



School holiday activities

Ancient Egypt

July 2021



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

CHAU CHAK WING
MUSEUM

Pyramid block with cartouche

The Great Pyramid of Giza consists of roughly 2.3 million blocks. Each one hand carved and dragged into place by workers to build just one pyramid for Pharaoh Khufu. With our cartouche branded block pattern, you can make your own pyramid at home with some coloured pencils, paper, scissors and glue stick or sticky tape.

Cartouches were used to emphasise and protect important names in inscriptions, such as those found on the pyramids, as well as other kinds of writing. In ancient Egypt this distinction was most commonly reserved for the names of royalty and the cartouches would have been called *shenu* which was written as a stylised loop of rope.

To really leave your mark on this pyramid you can write your name, your family members names, friends or even pets in Egyptian hieroglyphs by using our helpful alphabet page. Much like some of the groups of workers who built the pyramid who left their own names pressed or inscribed into the bricks they helped set in place.

Instructions

1. Write out your name in hieroglyphs using our helpful alphabet page and decorate your cartouche
2. Cut out carefully around the solid lines of the pattern
3. Once you have cut away all the excess paper, fold your cube along the dotted lines so they are on the outside, and then fold your cartouche in half to make 2 equal squares out of it.
4. Now using either a glue stick or sticky tape attach the tabs to the panels to create an open lid box.
5. Then carefully press the final square down making a cube.
6. You now have your first brick in your own pyramid.






























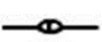



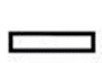


Inside this cartouche is written the birthname of the Pharaoh, Ramesses III:

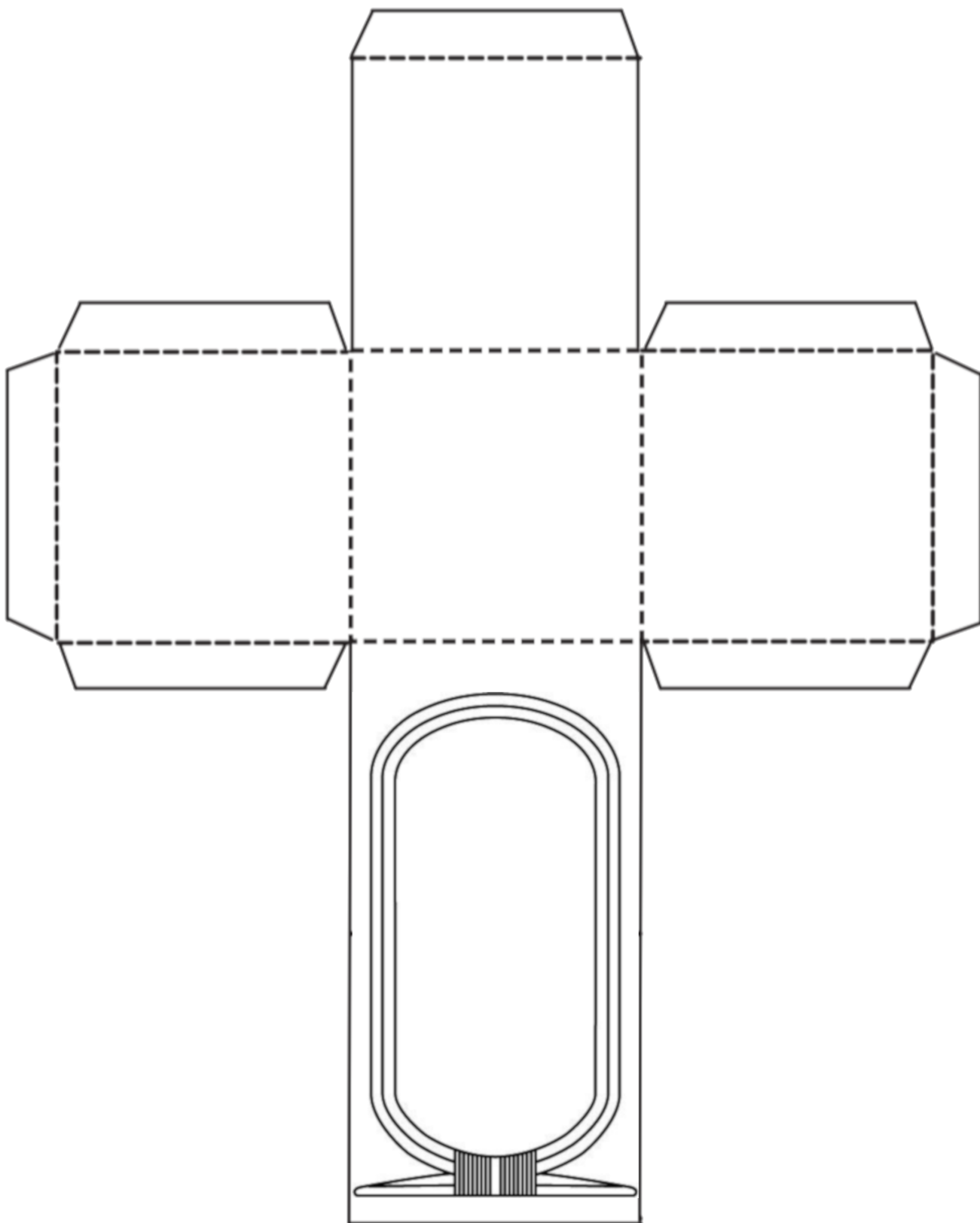
Ramesses-heka-iwenu
(Ra-mss HKA iwn.w)
or Ramesses ruler of
Heliopolis.

