

hands on!

make a hippo toy

Meets Illinois State Goals: 25

(Subject Areas: Social Studies, Fine Arts)

Background Information for Teachers

Egyptian children sometimes played with wooden toys shaped like the animals that lived nearby in the Nile River, such as hippos and crocodiles. These toys often had hinges that allowed their mouths to move up and down. Egyptian children also enjoyed physical sports such as juggling and playing board games at home.

Objectives

Compare the customs and traditions of ancient and modern cultures

Use appropriate skills and materials to create a three-dimensional object

Materials

Copies of **Student Stuff** hand-out: "How to Make a Hippo Toy" (p. 82)

Three large wooden tongue depressors (1" wide)

Scissors

Small paper cup

Stapler

White glue

Scrap block of wood, approximately 2" x 2" x 3"

Water paints, brushes, and water jars

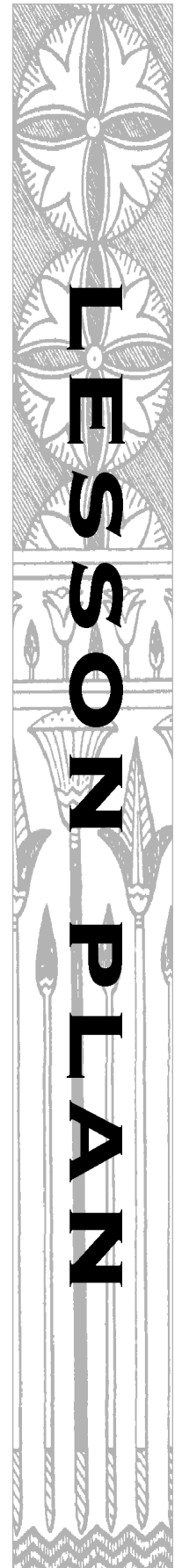
Optional: wiggle eyes

Time Needed

Two class periods

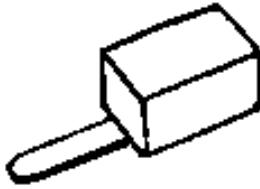
Suggested Procedure

- 1) Talk with students about Egyptian children playing with toys shaped like familiar animals, and ask them if they can think of any similar modern examples.
- 2) Hand out art supplies and copies of the **Student Stuff** sheet: "How to Make a Hippo Toy."



how to make a hippo toy

- 1) Take one of your wooden craft sticks and glue it onto the bottom of your block of wood.



- 2) Take the other two sticks and cut them in half. Glue them onto the block of wood, two on each side.

- 3) To make the hippo's head, cut your small paper cup in half lengthwise. Then staple the wide ends of the cup together again, leaving a slit for the mouth, as shown here.



- 4) Go back to your wooden construction. When the glue is dry, turn it over. Attach the paper cup by gluing the top of it onto the overhanging stick.



- 5) Paint the hippo and glue on wiggle eyes if you have them.

