

# Parent Guide

## How can I use this with my children?

Have some ancient Egyptian-themed crafting fun with this great salt dough scarab beetle activity.

## How does this help my children's learning?

Help your child discover more about the ancient Egyptians and scarab beetles with this lovely craft activity. This activity can also help your child to develop their fine motor and crafting skills.

## Ideas for further learning:

Bring ancient Egypt to life with this fantastic [Scarab Beetle Augmented Reality \(AR\) 3D Quick Look Model](#).



# Make a Salt Dough Scarab Beetle Craft Activity



## You will need:

- 100g plain flour
- 50g table salt
- 50ml warm water
- baking tray
- paints and paintbrushes
- mixing bowl
- rolling pin



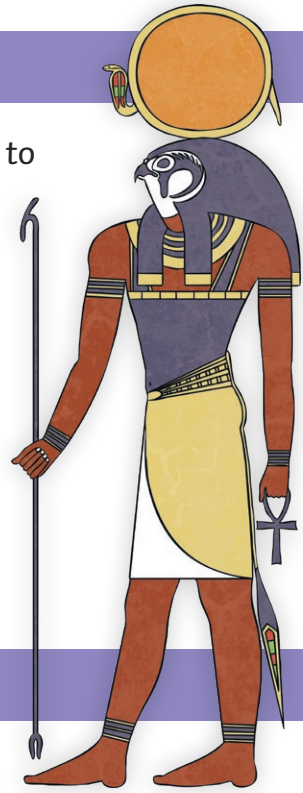
## Instructions:

1. Mix the salt and flour in a bowl.  
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2. Slowly add water and keep mixing until the mixture is moldable, but not sticky.  
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3. If the dough is sticky, add more flour to dry out the dough.  
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4. Roll the dough out on a board (use a floured surface so that the dough does not stick to it).  
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5. To make your scarab beetle, you will need to place the dough onto a baking tray and shape the dough into a scarab beetle shape. Look carefully at the image of the scarab beetle on this sheet to help you.  
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6. Leave your scarab beetle on the baking tray to air dry for several hours.  
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7. Once your scarab beetle is dry enough to bake, place the baking tray into an oven and bake at 150°C for an hour.  
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8. Remove from the oven and leave your scarab beetle to cool.  
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9. Finally, use bright colours to paint your creation.

## What is a scarab beetle?

The ancient Egyptians used amulets (a small piece of jewellery or ornament) to bring good fortune and protection. Amulets in the form of a scarab beetle were very popular. Scarab beetles (or dung beetles as they are known today) were found all over ancient Egypt. Scarab beetles were believed to symbolise the sun and rebirth - each day they rolled dung balls, just like the sun moving across the sky.

The bright colours used to decorate the scarab beetle amulets also had a meaning: yellow symbolised the desert and the sun, red represented Ra (the god of the sun), green symbolised growth and, of course, blue symbolised the River Nile.



Some ingredients and/or materials used might cause allergic reactions or health problems. You should ensure that you are fully aware of the allergies and health conditions of those taking part. If you have any concerns about your own or somebody else's health or wellbeing, always speak to a qualified health professional. Activities listed within the resource should always be supervised by an appropriate adult. Children should be supervised when using sharp items such as scissors or other tools. Please make sure you are aware that children may put craft items into their mouths, and that they should wash their hands afterwards. By using this resource, you acknowledge that it is the responsibility of supervising adults to ensure the safety of children in their care and that we will accept no liability as a result of the activity.

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