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AMIF Programme  
of the European Union

# Integrating migrant children in schools through artistic expression



## Module 1: Journeys Theme 1B: Contacts & Connections

Prepared by Bath Spa University

*The ArtsTogether project has been funded with support from the European Commission, AMIF (Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund) Union Actions Programme. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.*

## Theme 1B Focus: Contacts & Connections

Theme 1B Learning Activities stimulate exploration of our human journeys through 3 artworks from different times and cultures :

- ▶ A Benin plaque: *The Oba with Europeans*
- ▶ A Mughal miniature painting: *Emperor Akbar inspecting the building works at Fatehpur Sikri*
- ▶ An Egyptian tomb painting: *Nebamun hunting birds in the marshes*

# Learning Resources & Materials



- ▶ Three images with information.
- ▶ Weblinks provide examples and contextual information.
- ▶ Visual art outcomes use paper and coloured pencils.

## Level 1: Benin Plaque: *The Oba with Europeans*

- ▶ What questions can we ask about the plaque?
- ▶ The bigger picture: the art of Benin
- ▶ Designing a plaque to show a personal achievement





## *The Oba with Europeans*

© The Trustees of the British Museum, 16-17<sup>th</sup> C. Creative Commons (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0):

[https://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection\\_online/collection\\_object\\_details.aspx?objectId=610486&partId=1&searchText=Benin+Plaque:+the+oba+with+ europeans&images=on&page=1](https://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection_online/collection_object_details.aspx?objectId=610486&partId=1&searchText=Benin+Plaque:+the+oba+with+ europeans&images=on&page=1)

Who ?

What ?

When ?

Where ?

Why ?

How ?



The oba in the centre of the plaque is looking directly at us. He sits on a throne and wears a helmet-like crown. The oba's coral neck rings and ceremonial axe show his wealth and power.

The two people on either side of the oba are **court officials**. Their belts are hung with small crocodile heads - the emblem of officials who worked with the Europeans.



*The Oba with Europeans* © The Trustees of the British Museum





In the background are two **Portuguese merchants**. They have long hair and feathers in their hats.

One holds a manilla - a brass bracelet. The Portuguese brought huge quantities of brass manillas to Benin.

*The Oba with Europeans* © The Trustees of the British Museum

# The bigger picture - find out more:

Learning resources and links on another Benin Plaque

[http://www.teachinghistory100.org/objects/about\\_the\\_object/the\\_oba\\_of\\_benin](http://www.teachinghistory100.org/objects/about_the_object/the_oba_of_benin)

A British Museum guide to the art of Benin

[https://www.britishmuseum.org/learning/schools\\_and\\_teachers/resources/all\\_resources/resource\\_art\\_of\\_benin.aspx](https://www.britishmuseum.org/learning/schools_and_teachers/resources/all_resources/resource_art_of_benin.aspx)

Watch a video: *The Lost Kingdoms of Africa*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QW\\_kaUuUg8Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QW_kaUuUg8Y)



# Plaque design: your greatest achievement

- ▶ The Benin plaques showed the achievements of the oba.
- ▶ Design a plaque to show one of your own achievements.
- ▶ Put a picture of yourself in the centre - you should be the biggest thing on the plaque!
- ▶ Add other people who helped with your achievement (make them smaller).
- ▶ Include objects representing your achievement - these could be worn by you or held by people on the plaque.

## Level 2: Mughal Miniature

- ▶ What do we hear, smell and see as we walk through the painting?
- ▶ The bigger picture: The Akbarnama and Mughal miniatures
- ▶ Making our own little books to show significant events in our lives



Walk through the picture with a partner (start at the bottom)

What can you:

smell?

hear?

see?

*Emperor Akbar inspecting the building works at Fatehpur Sikri*

© Victoria and Albert Museum, London, 16<sup>th</sup> C.:

<http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O9531/akbar-painting-tulsi/>



Emperor Akbar is the biggest person in the picture. He is giving orders to a workman at the site.

Emperor Akbar's servants. One carries a fly whisk and the other a fan.



Pigeons on the walls of Fatehpur Sikri. The emperor used pigeons to carry messages.

Akbar's bodyguards -with their hands on their swords.

