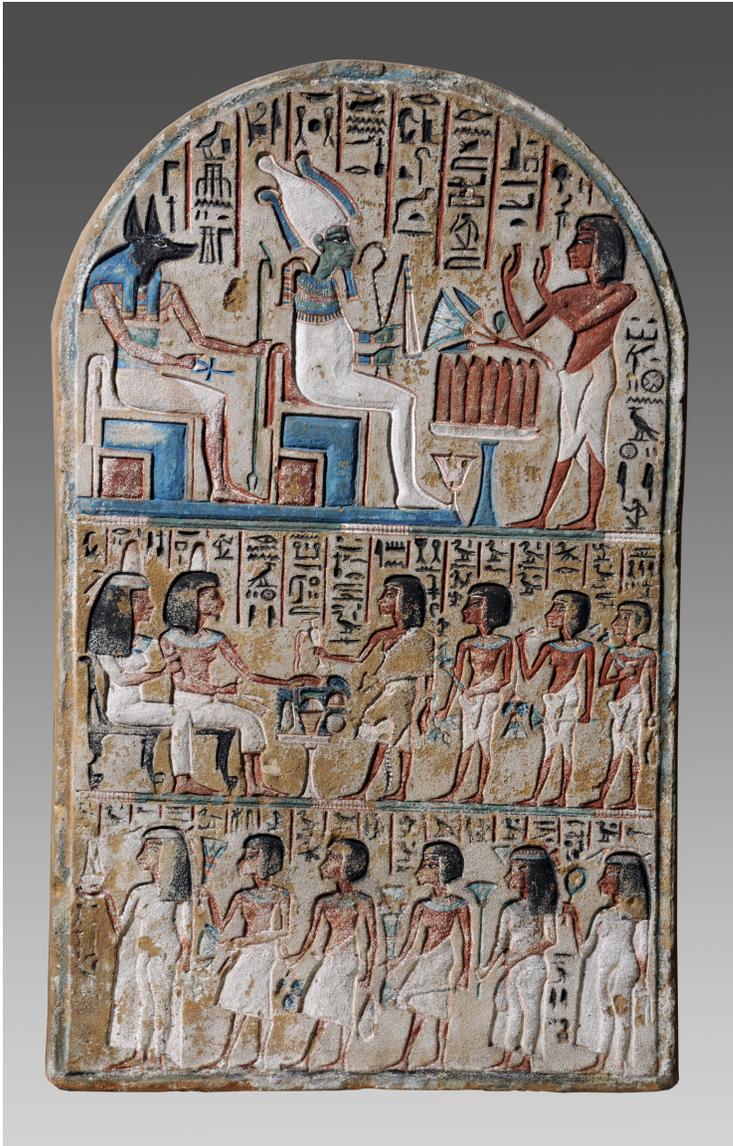




# Kimbell Kids | Get Creative!

*Design Your Own Stela*

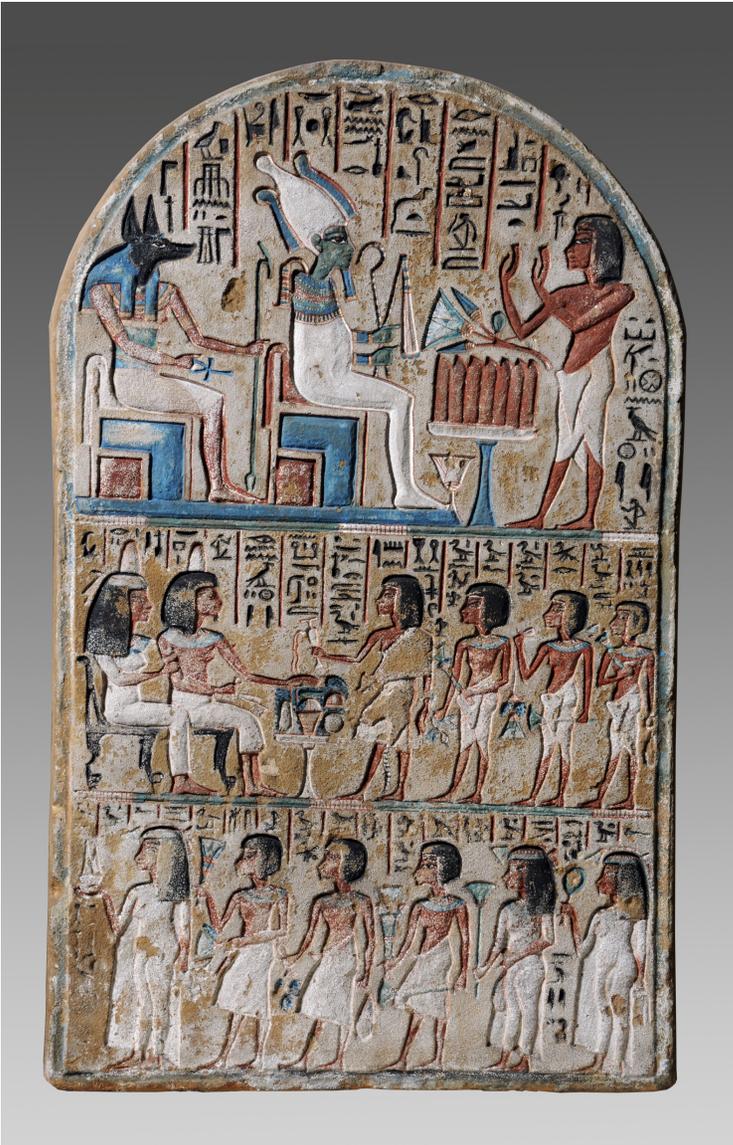
QUEEN **NEFERTARI'S** EGYPT



## Explore: Stela of Nakhi

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- **COMPARE** the scenes depicted in each register of the stela. What is happening, and how are the scenes related?
- **NOTICE** the distinctive representation of the figures. Which parts are shown in profile and which are viewed from the front? Egyptian artists chose to show each body part in its most recognizable form!
