Activity title

Scrolls and Hieroglyphs - a record that is easy to carry around and store

Time required

1-2 hours

Activity summary

Drawing ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs and making a cartouche.

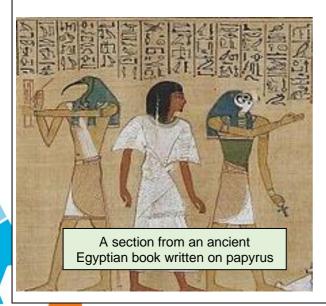
By the end of this activity, you will be able to:

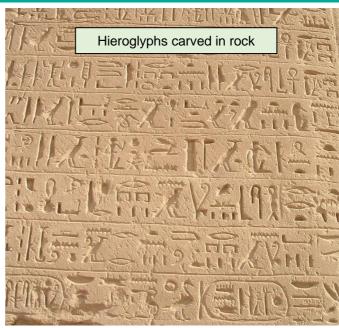
Write your name and messages using hieroglyphs.

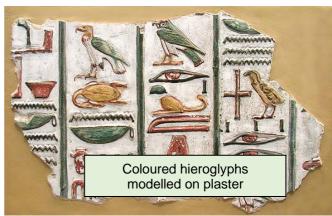
What's this all about?

In ancient Egypt people wrote using symbols. These symbols were called hieroglyphs. Often this writing was carved into rock or modelled on clay or plaster. These can still be seen today, about 5000 years later!

The Egyptians also invented papyrus, a sort of paper made from reeds. It was much quicker to draw symbols on papyrus than to carve them into rock. Papyrus was also much easier to carry around than clay tablets!















Hieroglyphs that represent letters

Here are some examples of hieroglyph symbols that represent letters and sounds.

	vulture	Α	20	lion	L	*	chick	w
	leg	В	B	owl	М	P	cloth	х
8	cup	С	ww	water	N	9	feathers	Υ
	hand	D	4	chick	0	=	bolt	Z
and	feather	Ε		stool	P		basin	SH
37	viper	F	1	hill	Q		sleeve	кн
	pot	G	0	mouth	R	>	tether	СН
880	wick	н	P	cloth	s	8	ANKH	
	feather	1	<u> </u>	loaf	т		MAN	
4	cobra	J	3	chick	U	R	WOMAN	
	cup	V	4	Minor	V	1	X	













Using Hieroglyphs

Pharaohs were the rulers of Egypt, like kings and queens. Here is an example of a pharaoh's name in hieroglyphs:



The names of pharaohs were drawn inside this special symbol, called a cartouche.

The name reads: HAKOR. Hakor was a pharoh about 2400 years ago!

What equipment will you need?

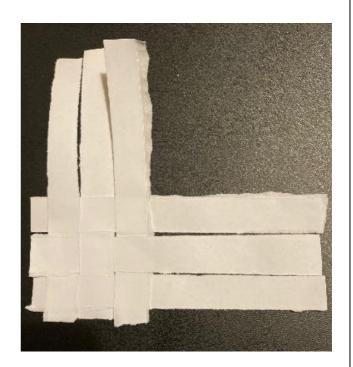
 Something to draw your hieroglyphs on This could be paper, something like papyrus or a tablet made from modelling material.

If you want to use something like papyrus:

- Paper
- Glue or glue sticks

Ancient Egyptians wrote on papyrus. You can make something like papyrus using modern paper:

- 1. Tear the paper into neat strips.
- 2. Weave together the strips as shown in the picture, to build up a sheet.
- 3. Use glue wherever the strips touch each other, to hold them in place.
- 4. Allow the glue to dry before you draw on the paper



If you are making a tablet:

- Something to make the tablet from. This could be a modelling material, such as plasticine or play dough. You could use clay if it is available.
- A rolling pin.
- A 'stylus' to write on your tablet. This could be a fork or spoon handle.







Now try this

1. Hieroglyph words

Use the chart of hieroglyphs work out what this word is:



2. Write your name as if you were a pharaoh

Wherever the name of a pharaoh is written, it is placed inside a special symbol called a 'cartouche'. Can you spot the cartouche on the first page of this, in image of the hieroglyphs carved in rock?

Write your own name using hieroglyphs into this cartouche:

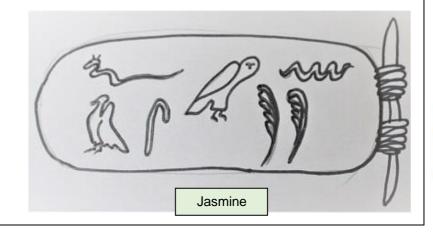


3. Make your own cartouche.

Method one - paper

If you are using paper or something like papyrus, carefully draw a cartouche and your name in hieroglyphs.

You could add colour to the hieroglyphs, like the picture on the first page.













Method two - tablet

Take a lump of modelling material about the size of your fist.

Using a rolling pin, roll this out until it is about the thickness of your finger, when you put it by the side of it. The surface of your tablet should be flat.

Roll some modelling material into a long string and use this to make the cartouche shape.

Now you can EITHER:

carefully mark the hieroglyphs on to the surface of the cartouche using a stylus OR

make the hieroglyph symbols and put them on the cartouche.



You could also

Use all the different methods to make cartouches (paper, something like papyrus, modelling material with marks, modelling material with made symbols put on).

Write a message using hieroglyphs to a friend.

The following websites can be used for additional background information: YouTube – What are hieroglyphics: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YwiZltcWRwE



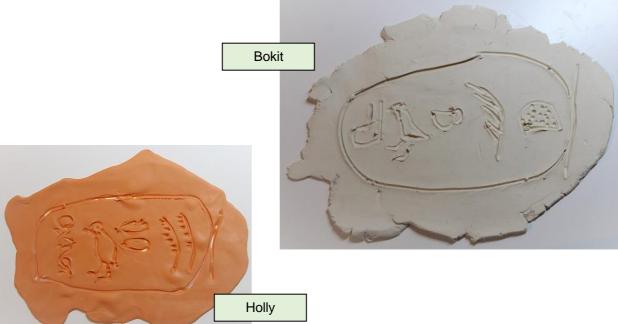






What results are expected?





With thanks to Hawthorns Primary School, Worthing, for sharing these resources which were created as a series of activities to celebrate 150 years of the IET.







