

Personalized Cartouche

Description: The students will learn about ancient Egyptian Hieroglyphics and relating symbols. The students will then create and design a personalized Cartouche, spelling their name with hieroglyphics.

Rational: The students will learn about ancient forms of writing and communication, as well as the role of important symbols in that ancient writing; i.e. the cartouche. The students will have an understanding and appreciation of symbols being used as a form of writing.

Objective: Students will become familiar with the concept of hieroglyphics being used as a set of symbols that communicate specific ideas and stories. They will understand that the cartouche is used to symbolize the name of a Pharaoh or Egyptian God in a set of hieroglyphics. Students will learn where, how, and why hieroglyphics were used.

NYS Standards for the Visual Arts:

Standard I: The students will actively draw the hieroglyphics that make up the letters of their name; design the decorative elements of the cartouche, color/design the cartouche and hieroglyphics to their liking, and mount their finished cartouche on a durable surface.

Standard II: The students will have a variety of materials available, including markers, colored pencils, color paper, and paint (watercolor and/or tempera) to aid in the creating and decoration of their cartouche.

Standard III: The students will discuss each others completed cartouches and why certain decisions about the decorative aspect of the project were made. The students will also practice interpreting other cartouches to learn which cartouche belongs to which peer.

Standard IV: The students will be shown examples of how hieroglyphics were used in Ancient Egyptian artifacts including The Great Pyramids, sarcophagi, obelisks, etc. They will be shown real examples of cartouches used in those ancient writings. This will include a classroom discussion on

Procedure: Supplies: Visual aids to show the students examples of hieroglyphics, ancient Egyptian art, hieroglyphic alphabet, blank cartouche templates, crayons, markers, colored pencils, paint, plain and colored paper, scissors, glue/paste, heavy board.

- Introduce the concept of hieroglyphics and symbols used in Egyptian Art. Explain how they are used as a means of communicating ideas and stories to the viewer. Explain that they are used to cover almost every possible surface including on walls, columns, obelisks, sarcophagi, etc.
- Introduce the hieroglyphic alphabet, explaining that certain symbols and pictures represent a letter. Together, those symbols can create a word.
- Introduce the Cartouche, explaining that the cartouche is used to symbolize the name of an important figure; an Egyptian Pharaoh and/or God or Goddess.
- Explain that the students will soon be given a blank cartouche to cut out and design, using the hieroglyphic alphabet to write their own name in the cartouche.

The outside of the cartouche will be designed to their liking, using examples of other hieroglyphics and Egyptian decorative elements previously demonstrated. Show examples of completed cartouches for the students to see.

- Hand out materials and/or explain where certain materials can be found in the room.
- Have the students cut out the cartouche pieces.
- Glue the cartouche together as a class, creating the basic blank cartouche.
- Have the students design their cartouche using the hieroglyphic alphabet to write their name. They will color the hieroglyphics and design the border of the cartouche using the available materials.
- When the design is done, have the students trace the outline of the cartouche onto heavy paper/board, then glued together.
- Hang the cartouches up for all to see.
- Clean up materials and work space.
- As a class, discuss certain cartouches that the students enjoy.
- Choose a few cartouches to interpret as a class, figuring out who designs that specific cartouche.

Assessment: Use a simple rubric to assess the students completed project, classroom participation, creativity, craftsmanship.

Student Assessment: The end of the lesson should be used to discuss and interpret the completed hieroglyphics. The students can complete a simple self-assessment about they liked and disliked about their own cartouche and/or the project.



