

EGYPTIAN CARTOUCHE PRINTING

Grades 6-8



A **cartouche** (pronounced “kartoosh”) is a protective emblem that identified the gods and pharaohs of ancient Egypt. The symbols in an individual’s cartouche were hieroglyphic symbols chosen to represent character traits that the individual was believed to possess or hoped to attain. Each hieroglyphic symbol illustrated a positive, empowering, or protective characteristic.

Students may choose to carve their name or initials on their personalized cartouche. However, there are many other significant symbols that can be chosen to embellish one’s cartouche.



DIRECTIONS

1. Discuss the meanings of the different hieroglyphic symbols (at right) with the class and how the symbols apply to their own lives. Give students several 6" x 12" pieces of paper and drawing pencils. Have students select and draw their symbols on sheets of paper.
2. Give each student one piece of Safety-Kut™ and show them how to lay their design face down on the block and rub the back with a ruler to transfer the design. Give students a quick demonstration on the safe use of lino tools and let them use the rest of the class period to carve their designs.
3. Have students print their designs on scrap paper using washable markers to check for any areas that may need to be carved deeper. (It is better to check the print now than to ruin a print later.) Students should select water-soluble printing ink colours for their project. Cut canvas to 8" x 20½" pieces and tape to the table measuring 3½" from the top and bottom — this will allow room for a casing when finished. Students then ink the Safety-Kut™ and print their symbols. The ink may not totally adhere to the fabric — this imperfect effect adds to the charm of the piece and gives it a more ancient look. Allow to dry overnight.
4. Give each student two 10" dowel rods. Dowel rods may be notched with a saw ahead of time. Using approximately 24" of string, lay the string across the dowel rod and through the notches. Use glue or tape next to the notches so that the string doesn't pull out. Fold the top of the muslin over the dowel rod until fabric touches fabric. Using a hot glue gun or craft glue, make casing for dowel. Do this on the top and bottom of canvas. (Only the top requires string.)
5. The final piece can either be hung on the wall or rolled up and made to look like a scroll. Twine or decorative ribbon and beads can be used to embellish the scrolls.



HIEROGLYPHIC SYMBOLS



Anubis, a god of mummification — protected the dead from deception and eternal death



Thoth, a moon deity — god of writing, counting, and wisdom.



Isis, wife of Osiris, mother of Horus and Mistress of Magic — giver of life and food to the dead



Eye of Horus — amulet against injury and evil



Sun God Ra — his name is thought to mean creative power



A



B



C & K



D



E & I



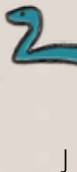
F



G



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N



O



P



Q



R



S



T



W



Y



X

No "U" in ancient Egyptian. Substitute another vowel or leave out.

No "V" in ancient Egyptian. Use "F" for Vicky.

No "X" in ancient Egyptian. Use "K" and "S" for Xavier.

EXTENSION

Use washable markers or jumbo washable stamp pads and a 4" x 6" piece of Safety-Kut™ to print the final piece on papyrus paper.

Papyrus was the most important writing material in the ancient world. The oldest known books today are in the form of papyrus rolls. Similar to paper, this writing surface was made from a triangular reed, cyperus papyrus, that grew along the banks of the Nile. The Egyptians cut the reeds into 1- or 2-ft. sections and pressed the fiber of the reeds to eliminate the water and flatten the reed. The fibers woven together and pressed between heavy stone slabs for several days. When dry, the papyrus sheet was an ideal piece of paper for writing and painting.





MATERIALS LIST

- Nasco Safety-Kut™ Printmaking Blocks, 6" x 12" — [9705051](#)
- Nasco Water-Soluble Block Printing Inks — [9718146\(A-L\)](#)
- Economy Lino Cutter Group Kit — [9715172](#)
- Pacon® Tracing Paper — [9727662](#)
- Drawing Pencils
- Drawing Paper, 6" x 12"
- Ruler
- Masking Tape
- Economy Brayer 6" — [220867E](#)
- Printmaking/Collage Trays, pkg. of 50 — [9718481](#)
- Nasco Heavy Unprimed Cotton Canvas Duck — [2100100](#)
- Glue Gun or Craft Glue
- Economy Dowels, 11⁷/₈" L, bag of 36 — [9735402](#)
- Twine or Decorative Ribbon
- Beads

Extension Materials:

- Washable Markers or Washable Jumbo Stamp Pads
- Papyrus Paper



SPECTRUM
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