Detail from a colour reproduction of
Ramesses III palace window (1184-1153
BC), 20th century, artist unknown,
UA1992.34

Write your name in hieroglyphs

A 	H 	N 	U 
B 	I 	O 	V 
C  or 	J 	P 	W 
D 	K 	Q 	X  
E   or  or 		R 	Y   or 
F 	L 	S 	Z 
G 	M 	T 	SH 

Pyramid block with cartouche



Scarab beetle amulet

The scarab beetle was a sacred being for much of Ancient Egyptian History, and scarabs have been found carved from bone, ivory, stone, Egyptian faience, and precious metals in many finds across many excavations of Egyptian sites.

This scarab can now serve as your own amulet or symbol of resurrection and renewal as they did for Egyptians for over 2000 years.

If you need inspiration, you can look at 100s of scarab beetle amulets like this one on our Collection Search:

www.sydney.edu.au/museums/collections_search/

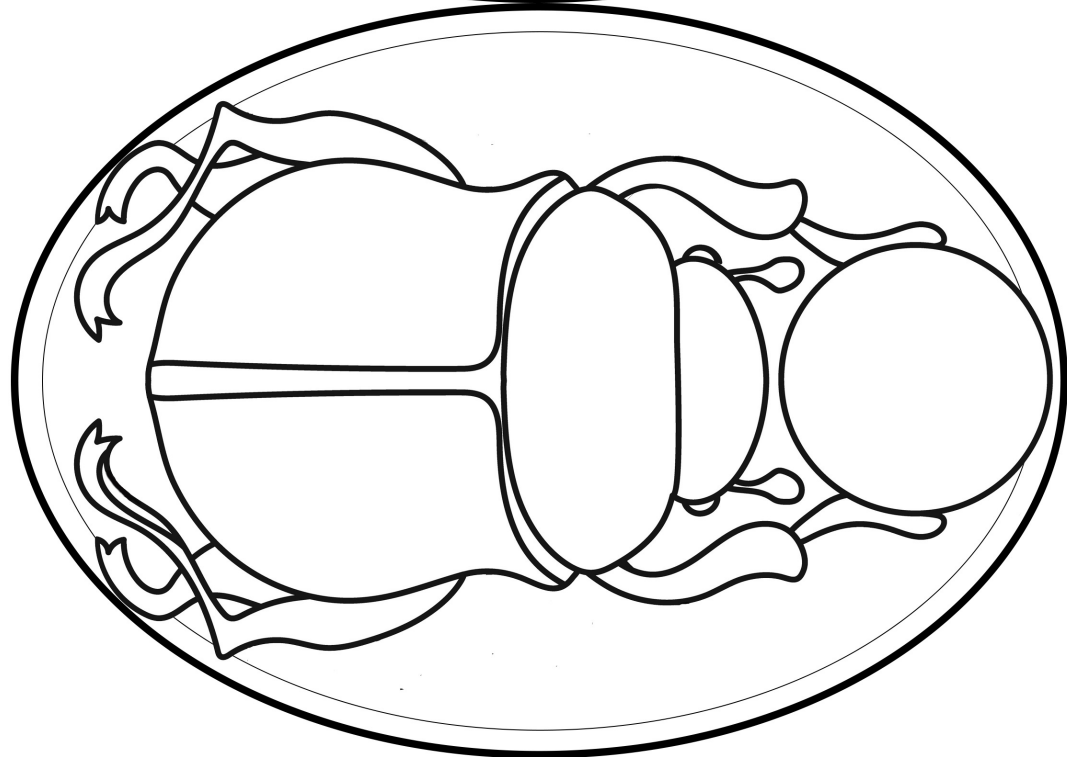
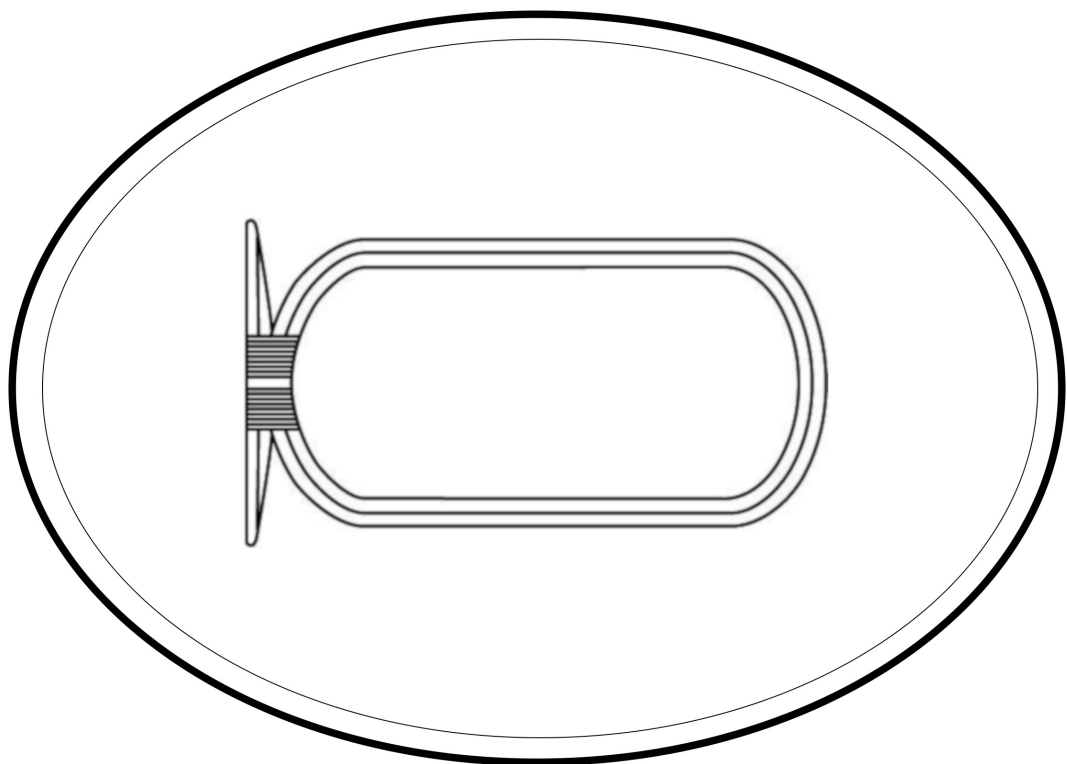


Scarab Amulet, Middle Kingdom to Second Intermediate Period 2030 BC - 1540 BC, Egypt, NM2017.271

