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Fun With Hieroglyphs

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Discover the secrets of hieroglyphs, the language of the ancient Egyptians, with this innovative kit from The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Learn the sounds and letters of the hieroglyphic alphabet, find out which symbols were thought to have magical powers, and read how this mysterious language was decoded after hundreds of years. Then, with the alphabet chart as your guide, use the 24 hieroglyphic stamps and ink pad to write messages, create designs, and make cards.

**Synopsis**

My third grade class was learning about Ancient Egypt. Last year several classes worked together, we used a stamp kit from another teacher which looked very similar to the one I purchased. The students stamped names in air-dry clay. Later they painted the hieroglyphics. The results were beautiful. The students enjoyed a fun, hands-on project. I purchased this kit and I am very disappointed. The hieroglyphics are tiny, they are too small to see in clay or paint. We stamped them on paper first, very unimpressive. The other version must have been older as it had much larger figures. It’s a great idea but I would not buy this kit it just does not work.

I had hoped that I could use this set/kit in my second grade classroom as a center. It is a bit too advanced for the average second grader but I am able to use it with the four G&T children in my class. After introducing the components and going over the text together they are able to have lots of
fun on their own. It encourages critical thinking as the children experiment with communicating in an alternative form. I wish the flap that forms the 'box' to contain the stamps and pad were made better. It is difficult to close and will not withstand much use. Since the back inside cover contains an essential resource (alphabet/hierglyph/sound translations) it isn't really a good idea to just store the book and stamps in another container. I am thinking of having a color copy of the cover made and laminated but I don't think I should have to do that. Putting that aside, I recommend the kit for children in grades 3 and up.

What a super product! It is a book-box: in the box there is a set of stamps with the 24 hieroglyphs that represent sounds, and there is also a small book with just the right amount of information for a child about the alphabet, the language, the Rosetta stone, and some puzzles to decipher. I learned so much with this book! I am so glad I bought it for my daughter. She is very interested in Egypt, loves puzzles, and break the code games. It is simply perfect for her. Note: the ink is on the dry side... I will probably buy some stamping ink at some point in time. Some reviewer complaint about the size of the stamps. I think they are just fine: they are for writing! My child has smaller stamps from when she was younger. They are about a quarter size each.

This "book" has a mini book inside with cool activities, an awesome stamp pad to make things funner and on the inside cover a full list of hieroglyphs, their sounds, their meanings, etc. This is a great book if you want to teach your kids hieroglyphs because it's fun, easy and very interesting.

This is a great little book and stamp set. The stamps are quite sturdy - the backs are hard plastic (not that cheap foam like in so many sets) and the images themselves are not rubber, more like a silicon or soft plastic. The stamped images are crisp and clear. The book provides interesting information about the history of hieroglyphs - my children were riveted to the section about the Rosetta Stone. They loved using the stamps to write coded letters to each other, and trying to translate them. Also, they made their own name cartouches (sp) using shrink plastic (Shrinky Dinks) - these turned out REALLY cool and they strung them on a black cord. Highly recommended for any Egyptologist or stamping addict.

As a homeschooler we really enjoyed the "hands on" approach that this book with ink and stamps gave us. It was great fun and it helped us to understand the first written language a whole lot more.
Love the idea behind this but the quality of the ink pad absolutely stinks! It is SO thin and certainly would not live up to a classroom of children all having a turn! The stamps themselves are cheap quality but if inked correctly and pressed down hard do make a good impression. Our children enjoyed writing their names and creating a secret message. SO what’s the book like? After starting with an introduction it moves on to talk about the hieroglyph alphabet. It then lists the alphabet in English, along with the hieroglyph and the sound it is used for. Some letters have more than one hieroglyph attached to them depending on the sound being made. Throughout the book there are puzzles quizzing you on what you have just read. Answers are provided in the back. How about the orientation? What is a cartouche? Several helpful phrases are provided so you can send your own secret messages. Learn how to count with hieroglyphs, about the scribes and the paper they wrote on. Of course no book on hieroglyphs would be complete without the mention of the Rosetta Stone which comes towards the end of this book. SO despite the poor quality of the ink pad I still recommend this book if you are studying Ancient Egypt as it allows children to actually practice what they have learned.

My kids--toddler to tween and in-between--all were excited about this one. When I pulled it out, they could not resist examining the stamps and trying to stamp messages. The enclosed booklet has phoneme charts to allow you to spell out words (like your name) with the hieroglyphs, codes to solve, and, of course, the requisite history of the rosetta stone, scribes, papyrus, etc. There’s even a section on the Ancient Egyptian counting / math system, so children can learn about Egypt throughout their curriculum. (Great for homeschooled or self-motivated kids.) It is really the perfect mixture of educational information and fun stuff to do. The book is beautifully illustrated, too, with color photographs of Ancient Egyptian artifacts and art. This book definitely has more to offer than the popular Hieroglyphs, even though the latter is much cheaper. This book is aimed at a higher reading level, but the stamps have such appeal for every age group, and the pictures are so informative all by themselves, that even a child in first or second grade could get a lot out of this book. Older children will get the most out of it, since it offers so much information. Really, this is a great choice for families looking for one resource to share with children of different ages on this subject.

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