The antiquities collection at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, began with donations from philanthropist, businesswoman, and suffragette Annette Finnigan in 1931. Today, the collection has grown to include more than 450 works of art and masterpieces from the ancient worlds of the Mediterranean and Middle East.

When visiting the Museum, find the art of the ancient world in the light-filled atriums of the Audrey Jones Beck Building.

**Color the Shabti**

This object might look like a sarcophagus, but it is actually a small carved piece of stone called a *shabti*. These figures were carved out of limestone and decorated with paint. They were placed in ancient Egyptian tombs to accompany the deceased into the afterlife.

Egyptian, *Shabti*, 1550–1069 BC
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Draw a jar and color it with your favorite color.</th>
<th>Draw your favorite bird.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Create a symbol that represents you.</td>
<td>Find some loose change and draw both sides of a coin.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The tetradrachm was an ancient silver coin equivalent to four drachmae. It was commonly used in Ancient Greece and later in the Roman Empire.

How does this coin look similar or different from the coins of today?
Find and circle all the ancient Egyptian symbols in the object.

The **ankh** or **key of life** is an ancient Egyptian hieroglyphic symbol that was used in writing and in Egyptian art to represent the word for “life.”

**Horus** was the Egyptian god of the sky, often represented as a falcon-headed man. His purpose was to protect the pharaoh.

The **ibis bird** was a sacred symbol for Thoth, the ancient Egyptian god of wisdom and writing.

The **winged sun** is one of the oldest Egyptian symbols and represents royalty, divinity, and protection.
Decorate the *Hydria* (Water Jar) with a Domestic Scene.

A domestic scene has to do with the home and with family life. Draw something you do every day in your house, like doing daily chores or sharing a meal together with your family.
Crossword Puzzle

Down:
1. Egyptian god of the sky
2. ancient coin used in the Roman Empire
3. ancient symbol representing royalty
6. type of rock used to carve sculptures
8. Greek vessel for storing water
9. objects placed in ancient Egyptian tombs

Across:
4. Egyptian god of wisdom and writing
5. sacred bird with a long beak
7. writing system used in ancient Egypt
10. Greek goddess of war depicted on coins
11. objects from the ancient past
12. symbol known as the "key of life"

Answers:
Word Search

Ibis

C E L Z C M G R K E
M Z Y D U H S T E O
Z R I E D Z W A L C
Y Y Z H Q L M I E D
T D K A E B T L R S
Q H R G H S O U S Y
X M E I Z R V V Z V
Q Y D O B M T S T T
N D A E H D C Y B S
F M L E L L G H M B

Bird
Head
Beak
Body
Tail
Eye
Leg
Claw

Hydria

G B B Y O E X B H Q
X V L G O C A A S M
G T K A K S N B O W
O A D S K D T G O C
S S R E S K H M R K
H M T M R J E P C X
Q P A Z E N G A J G
X B Z C O N L D R L
W Y U I B B T T N H
P L C R A N E S K B

Red
Black
Crane
Basket
Women
Hands
Garments

Learn more about these and other works of art: htt.mfah.org.
Explore more at-home learning activities: mfah.org/Ltahome.

Learning and Interpretation programs receive generous funding from the Jerold B. Katz Foundation; Institute of Museum and Library Services; H-E-B; MD Anderson Cancer Center; Sharon G. Dies; Sterling-Turner Foundation; Houston Junior Woman’s Club; Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo; The Brown Foundation, Inc.; Susan Vaughan Foundation; and additional generous donors.