

WALT identify Ancient Egyptian leisure activities.

WILF:

- *Explain what Ancient Egyptians did in their free time.*
- *Compare their activities with modern ones.*
- *Create a game.*



What do you think the Ancient Egyptians did in their leisure time (for fun)?

Take a few guesses.

Please watch the video and look at the museum pictures of different games here:



Ancient Egyptians entertained themselves in a variety of ways.

They enjoyed listening to and playing music on instruments such as the harp or lyre.

Children had different toys including balls and model animals. Board games such as Senet were popular.

There is a dance that the girls did called "pressing the grapes".

All kids like playing games with balls and it was the same with ancient Egyptian kids.

They had balls made out of papyrus or leather, with straw stuffing.

When horses were introduced to Egypt, they began using horsehair for various games, including juggling.



Sennet: a strategy game.

This game board had thirty squares laid out in three rows of ten. Some of the squares had symbols on them and the path of the counters probably followed a reversed S across the board. Ancient Egyptian Game of Senet The symbols represented either good or bad fortune, and affected the play accordingly.

The movement of the counters was decided by throwing four two-sided sticks or, in some cases, knucklebones. Senet, means "passing" and had a religious significance - the aim of each player being to move their pieces around the board and avoiding hazards.

Good luck was a blessing from the gods and the winner was the first to pass into the afterlife by getting all their pieces off the board.

Can you think of any games like this we have today?



Today's Activity:

Design a game for Ancient Egyptian times, based on what you know about them and the games you've seen today.

Think about the materials that would have been available to make them with. You can build a prototype of your game and play it at home, if you like.