- **DESCRIBE** the colors that you notice and where they are repeated in the composition. Do you associate ideas with certain colors? Blue was highly prized in ancient Egypt and symbolized life, rebirth, fertility, and protection.



## Find the details

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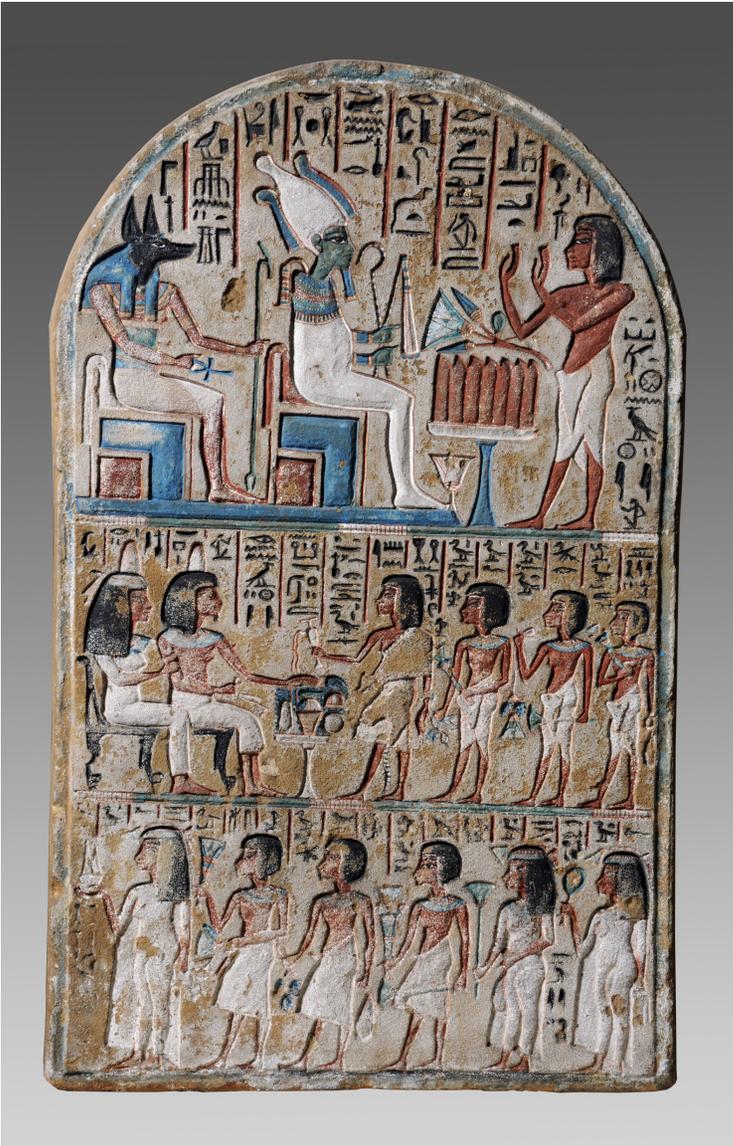
### Atef Crown

This tall crown with two blue ostrich feathers identifies the Egyptian god Osiris, ruler of the Underworld. Dressed in white mummy linens, he holds a curved crook and flail symbolizing his kingly power. What else do you notice about him?



