of their name translated from hieroglyphics

Modifications' for ELL Students:

- ✓ Reinforcement of academic language and vocabulary
- ✓ Extended time for written work
- ✓ Use of role plays to make abstract concepts concrete
- ✓ Provide both written and oral instructions

Academic and Content Vocabulary:

- ✓ Hieroglyphic
- ✓ Scribe
- ✓ Phonogram
- ✓ Ideogram
- ✓ Cartouche
- ✓ Printmaking technique

Materials: Powerpoint, hieroglyphic handout (SEE LAST PAGE), blank paper, pink Styrofoam pieces, pencils, paint, yarn, scissors



materials for the arts

Global History and Geography: Ancient Egypt and Hieroglyphic Printmaking

Procedure:

Aim: How did Geography Influence the Development of Ancient Egypt's Writing System?

1. Read the poem on the Nile River on the first slide and answer the following questions in complete sentences.
"Greetings. Oh Nile,... who comes in peace to give Egypt life; hidden god who guides the darkness, irrigator of the meadows... to give all animals life: you feed the earth;... friend of bread and fruitfulness, benefactor of the grain..."
 - a. Ask the students how Egyptians feel about the Nile River, requesting they provide textual support.
2. The second slide features a physical map of Egypt and enumerates important (defining) geographical features. Slide references Egypt's location in North Africa, its development along the Nile River, and the fact that it is home to a desert biome. Ask the students what important geographical features they see and asks them to explain why they think they are important.

Anticipated Response/Student Generated notes:

Aim: How did Geography influence the Development of Ancient Egypt's Writing System?

1. Geography of Egypt
2. Show Discovery Video on Papyrus and present the video focus Question: How do we know about Egyptian civilization?
3. Anticipated Response: The scribe, the scribe was one of the most important people in society because the Egyptians wanted to keep records of what they did and what they had.
4. What resources were available to them? (i.e. Papyrus reeds along the Nile River/Desert stones)
5. Decipher the lines of hieroglyphic code using the diagram as the source. Write the information from the box into 3 sentences (i.e. An oval frame which surrounds the hieroglyphs that make up the name of an Egyptian god or royal person; it represents a looped rope which has the magical power to protect the name that is written inside this life and the afterlife.

Task:

1. Creating a cartouche using a printmaking technique. Teacher will model the process of creating a foam print. (Directions will be on the Smart board as well as printed for the students to follow)
 - a. Using the hieroglyphs key provided create a cartouche of your own name on a blank sheet of paper
 - b. Trace your oval with hieroglyphs over a piece of styrofoam to obtain a foam print of your cartouche
 - c. Using a roller apply paint over your foam print
 - d. Cover your print with a piece of paper
 - e. Firmly press down
 - f. Gently lift the paper
2. Answer the following question in one paragraph. How do the hieroglyphics on your cartouche show important aspects of Egyptian civilization?

Assessment:

- "Gallery Walk," and student/teacher project assessment rubric

Resources:

- ✓ <http://www.metmuseum.org/collection/the-collection-online/search/543937>
- ✓ http://www.internal.schools.netau/edu/lesson_ideas/egypt/egypt_actshl_pl.html
- ✓ Ancient Egypt Eyewitness Books 1990 by Hart, George



Global History and Geography: Ancient Egypt and Hieroglyphic Printmaking

Hieroglyphics and Scribes:

Scribes:

An important group of people in Egypt were the scribes. However, it was not easy to become a scribe. Education was not free in ancient Egypt and a scribe's training took up to 12 years to complete. People envied the scribes because they did not have to labour in the fields or fight the pharaoh's enemies. They were held in high regard by society.

Scribes worked in temple writing rooms, markets, army barracks, the homes of nobles, government offices, or anywhere their skills were needed. These highly trained men could read and write the Egyptian script called hieroglyphics, or holy writing. To us, writing looks like tiny pictures or symbols. Each picture represented a different idea or letter or sound, as it was a very complicated system.

Scribes wrote on papyrus, a type of paper made from the papyrus plant growing by the Nile. Fine brushes made of plant fiber were used as we would use a pen. The black ink was made from soot and water. For headings and borders, a red ink was made from a stone called ochre, which was found in the desert. Everyday messages were written on clay tablets, very important information was carved into stone so that it lasted forever. Scribes kept records of supplies and taxes, wrote letters and messages, designed the inscriptions carved into tombs and worked as teachers and librarians. They sat cross legged and stretched their linen skirts tightly across their knees to form a writing surface to lean on.

Egyptian Hieroglyphics:

The Egyptian hieroglyphic writing system consists of several hundred picture signs. The signs can be divided into two classes, phonograms and ideograms.

Phonograms, or signs used to write the sounds of the Egyptian language. The particular sound value of a sign was usually obtained from the Egyptian name for the object represented. Since the Egyptians did not normally write the vowels, only the consonantal "skeleton" of the word is given. Although each consonant can be written with a single sign (the alphabet signs), most sound-signs express a series of two or more consonants. Some of the Egyptian consonants have no equivalents in most modern scripts, and Egyptologists use conventionalized signs to represent these when transcribing Egyptian.

Ideograms or idea-signs, in which each picture stands for the object represented or for some idea closely connected with the object. A particular word could be written using only sound signs or only an idea-sign, but most words were written using a combination of both. It was a particularly common practice to use one or more idea-signs at the end of the word to give the general meaning of the word. A sign used in this way is called a determinative.

Cartouche: In Egyptian hieroglyphs, a cartouche is an oval with a horizontal line at one end, indicating that the text enclosed is a royal name. At times amulets were given the form of a cartouche displaying the name of a king and placed in tombs. Such items are often important to archaeologists for dating the tomb and its contents. Cartouches were formerly only worn by Pharaohs. The oval surrounding their name was meant to protect him from evil spirits in life and after death. The cartouche has become a symbol representing protection from evil. Egyptians believed that if you had your name written down in some place, then you would not disappear after you died.