

Egyptian Canopic Jars

The project was highly effective because the students thoroughly enjoyed making the Canopic Jars. Approximately a fourth of each class stayed after school on their time by choice to continue to work on their Canopic jars. It was the first time the students had used clay. Coiling and constructing the jars presented each student with different challenges, which they couldn't wait to solve.

Curriculum/State Standard

AH-E4.1.35 Media - crayon, pencil, paint, fabric, yarn, clay, paper, papier-mâché (used to produce artworks)

AH-E4.1.38 Art processes: three-dimensional - pottery, sculpture, and weaving

AH-E4.2.31 Identify various purposes for creating works of art.

AH-E4.1.42 Use a variety of media and art processes to produce two-dimensional (2-D) and three-dimensional (3-D) artwork.

World Civilization studies will introduce students to diverse modern and ancient cultures.

Overview

The students learned about ancient Egypt in their social studies class. As a result of the recently acquired knowledge, they constructed a Canopic Jar, coil pot, out of clay, based on the artifacts they viewed in their textbooks, from the library, reference books in the art room and the Internet.

Objectives

- The student will learn about ancient Egyptian culture, belief systems, and mummification practices in social studies class.
- The student will complete a 2-D drawing and transform it into a 3-D clay sculpture in art class using a coiling technique.
- The student will personalize the Canopic Jar with appropriate iconography using historically accurate colorization.
- The student will learn how to construct a jar using the coiling technique.

Continued on the back...

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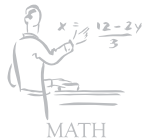
GRADE LEVEL



ARTS



LANGUAGE



MATH

Misc

MISCELLANEOUS



SCIENCE



HISTORY



SOCIAL STUDIES

10

CLASSES

\$555

TOTAL BUDGET

“Egyptian Canopic Jars” project continued...

Materials

Self-hardening clay; clay tools; acrylic paint; ceramic brushes; canvas or thick material (I bought cheaper heavyweight remnant material); parametric cones; kiln; 1-gallon Ziploc storage bags (keeps clay moist without having to drape wet paper towels on the clay); paper towels; spray bottles

Readiness Activity

The students completed their unit on ancient Egypt in social studies class, then in art class as an introduction to Egyptian art, they designed and drew their own sarcophagus case.

Strategies/Activities

1. Cover tables with canvas.
2. Knead a small section on the canvas to remove air bubbles. Continually apply pressure with heel of hand while kneading with your fingers so it remains an oblong oval to force air from the clay.
3. Demonstrate Coiling techniques.
 - a. Knead clay to remove air bubbles.
 - b. Cut in half to check for air bubbles then smack back together to force air out.
 - c. Form clay into a snake and evenly apply pressure when rolling.
 - d. Coil the snakes. When adding a new snake slip and score.
 - e. Smooth out ridges and blend snakes together.
4. Form the pot by coiling.
5. Smooth the top lip.

6. Make a lid for the pot. - Make a donut and attach it to a circular slab by slipping and scoring. Make sure that the lid fits the pot.
 - a. If the lid is too big for the pot, cover the lip with paper towels. (This will prevent the lid and jar from suction cupping together.) Then flip the pot over, so the lid is on the bottom and the pot is setting on top of it. Using the triangle shaped cutter, trace around the pot, making sure to thoroughly cut through the clay. Now your lid will perfectly fit.
7. Form the animal head for the lid.
8. Slip and score the head to the lid.
9. Make sure the animal is incorporated into the pot design, so it looks seamless.
10. Allow the clay to become leather hard by leaving the bag halfway open. The clay will begin to dry but some moisture will remain in it.
11. Start carving your designs into the base of the pot.
12. Allow the clay to dry out completely.
13. Fire the clay.
14. Paint with acrylic paint.

Culminating Activity

Creation and construction of an ancient Egyptian Canopic Jar

Evaluation

A rubric was used to evaluate the workmanship of the finished pot.