3D COFFINS

Age Range: 12+

Description: Design your very own Egyptian coffin using household items! Decorate using ancient Egyptian symbols, or even write your name with hieroglyphics! The outcomes are endless!

Historic Context: Coffins were essential for one’s journey to the beyond. The Egyptian believed in the preservation of the body as a resting place for the Ba, popularly understood as one’s “soul”. Coffins were often adorned with the person’s name, offering requests, and protective god’s to ensure safe passage of the person inside the coffin. Coffin was basically the “ship” protecting the body of the deceased as they traveled to the beyond. Coffin lids almost always had a representation of the face of the deceased, like a mask. This would ensure that the Ba soul could find its body if it were ever to leave. Coffins were also adorned with different symbols related to the afterlife, such as the scarab beetle or jackals that represent the god Anubis who is your guide to the afterlife. Sometimes family members were also on coffin lids.

Time: 30+ min

Materials Needed: scissors, plastic bottle, paint/cloth to cover bottle

STEP ONE: CUT YOUR PLASTIC BOTTLE IN HALF VERTICALLY

STEP TWO: CUT THE TOP OFF THE BOTTLE
**STEP THREE:** PAINT & COVER THE BOTTLE

**STEP FOUR:** DECORATE!