



Mythological Creatures Field Guide

Free classroom resources

Egyptian Legends

Five classroom posters, A3

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Anubis	3	8
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- These posters are A3. To print one on A4, choose "Fit to page" in your print settings.
- The QR code on each poster opens mythologicalcreatures.net/resources.

Anubis

Say it **ah-NOO-bis** Ancient Egyptian

The jackal-headed god of tombs and mummies, from the myths of Ancient Egypt.

The first mummy. In the story, Anubis wrapped the god Osiris in linen strips, making the very first mummy.

Jackal masks. Priests wore them to become Anubis while making mummies.

Where it comes from: Over 5,000 years ago
Tomb: Egypt's first kings
About 4,400 years ago
Carving: The Pyramids
About 3,300 years ago
Statue: Tutankhamun's shrine
Today: Place: British Museum

Jackals guarded Egyptian graveyards. Why might people turn this animal into a kind guardian?

Egyptian artists made Anubis black. He took his skin, and showed him as a jackal or a jackal-headed man. Here he is, brought to life.

His name means "god of the dead"

Follow the bandage to find out more

From the book: Mythological Creatures Field Guide: Egyptian Legends

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Bastet

Say it **BAH-stet** Ancient Egyptian

The cat goddess who guards homes and families, from the city of Bubastis in Ancient Egypt.

Cat mummies. Egyptians mummified cats as gifts to Bastet. Many were buried at her temple city, Bubastis. No eye-lashes. Herodotus wrote that when a pet cat died, the whole family showed off their eyelashes.

Where it comes from: About 2,600 years ago
Statue: The Gayer-Anderson Cat
About 2,500 years ago
Book: Herodotus's Histories
Today: Place: Bubastis, now Tell Basta

Egyptians loved their cats, and also mummified them as gifts to Bastet. How can both of these be true?

From about 3,000 years ago, artists turned Bastet from a feline house into a cat or a cat-headed woman. This is how we picture her.

Follow the paws to find out more

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Ammit

Say it **AH-mit** Ancient Egyptian

The crocodile-headed beast beside the weighing scales in the Ancient Egyptian afterlife.

A person's heart was weighed against a feather. If it was too heavy with bad deeds, Ammit ate it.

Left hungry. In Herodotus's scroll, his heart balances and Ammit goes hungry.

Where it comes from: Over 3,500 years ago
Book: The Book of the Dead
About 3,300 years ago
Scroll: Herodotus's Histories
About 2,700 years ago
Coffin: Hor, a temple priest
Today: Place: British Museum

Ammit was part crocodile, part lion and part hippo. Why might the Egyptians have imagined her this way?

Egyptian artists drew her with a crocodile's head, a lion's head and a hippo's body. The picture is our reading of their art.

Follow the feather to find out more

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Khepri

Say it **KEP-ree** Ancient Egyptian

The scarab-beetle god of the morning sun, a form of the sun god Ra in Ancient Egypt.

Real dung beetles roll dung balls across the sand. Egyptians imagined a giant one rolling the sun.

Scarab charms. Egyptians wore them for protection, and placed one over a mummy's heart.

Where it comes from: About 4,400 years ago
Carving: The Pyramids
About 3,300 years ago
Jewels: From Tutankhamun's tomb
Today: Place: The Karnak scarab

Egyptians called the sun Khepri at dawn. He set noon and Akhen at dusk. Why might one thing need three names?

Egyptian artists showed Khepri as a scarab beetle, or as a man with a beetle for a head. Here he is at dawn.

Follow the sun to find out more

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Serpopard

Say it **SUR-poh-pard** Our own hieroglyph

A big cat with a long, snake-like neck, from some of Ancient Egypt's oldest carvings.

A giant make-up dish. On the Narmer Palette, their long necks make a circle where eye paint was mixed. Held on ropes. The king's men hold them back, to show Narmer has tamed the wild.

Where it comes from: About 5,100 years ago
Carving: The Narmer Palette
About 150 years ago
Dig: The Two Dog Palette
Today: Place: the Ashmolean, Oxford

No Egyptian ever wrote a story about the Serpopard. We only have pictures. What can a picture tell us that words cannot, and what can it never tell us?

