

# The Oriental Institute Museum at the University of Chicago

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[http://www.oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/ED/TRC/trc\\_home.html](http://www.oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/ED/TRC/trc_home.html)

## LIFE IN ANCIENT EGYPT: Daily Life

### Farmers & Pharaohs

#### A Classroom and Museum Activity

**Subject Areas:** Language Arts, Social Studies

**Created By:** Cynthia Sprague, A.N. Pritzker Elementary, Chicago, IL

**For Grade Level:** 5, 6

**Meets Illinois State Goals:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 15, 16, 17, 18

**Time Needed:** 3 to 4 class periods, and a day for a trip to the Oriental Institute

#### Objectives:

Students will learn about social structure in ancient Egypt by comparing the lives of ancient Egyptian farmers with the lives of noblemen and pharaohs.

Students will use a variety of sources, including books, the internet, and museum exhibits, to do research and prepare presentations.

#### Materials:

Paper, pen, pencil, markers, paint and paint brushes, poster board, computer with internet access, and books on Egypt.

#### Suggested Procedure:

Students will be divided into two large groups. One group will be responsible for researching and presenting a day in the life of an Egyptian farmer and his family. The second group will be responsible for researching and presenting a day in the life of a nobleman and his family. Each group will be divided into smaller groups, which will be responsible for information on a part of Egyptian life, such as types of houses, clothes, food, work, children, land ownership, family structure, education, traditions, religious practices, and opportunities for advancement.

After classroom research and a self-guided or docent led visit to the Egyptian Gallery of the Oriental Institute Museum, an oral presentation using posters as visual aids will be given by each group. Both groups will also write a paper that contains the information presented. Posters will be displayed on a hallway bulletin board so the whole school community can see and learn from the students' work.

#### Evaluation:

Oral presentation 40%

Poster 40%

Paper 20%

Points will be given for each component, added together, and a grade equivalent given.