

Year 3 Magpies

Art Spring 1

Art in Ancient Egypt

A bust of Queen Nefertiti

Papyrus paper



Key Vocabulary	Definition
ancient Egypt	an ancient civilisation which grew along the river Nile, in the country now called Egypt.
bust	a sculpture of a persons head, shoulders and chest.
hieroglyphs	The writing system of ancient Egyptians, it means holy carving.
papyrus	paper made from reeds
pharaoh	a ruler in ancient Egypt
sphinx	a mythical creature with the head of a man and the body of a lion
the book of the dead	a collection of artwork and hieroglyphics that tells stories about the afterlife often found on the walls of ancient Egyptian tombs on coins and on papyrus
tomb art	art painted on the walls of special places where the ancient Egyptians place important people who had died.

Hieroglyphs

These are picture symbols used by the Ancient Egyptians as a way of writing.

Each symbol could stand for a sound, a word, or an idea.

They were often carved or painted on walls, temples, and tombs to tell stories, give information, or honour the gods and pharaohs.



Scarab beetle

A scarab beetle is a type of beetle that was very important to the Ancient Egyptians. They believed it was a symbol of new life, protection and good luck, because it was linked to the rising sun.

Scarab beetles were often shown in art or made into jewellery and amulets.



Ancient Egyptian Carvings

Many people are familiar with Ancient Egyptian carvings, through the legacy of their giant sculptures. This includes the Great Sphinx of Giza - a mythical creature with the body of a lion, and the head of a person. In this case, it is thought to be the head of Pharaoh Khafra. Sphinx statues, like this one, guard important religious sites like tombs, and temples.