### Lotus Flower

The lotus often appears in Egyptian art. The flower, which closes and sinks when the sun goes down and reopens when the sun rises, is a symbol of creation and resurrection. How many lotuses do you see?



## Find the details

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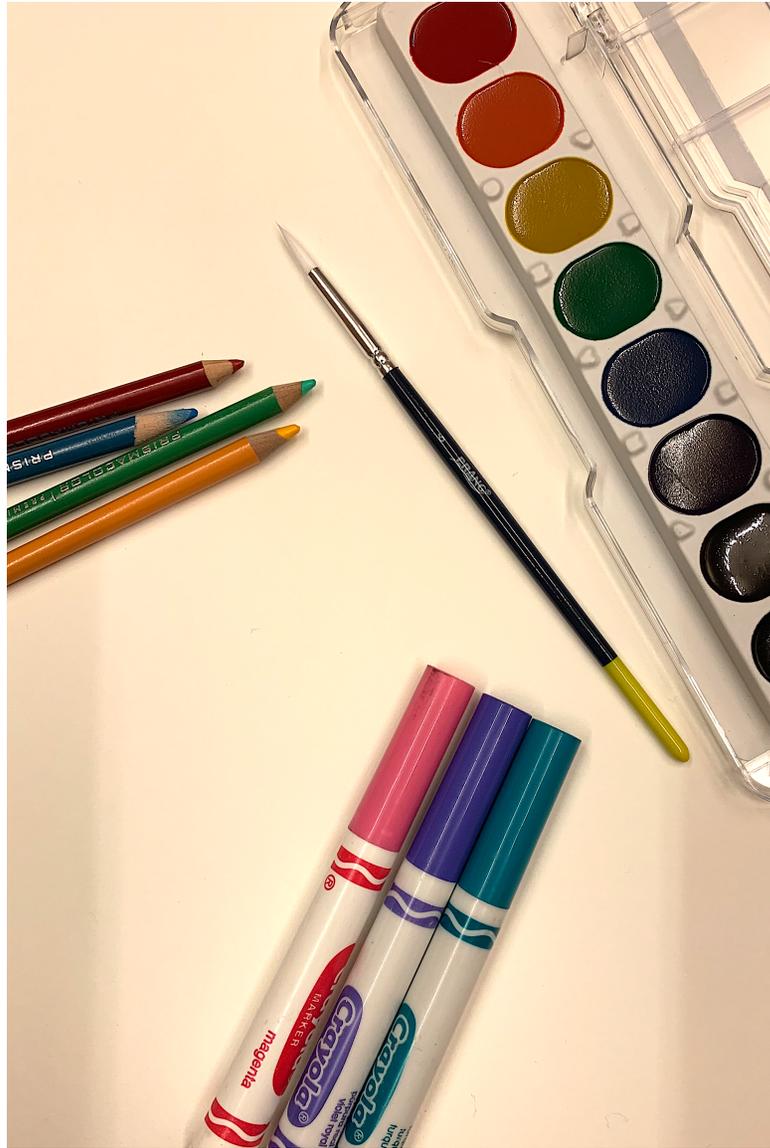
### Ankh

The god Anubis, shown with the head of a jackal, holds an ankh, which means “life.” Anubis is in charge of mummification in ancient Egypt. What else is he holding?



### Offering

Ancient Egyptians made daily offerings of food and drink to the gods, which we see at the top. Below, the same man, Nakhi, and his wife receive an offering from their son, who pours water over the table of goods. The rest of the family holds symbols for rebirth or life after death.