*Emperor Akbar inspecting the building works at Fatehpur Sikri* © Victoria and Albert Museum, London.



Labourers  
carrying  
bricks and  
mortar

People  
making  
mortar

Animals  
carrying  
mortar



Stone-  
carvers

# The bigger picture - find out more:

A link to the Mughal miniature on the Victoria and Albert Museum website

<http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O9531/akbar-painting-tulsi/>

More scenes from the Akbarnama from the collections of the Victoria and Albert Museum

<http://collections.vam.ac.uk/search/?offset=15&limit=15&narrow=&extrasearch=&q=Akbarnama&commit=Search&quality=0&objectnamesearch=&placesearch=&after=&before=&namesearch=&materialsearch=&mnsearch=&locationsearch=>

Learning resources and links based on a Mughal miniature from *Teaching History with 100 Objects*

[http://www.teachinghistory100.org/objects/mughal\\_painting](http://www.teachinghistory100.org/objects/mughal_painting)

A map showing how the Mughal Empire changed over time

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AWaOd-QYP8w>



# Little book design

- ▶ The *Akbarnama* recorded the most important events in Akbar's life.
- ▶ Make your own little book to show three important events in your life. Follow the instructions for making a little book:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21qi9ZcQVto>
- ▶ Choose 3 events and decide what to include for each one in a Mughal-style miniature.
- ▶ Discuss the events with your group
- ▶ Share your little book with your group.

# Level 3: Egyptian Tomb Painting

- ▶ Analysing the painting
- ▶ The bigger picture: Nebamun's Tomb
- ▶ Making our own mural fragments



What details do you notice in the picture?

***Nebamun hunting in the marshes 1350BC***

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[https://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection\\_online/collection\\_object\\_details.aspx?objectId=119661&partId=1&searchText=Nebamun+tomb+paintings&images=on&page=1](https://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection_online/collection_object_details.aspx?objectId=119661&partId=1&searchText=Nebamun+tomb+paintings&images=on&page=1)





The hieroglyphics say that Nebamun is 'enjoying himself and seeing beauty' in the marshes

Nebamun is standing on a small papyrus boat in the marshes of the River Nile. Nebamun is holding a snake-headed throw-stick in one hand and three decoy herons in the other.

Nebamun's wife Hatchepsut stands at the back of the boat.

*Nebamun hunting in the marshes* ©  
The Trustees of the British Museum



The marshes are full of life: papyrus, lotus flowers, butterflies, fish and birds.

A cat catches birds among the papyrus stems. The other birds are panicking.

Nebamun's young daughter sits in the middle of the boat.



# Future life fragments design

- ▶ The fragments of Nebamun's tomb paintings give us glimpses of his ideal life.
- ▶ Think about your own hopes and aspirations for the future: family, work, home, friends, pets, leisure interests, places, celebrations.
- ▶ Draw picture fragments of some of these on torn paper or card of different shapes and sizes.
- ▶ Talk about your picture fragments with other people in your group.



# The bigger picture - find out more:

A link to the image *Nebamun hunting in the marshes* on the Google Cultural Institute website

<https://britishmuseum.withgoogle.com/object/nebamun-hunting-in-the-marshes>

The British Museum's 3D interactive of Nebamun's tomb

[https://www.britishmuseum.org/visiting/galleries/ancient\\_egypt/room\\_61\\_tomb-chapel\\_nebamun/nebamun\\_animation.aspx](https://www.britishmuseum.org/visiting/galleries/ancient_egypt/room_61_tomb-chapel_nebamun/nebamun_animation.aspx)

The British Museum's PowerPoint and Teacher's Notes on Nebamun's tomb

[https://www.britishmuseum.org/learning/schools\\_and\\_teachers/resources/all\\_resources/resource\\_tomb\\_of\\_nebamun.aspx](https://www.britishmuseum.org/learning/schools_and_teachers/resources/all_resources/resource_tomb_of_nebamun.aspx)

The British Museum's learning resources on Ancient Egypt

[https://www.britishmuseum.org/learning/schools\\_and\\_teachers/resources/cultures/ancient\\_egypt.aspx](https://www.britishmuseum.org/learning/schools_and_teachers/resources/cultures/ancient_egypt.aspx)