

Cultural Services : Bradford Museums and Galleries Cliffe Castle Museum

Education

Ancient Egyptians KS2

Find out all about how the Ancient Egyptians prepared their dead for the Afterlife in our hands on workshop. The session includes an opportunity for children to handle real burial objects from Ancient Egypt, and to find out how the mummy in Cliffe Castle's collections met her death.

1 hour Education Officer led hands on session.

£60 per session (max 35 pupils)

What happens in the workshop?

The workshop leader will meet you and your class in the museum entrance area. The workshop will take place in the Egyptians Gallery on the ground floor of the museum.

Using a life sized fabric body the workshop leader will guide pupils through the process of mummification from death to the Afterlife. All students will be able to have a 'hands-on' role in the process from playing Anubis, carrying the body, removing organs to preparing the canopic jars, wrapping the body and providing spells for the journey to the afterlife. The workshop leader will ask the class teacher to select appropriate volunteers for each of the tasks. Following the completion of the mummification students will be given the opportunity to handle real Shabti figures from Ancient Egypt. To finish the session the workshop leader will prompt discussion around the Cliffe Castle mummy.

Children will be taught:

- Why the Ancient Egyptians carried out mummification.
- How a body was prepared for mummification.
- The different stages of the mummification process.
- The names and roles of some of the Ancient Egyptian gods.
- What happened on the journey to the Afterlife.
- That people in Ancient Egypt were buried with their belongings.
- How to handle and examine objects from the past.
- That the artefacts in the Egyptians Gallery were removed from Ancient Egyptian tombs.

National Curriculum links:

KS2 History 2a, 4a, 13..

QCA scheme of work: Unit 10 What can we find out about ancient Egypt from what has survived?

Group Organisation

Pupils will be asked to take on different roles during the workshop. The teacher will be asked to select appropriate volunteers- some tasks are reading based, others practical.

Is there anything else in the museum that is relevant to the workshop?

There are many artefacts from Ancient Egypt on display in the Egyptians Gallery. Pupils are given a short opportunity to look round this gallery as part of the workshop but it recommended that further time is spent in here following the workshop to explore the wide range of artefacts on display in more depth.

How can I give feedback about the session?

Your feedback is essential to the development of the education service at Cliffe Castle Museum. We will give you and sometimes the students an evaluation form to fill in at the end of the session. Please complete this and return to the workshop leader.

Pre and post visit information and activities.

- **Hieroglyph names**

Ask pupils to produce a name badge for their museum visit in hieroglyphics- the alphabet can be found at : <http://www.snaithprimary.eril.net/hglyph1.htm>

- **Embalmer's holiday**

The embalmer is going on holiday! Help him to write a list of step by step instructions for his assistant to carry out mummifications while he is away. Ask children to try and remember the different stages of the mummification process from the workshop – which order did they go in? Jog your memory at: <http://www.mylearning.org/jpage.asp?journeyid=342&jpageid=1681>

- **Mummifying Fruit**

Try this experiment to show that mummification works! You will need: an apple, salt, bicarbonate soda, 2 plastic cups, empty jar, scales and rubber gloves. Cut the apple into eighths, weigh and record 2 pieces, add 4 tablespoons of bicarbonate and 4 tablespoons of salt to one of the cups and mix them up. Put some of this mixture into the other cup and add one of the apple bits and cover with the rest of the mixture. Put the other bit of apple into the empty jam jar. Leave for a week- after this (wearing your gloves) weigh the 2 pieces of fruit. The mummified piece should be hard and dark and much lighter than the other. Like in mummification the water in this piece has been removed by the salt and bicarbonate. Without the water and in salty conditions bacteria find it hard to live and so the fruit doesn't rot!

- **Interview with the gods**

As part of the workshop we will refer to some of the Ancient Egyptian gods: Anubis, Imsety, Horus, Hapy, Qebhsenuf and Duamutef. Ask pupils to research the role these gods played in the journey to the afterlife and produce a series of interview questions and answers.

Websites

- How do we know what hieroglyphs mean? Information on the Rosetta stone and The British Museum Egyptians site: <http://www.ancientegypt.co.uk/menu.html>
- Collect Egyptian artefacts and escape the tomb at:
http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/wml/humanworld/ancientworld/egyptian/egypt_game.aspx
- Range of Egyptian activities including a quiz:
<http://www.schoolsliaison.org.uk/kids/preload.htm>
- List of further resources for children : <http://www.show.me.uk/topicpage/teachers/tAncient-Civilisations.html>