

# Egyptian Masks

## 9<sup>th</sup> grade Studio Art

Project Description: Using plaster craft, students will be creating sarcophagus covers in the likeness of Egyptian sarcophagus covers. Students will learn about the way in which sarcophagus covers were decorated and emulate this style on their own creations.

Project Rationale: Students will be learning about Egyptian art and history and the importance of the contributions of Egyptian culture. Students will be studying different types of Egyptian art including relief sculpture, sculpture in the round and Egyptian architecture.

### Objectives:

1. Students will be able to identify Egyptian sarcophagi and their uses.
2. Students will be able to create masks that emulate Egyptian sarcophagi covers

### Materials:

Plaster Craft strips

Water

Petroleum jelly

Paint

Visual Examples

### Motivation:

Students will be shown pictures of current day coffins and grave markers. They will be asked questions like, “Can you identify these objects?” “Do you think these coffins and grave markers are decorated similar to other cultures of our time?” “What about when compared to past cultures?” “What are some of the big differences between our coffins/burial sites and those of the past?” Students will then be shown Egyptian sarcophagi along side the previous images. They will be asked to state the visual differences between the two images. The instructor should then give the students the history behind Egyptian burial rites, mummification, and the development of the pyramid and the representation of the king/pharaoh on the outside of his coffin. Students will then be informed that they will be making their own small sarcophagus covers and emulating the style of the Egyptians.

### Procedure:

#### Day 1:

Students will be presented with the visuals via powerpoint presentation. They will then be shown actual examples of the project they will be doing. Students will be creating sarcophagus covers in the style of the Egyptians using the own faces as a template and plaster craft to create the form (students with skin allergies or sensitivity will be given a template to use). Students will be given a project worksheet/rubric so that they know what is expected of them.

Day 2:

Students will be paired off with each other to help create the masks. They will coat their faces (or templates) in petroleum jelly and lay the plaster craft strips on their faces to create a mold.

Day 3:

Students will continue where they left off, whether it is continuing the molds or starting on sketches for the mask itself. Those who are ready to start painting may do so.

Day 4:

Students will be in various stages including sketching and painting. Most should be close to finishing.

Day 5: All students should be finished or using today to finish. Those who are finished will start hanging their sarcophagus covers for the critique.

Day 6: All students will have hung their work and will be ready for the critique. Students will stand in front of the mask that they wish to critique and will be given 5 minutes to think about the answers to the following questions.

Assessment:

See attached rubric

Self-Assessment:

Following the critique, students will be asked to write down a piece of paper a self-evaluation. Students will answer the following questions:

1. What is a sarcophagus? What was it used for?
2. Do you think you completed your project successfully and defend your answer?
3. If you could change this project in one way, what would it be?

Rubric

Criteria	4	3	2	1
Craftsmanship and quality of work	Excellent craftsmanship and quality. Work exceeds expectations.	Great craftsmanship and quality. Work meets expectations.	Good craftsmanship and quality of work. Work does not meet all expectations	Poor craftsmanship and poor quality of work
Effort and completion level.	Major effort was visible in this project. Student continually worked hard throughout project to ensure completion.	Some effort was visible in this project. Student meets expectations.	Very little effort visible in this project. Student did not meet expectations.	No effort visible in the completion of this project.
Painting of Sarcophagus	Painting is completed with thorough and exact care. Pattern and composition are clearly defined.	Painting is completed with some care. Composition and pattern are taken into consideration.	Painting is mostly complete. Composition and pattern were not considered.	Sarcophagus is not painted at all.