No name says "serpent", but the carvings give it a round cat's head with small ears. This is how we picture it.

Follow the necks to find out more

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Anubis

Bastet

Ammit

Khepri

Serpopard



This page is blank on purpose: it is the back of the cover.

Anubis

Say it **ah-NOO-bis**

Ancient Egyptian 

The jackal-headed god of tombs and mummies,
from the myths of Ancient Egypt.

The first mummy. In the story, Anubis wrapped the god Osiris in linen strips, making the very first mummy.

Jackal masks. Priests wore them to become Anubis while making mummies.

Where it comes from:

Over 5,000 years ago

Tomb: Egypt's first kings

About 4,400 years ago

Carving: the Pyramid Texts

About 3,300 years ago

Statue: Tutankhamun's shrine

Today

Place: British Museum

Jackals prowled Egyptian graveyards. Why might people turn this animal into a kind guardian?



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His Egyptian name
may mean 'royal child'

Egyptian artists made Anubis black, like rich Nile mud, and showed him as a jackal or a jackal-headed man. Here he is, brought to life.



Danger



Magic



Power



Speed



Size



Spooky



**Follow the bandage
to find out more**



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The cat goddess who guards homes and families, from the city of Bubastis in Ancient Egypt.



Cat mummies. Egyptians mummified cats as gifts to Bastet. Many were buried at her temple city, Bubastis.

No eyebrows. Herodotus wrote that when a pet cat died, the whole family shaved off their eyebrows.

Where it comes from:

About 2,600 years ago

Statue: the Gayer-Anderson Cat

About 2,500 years ago

Book: Herodotus's Histories

Today

Place: Bubastis, now Tell Basta

Egyptians loved their cats, and also mummified them as gifts to Bastet. How can both of those be true?



From about 3,000 years ago, artists turned Bastet from a fierce lioness into a cat or a cat-headed woman. This is how we picture her.



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Ammit

Say it **AH-mit**

Ancient Egyptian



The crocodile-headed beast beside the weighing scales in the Ancient Egyptian afterlife.



A person's heart was weighed against a feather. If it was too heavy with bad deeds, Ammit ate it.

Left hungry. In Hunefer's scroll, his heart balances and Ammit goes hungry.

Where it comes from:

Over 3,500 years ago

Book: the Book of the Dead

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Scroll: Hunefer, royal scribe

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Coffin: Hor, a temple priest

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Place: British Museum

Ammit was part crocodile, part lion and part hippo. Why might the Egyptians have imagined her this way?



'Ammit' means 'devourer of the dead'

Egyptian scribes drew her with a crocodile's head, a lion's front and a hippo's back. The picture is our reading of their art.



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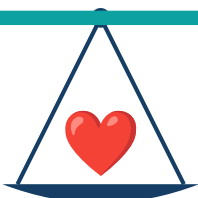
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Khepri

Say it **KEP-ree**

Ancient Egyptian  

The scarab-beetle god of the morning sun,
a form of the sun god Ra in Ancient Egypt.

 **Real dung beetles** roll dung balls across the sand. Egyptians imagined a giant one rolling the sun.

Scarab charms. Egyptians wore them for protection, and placed one over a mummy's heart.

Where it comes from:

About 4,400 years ago

Carving: the Pyramid Texts

About 3,300 years ago

Jewels: from Tutankhamun's tomb

Today

Place: the Karnak scarab

Egyptians called the sun Khepri at dawn, Ra at noon and Atum at dusk. Why might one thing need three names?



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His name comes from 'kheper', 'to change'

Egyptian artists showed Khepri as a scarab beetle, or as a man with a beetle for a head. Here he is at dawn.



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Serpopard

Say it **SUR-poh-pard**

Our own hieroglyph 

A big cat with a long, snake-like neck,
from some of Ancient Egypt's oldest carvings.



A giant make-up dish. On the Narmer Palette, their long necks make a circle where eye paint was mixed.

Held on ropes. The king's men hold them back, to show Narmer has tamed the wild.

Where it comes from:

About 5,100 years ago

Carving: the Narmer Palette

About 130 years ago

Dig: the Two Dog Palette

Today

Place: the Ashmolean, Oxford

No Egyptian ever wrote a story about the Serpopard. We only have pictures. What can a picture tell us that words cannot, and what can it never tell us?



