

# **Egypt: Beyond the Tomb**

**9 December 2006 – 29 April 2007**

## **Secondary School Education Kit**

Originally produced by Helen Wheeler and the education staff of the Australian Museum 2005. Revised for New Zealand schools and material added by Te Papa education staff 2006.

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# Introduction

*Egypt: Beyond the Tomb* explores ancient Egyptian beliefs and practices relating to death and the afterlife. This extraordinary exhibition follows Keku, a woman who lived 2700 years ago, as she makes the perilous journey through the underworld towards the eternal afterlife. Featuring in the exhibition are the mummy of Keku and her intricately decorated sarcophagus (coffin), plus over 200 other ancient Egyptian burial treasures.

## About this education kit

This education kit:

- identifies curriculum links for the exhibition
- guides you and your students through the exhibition and suggests questions to help interpret the content
- provides background information about ancient Egypt
- outlines a range of research activities to do at school
- provides useful resources including a timeline, glossary, and list of related websites.

## Preparing to visit the exhibition

So that your students can make the most of their exhibition visit, we recommend that they have at least a basic knowledge of:

- the ancient Egyptian belief in the afterlife
- associated gods and goddesses
- the mummification process
- the periods and/or dynasties of ancient Egypt's history, including the Old Kingdom, Middle Kingdom, New Kingdom, and Late Period
- Egypt's geography, including Upper Egypt, Lower Egypt, and the Nile.

As a teacher, you will find the following websites useful for creating a unit of work:

- Te Papa – [www.tepapa.govt.nz/egypt](http://www.tepapa.govt.nz/egypt)
- Australian Museum – [www.amonline.net.au/teachers\\_resources/background/ancient\\_egypt.htm](http://www.amonline.net.au/teachers_resources/background/ancient_egypt.htm) (background information on ancient Egypt) and [www.austmus.gov.au/life](http://www.austmus.gov.au/life) (information that relates directly to the exhibition).

You can find other useful websites at the end of this document. (They are also available as a separate PDF.)

### PLEASE NOTE

*Egypt: Beyond the Tomb* contains human remains in the form of Keku's mummy. Some Māori and people of other cultures have strong beliefs and feelings about the display of human remains. Please ensure that your students have parental consent to visit the exhibition. Note that the mummy is displayed in a separate room, allowing people to choose whether they wish to view her.