

Lesson Ideas – The gods of Egypt

How about a lesson on the gods of Ancient Egypt?

To help the students grasp the concept of the Egyptians own concept of their gods:
Have the students write a list of animals native to their own area, such as kangaroos, koalas, dogs, cats etc. Write this list on the blackboard.
Now have them list the functionality of each animal.

Examples are:

Wise as an owl = wisdom = the god of schools.
Dog a mans best friend = friendship = god of friendship.
Kangaroo fast moving = fitness = god of sport.
Get the idea?

Now have the students draw the gods in the same format as used in Ancient Egypt.

They could draw humans with the head of a kangaroo for the god of sport. They could draw a human with a dogs head for the god of friendship and so on.

They could also use abstract images to create gods as well such as dollar signs etc.

Here are some promptings that they could look for:

The god of the afterlife
The god of life
The god of entertainment
The god of money
The god of business

Now have them draw their favourite new god either on a piece of parchment paper (available from stationary suppliers) or on a piece of papyrus (available from Historic Connections), and colour and display them around the classroom.

Discussion points:

Why do you think the Ancient Egyptians worship the following gods?

Anubis the Jackal headed god of cemeteries and embalming.

Banebdjedet the ram headed god of verity and sky.

Heket the frog headed god of child birth

Horus the falcon headed god of the sky and kingship.

Khepri the scarab beetle god of creation.

Mut the vulture god of motherhood.

This may take some research and involve some unusual discussion!