Instructions

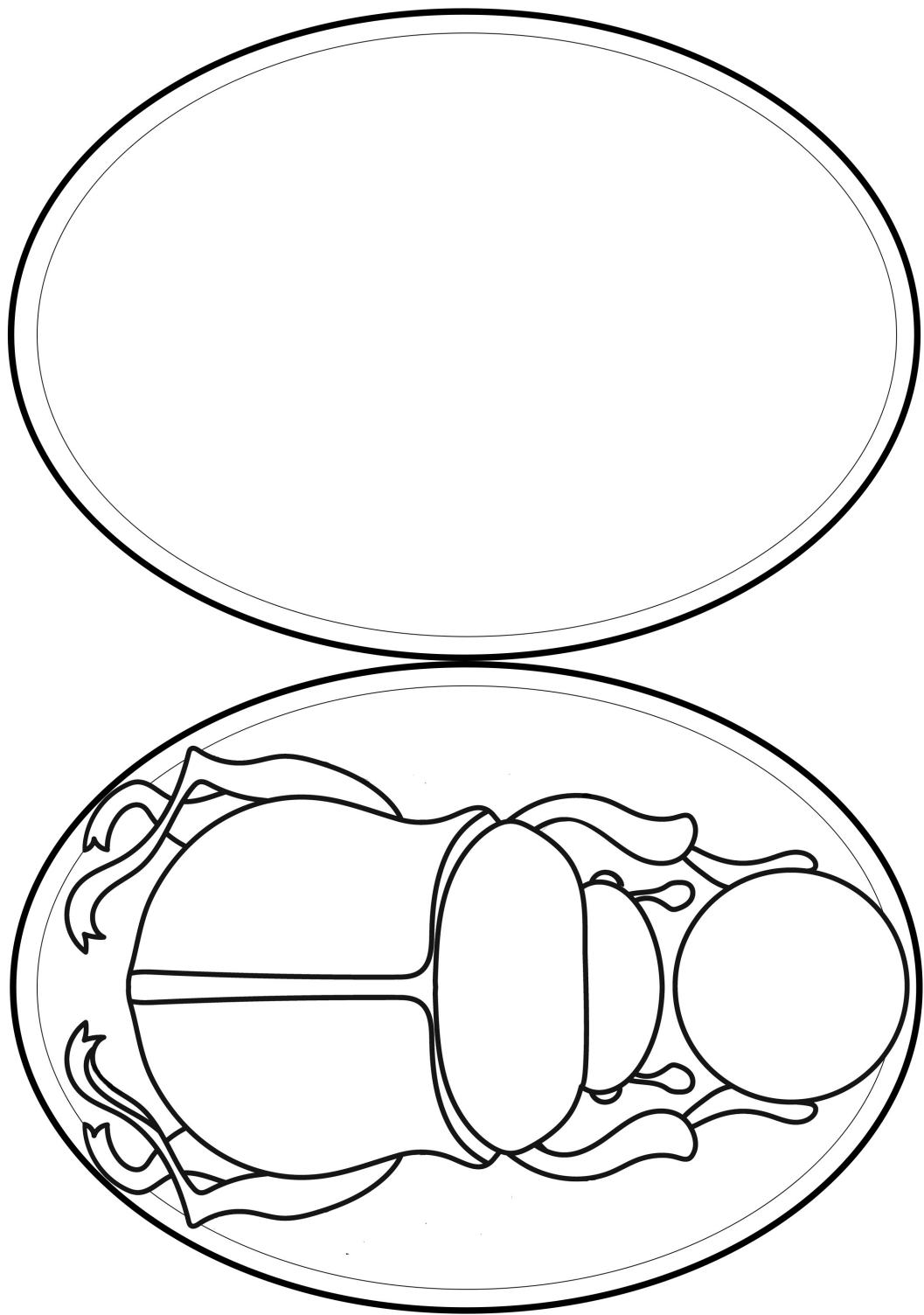
1. Decorate your scarab beetle on the one side as bright or as colourful as you like. On the other side, you can either write your name in a cartouche, and decorate around the edges, or fill it in with any drawings or colours and patterns you like.
2. Once it is decorated to your heart's desire, carefully cut around the edges of the two ovals. You can either cut each out individually and glue them together or cut to the middle and fold them over to match up.
3. Should you wish to wear your new scarab as an amulet you can take some string and punch a hole near the top to tie it around your neck.

Scarab beetle amulet



Amulet with cartouche

Scarab beetle amulet



Blank amulet