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Its name says 'serpent', but the carvings give it a round cat's head with small ears. This is how we picture it.



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Her Greek name, 'Ailuros', means 'cat'

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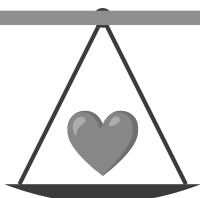
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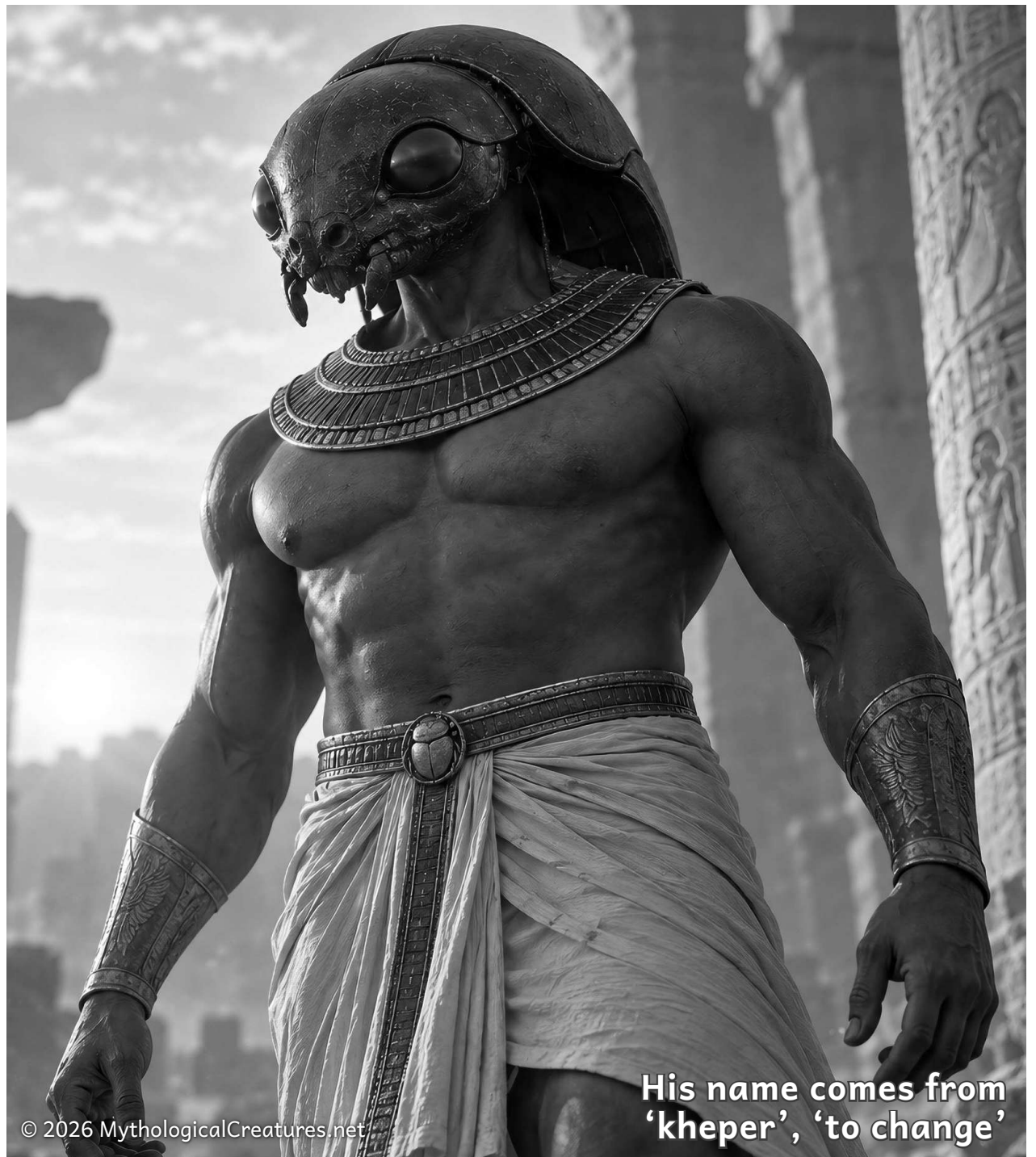
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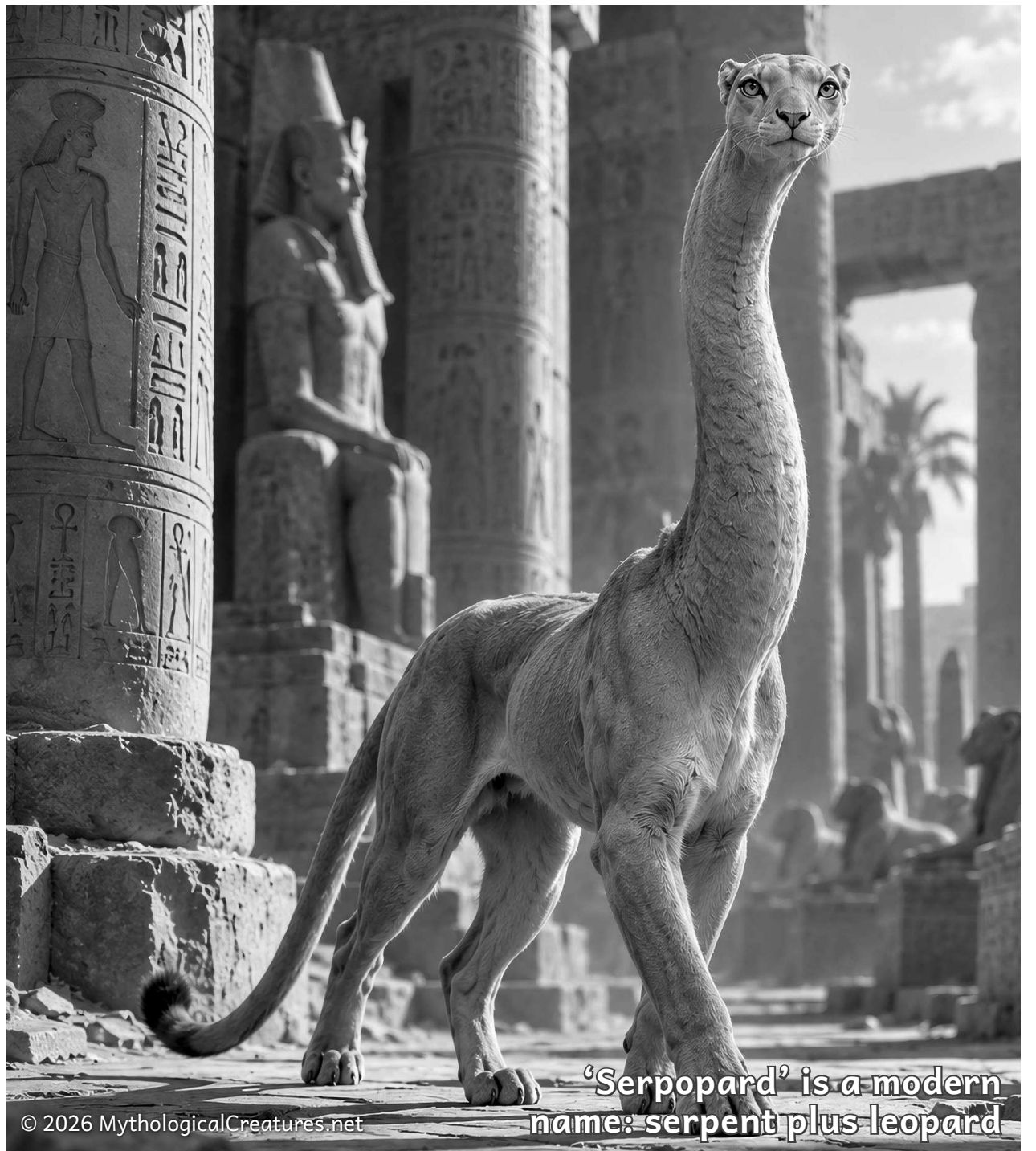
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