# **Daily Life in Ancient Egypt- Role Play**

Social Class: Priests

You will create a 3-5 minute role play with your group about the daily life of *ancient Egyptian Priests*. Make it entertaining -- HAVE FUN WITH IT!!

### **Step 1:** Assign Roles

Each member will have a role, or job, to do for the play. This does NOT mean you only do your job and nothing else. You will all work TOGETHER! This is more of a guideline to help you organize your play.

*Historian*: You will <u>lead</u> the group during Step 2. Make sure all information in your play is **historically accurate** and your group is using all the information necessary from the textbook to inform the audience about your social class. However, ALL group members **can and should** help out with this step.

*Director:* You will <u>lead</u> the group during Step 3. Make sure the play includes ALL of the required elements and involves everyone. You are leading this step, as in make sure <u>everything</u> <u>and everyone is included</u>. This does **NOT** mean only your decisions are final. Everyone in the group should have a say.

*Special Effects Designer:* You will lead the group during Step 4. Work with your group what best costumes and props would make your role play as **realistic as possible**.

Narrator/Host: You will help with the rehearsal of the plays and will 'narrate' the play as well. Make sure your group members are speaking LOUDLY and CLEARLY and are always **FACING THE AUDIENCE!** During the play narrate as to what is happening at that time and any change of scenery. The host can, of course, be 'in' the play as well.

## **Step 2:** Learn About Your Egyptian Social Class

Read the section in your textbook about your social class. The historian can decide if the group will read quietly, read with partner (WRAP), or read as a group. This step is VITAL in understanding your social class. If you don't know the correct facts about your class you will have an unsuccessful role play. After reading, complete the section in your reading notes.

## **Step 3:** Plan Your Role Play

The director will help <u>lead</u> (not take complete control) the group in planning out your 3-5 minute role play about your ancient Egyptian social class. If you would like, you may include members from the 'audience' to be a part of your play (2 maximum).

## The Setting/Scene for Priests:

You will bring to life the scene of priests **embalming the body** of a pharaoh to produce a mummy

### What to Include in Your Role Play:

Your role play should highlight important information from the textbook and reading notes and include these parts:

- 1. The host and group members will greet the audience (and/or visitors), using the ancient Egyptian Priest welcome of *em hotep nefer!* 
  - a. Explain the <u>setting and scene</u> that you are in and which social class you are (saying it proudly and calmly).
- 2. Explain the different types of priests and what their duties were (high priest, temple, and priestesses).
- 3. Explain to your audience why you can't eat fish, wear wool, and why you must bathe 3-4 times a day.
- 4. Show the items that will be buried with the body. Tell your audience what the Egyptians believed in after they died. Was everyone mummified?
- 5. Conduct the 'embalming' process to create a mummy (removal of organs, where they put them and which stayed in the body, time length, washing and oiling, wrapping, burial, etc...). This step will take up most of your time. Please make sure you are doing it slowly so everyone can see, hear, and understand the process.
- 6. Thank your audience (and/or visitors) and say goodbye with the word *senebti!*

### **Step 4:** Brainstorm Ideas of Costumes and Props

The special effects designer leads the group in coming up with ideas for costumes, props, and other special effects that will make the play more "realistic." However, ALL members can have ideas, the special effects designer will <u>lead</u> their group, not take total control. If you want a background picture to project you may (if not I will project the image found in your section of your textbook).

## **Step 5:** Rehearse Your Role Play

The host will help make sure that during rehearsals all the elements are included to get full points for the play. Here is your rubric for the role play:

/5 Play is 3-5 minutes in length
/5 Actors use their costumes and props appropriately
/5 Followed directions/ worked hard in rehearsals/ fun and entertaining
/30 TOTAL (summative)