**SunSpaceArt**

*Art Worksheet 16 – by Helen Schell – Ra, the Sun God*

**Background**

The SunSpaceArt project aims to inspire children and to develop creativity. The project brings together arts and science learning (STEAM). The team comprises scientists, space ambassadors and artists. The project is funded by the Science and Technology Facilities Council. For more information, see the [www.sunspaceart.org](http://www.sunspaceart.org) website or contact info@sunspaceart.

This art worksheet is designed for teachers to deliver SunSpaceArt lessons independently.

**Grade:** Key stage 1 or 2  
**Ideal Class size:** 24-30

**Objectives:** for teachers and pupils to create original artworks about the Sun within the context of Ra, the Sun god, and Egyptian mythology. The aim is to enable a greater understanding of space science by using art and craft techniques and literacy. The links below can also be used for story writing, poetry, performance, maths and IT sessions. This is an ideal format to introduce the children to careers in science and the arts.

**Workshop Themes:**
- solar science (energy, light, spectrum and magnetism)
- solar and satellite technology (communication and IT)
- Sun & Earth (environment)
- Ra the Sun god and Egyptian mythology

**Materials:**
- Large sheet of paper (1.5m x 1.5m)
- Recycled domestic plastics, paper and card
- Collage materials (lots of gold coloured materials, tin foil, stickers, holographic paper & printed images)
- Scissors & craft knives (age appropriate)
- PVA glue, glue sticks, tapes, staplers, DS sticky pads, and glue guns for older children
- Water based paints & brushes of different sizes (optional)
- White & coloured paper & card (A4 – A1)
- Pencils, crayons & felt tips

**Workshop plan**

**Running time:** full day activity or several lessons over a longer period.

**Activities:** The aim is to create a series of Sun and Ra artworks in terms of solar science and space exploration, relating these to ancient beliefs. The children should include written facts with their art and design. They can work on their individual artworks and also create a large joint artwork by working in teams. Please set out a range of materials for easy access and to promote experimentation. All materials and activities are suggestions and we hope that teachers and pupils will develop their own customised versions as this is about the Sun and discovering new things. Pupils can work in groups, pairs or as individuals.

**Extension Themes**
- Ancient mythology about the Sun, stars, planets & cosmos
Step 1: Workshops should begin with either a PowerPoint presentation or pupils can do their own research either online or by using books and magazines. A whole class Q&A session will get ideas flowing and enable children to develop their chosen project.

Step 2: The children should choose a ‘Mission Team’ name then devise and create a Sun/Ra themed project. Having reference images and facts about the Sun and ancient Egypt (Ra) on the table will assist with this activity.

Step 3: A planning session could be in the form of an ‘Ideas Book’ or large sheet of paper.

Step 4: The pupils should select a variety of materials to produce 2D images, large and small.

Final Project
All artworks and scientific investigation can be brought together to create a Sun show or can be presented as individual work. They should present a ‘Show & Tell’ in the classroom and projects can be used for school assemblies, exhibitions and parent events. This is an ideal format to introduce the children to careers in science and art.

Discover more - online resources for research & development:
http://www.suntrek.org/
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ra
http://sci.esa.int/solar-orbiter
https://www.esa.int/esaKIDSen/TheSun.html
https://www.nasa.gov/sun
https://www.britishmuseum.org/learning/schools_and_teachers/resources/cultures/ancient_egypt.aspx
http://thenewbridgeproject.com/portfolio/helen-schell/

Workshop Images