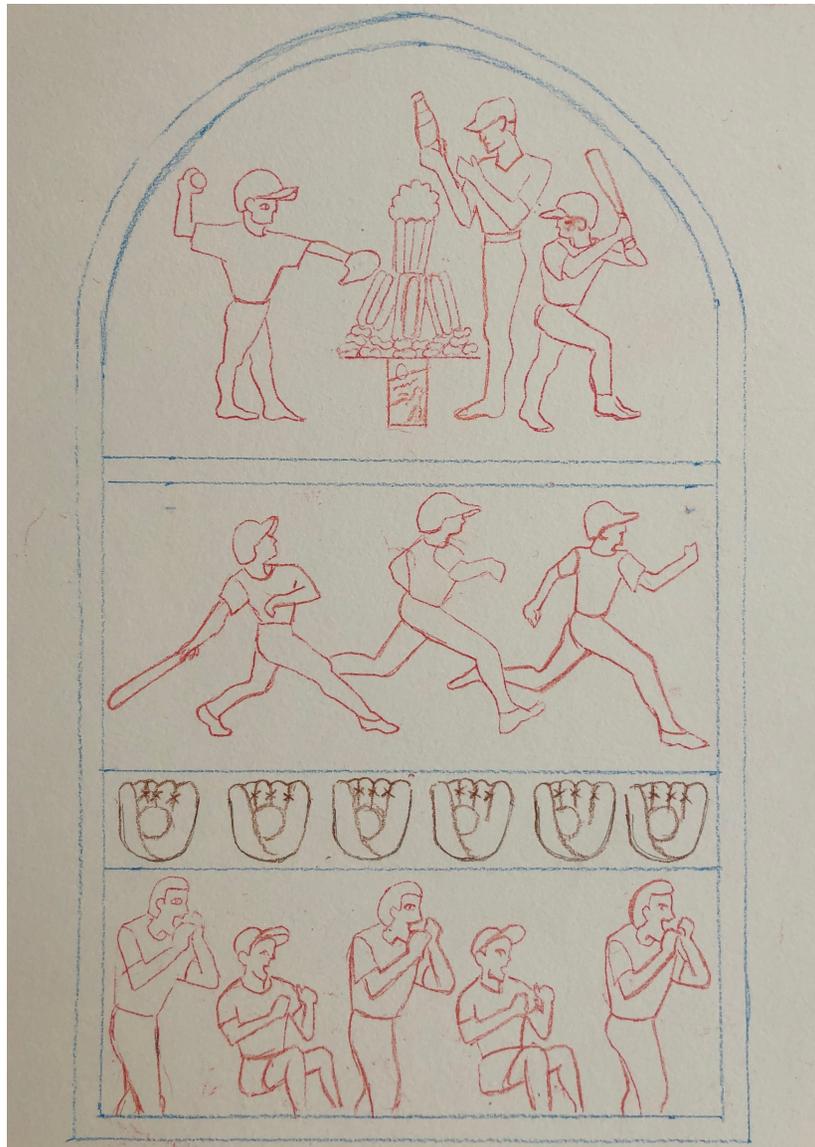
## Time to make!

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**CREATE** an original work of art inspired by this stela, using two or more registers for a narrative that includes different symbolic objects. Consider what other design elements would complement the figurative scenes.

Use what you have at home to design your stela. Here's what we used:

- Colored pencils
- Watercolor paint set with brush; or markers
- Watercolor paper



## Planning your composition

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- Use a colored pencil to lightly trace the shape of a stela (a tall rectangle with a curved top) on your watercolor paper. Make it big enough to fill the entire page, then add a second outline to create an outer border.
- Next, draw double lines to create 3 sections, or registers, and decide what kind of story you would like to tell. Choose some important symbols to provide clues about the meaning of your narrative.
- Using colored pencils, draw the outlines for your figures and objects for each scene. Make them big enough to fill each register.



## Start painting!

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- Plan which colors you want to paint with the watercolors. Use the top part of the open watercolor case to mix colors with a **little** water to create the color you want! Add more water to mix lighter colors.
- Start painting. To avoid colors running together, move around to paint different areas. Once painted areas have dried, you can add the next color.
- TIPS: Use a paper towel to make sure that your brush does not get too wet! Clean your brush in a cup of water when you want to change colors. Be sure to wipe any excess water on the paper towel before moving to the next color.



## Finishing details

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- Use a favorite color to create patterns in open areas.
- Use colored pencils to draw faces and details.
- When you are almost done, draw or paint a border around the outside and between registers.

## Show us what you made!

- Share a photo of your artwork on social media and tag #KimbellKids.

**Art**

*Stela of Nakhi*, probably from Deir el-Medina, New Kingdom, late 18th dynasty (c. 1300 BC), painted sandstone.  
Museo Egizio, Turin, Italy

**Credits**

Education department  
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