



INVESTIGATIONS

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To the Teacher

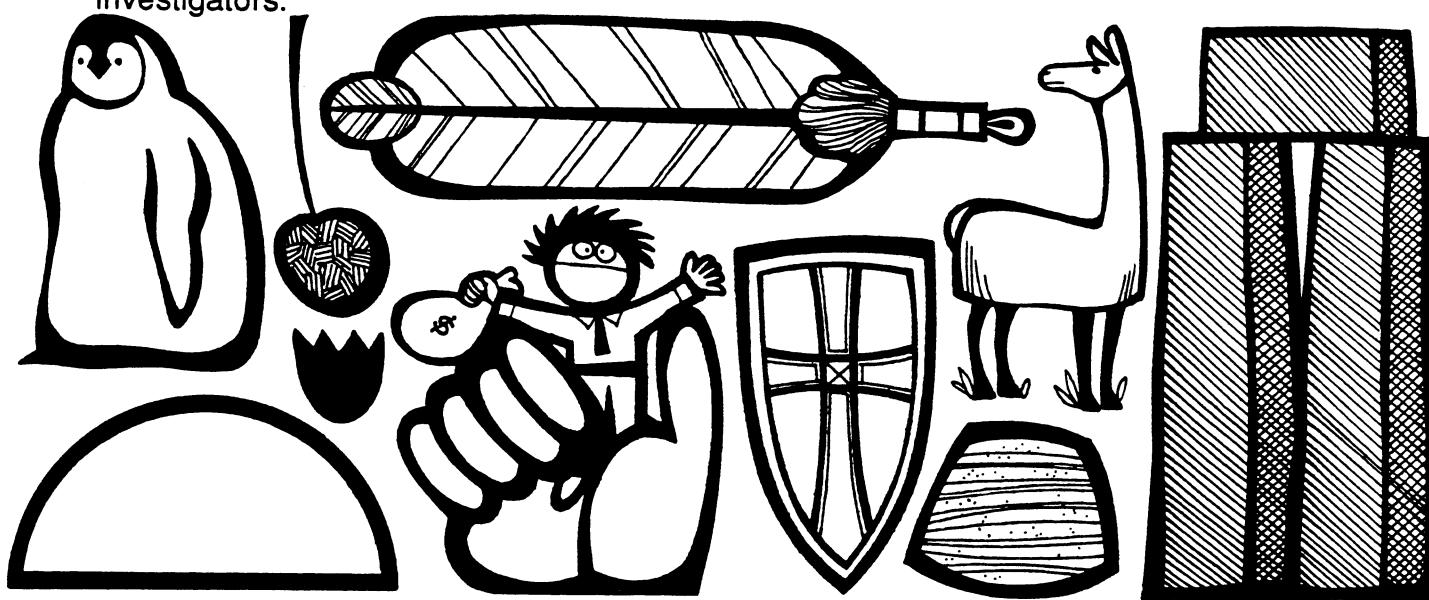
This book presents thirty-six separate topics for independent research investigations. They are grouped under six broad headings: Ancient Mysteries, Living World, Ages and Aeons, Maths and Science, the Unbelievable, and Potpourri. The topics range from King Tut's Tomb to Machu Picchu, Magic, Miniatures, Monsters, the Westward Movement, Sports, and Superheroes. They have been especially chosen because they appeal to youngsters and, for the most part, are *not* the topics typically selected for school study.

For each topic, there are three activity categories: Research, Creative Writing, and Art in Action. Additional extension activities are included for some categories. Within each category, specific instructions are given for three to five activities students can pursue on their own, in small groups, or as a class. If students work in groups, all of them should complete the vocabulary activity suggested under Research. Then, they should write one mini-report and do at least one of the suggested creative writing activities and one of the art activities.

Incidentally, because the purpose of this book is to foster independent, *creative* investigations, students should be encouraged to suggest alternative activities of similar purpose and equal difficulty and should be permitted to substitute them for the ones described whenever possible.

Depending on their previous learning and experience, some students may have difficulty doing research, taking notes, and presenting their findings in mini-reports. These students may need instruction and practise in basic research skills, such as classifying, note-taking, outlining, and constructing a bibliography. The section at the back of the book called Steps to Follow in Writing a Research Report (pages 41-44) should prove useful to you in helping these students.

The last section in the book is entitled Steps to Follow in Setting up a Science Project (pages 45-48). It offers ideas to help them organize, report, and display the results of their scientific investigations. The Science Worksheet provides a framework in which students can outline and examine their procedures, evaluate their results, and draw their own conclusions; three steps that are essential in *any* creative investigation and to *all* creative investigators.



KING TUT'S TOMB

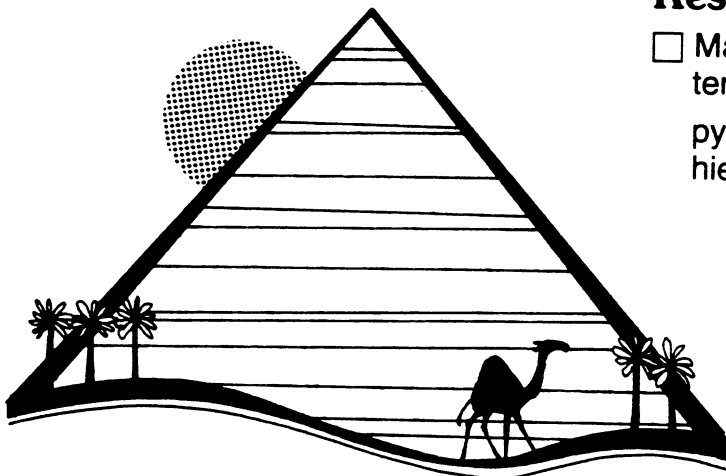
Research

- Make a mini-dictionary using the following terms:

pyramids sarcophagus afterlife
hieroglyphics King Tut Egyptian religion

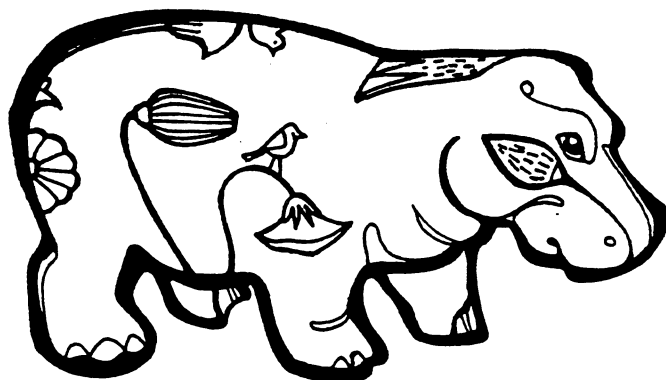
- Write a mini-report on one of the following topics:

- the discovery and opening of King Tut's tomb
 the belief in bad omens and, perhaps, even a curse associated with Tut's tomb
 the way in which pyramids are constructed
 the Egyptian belief in an afterlife



Creative Writing

- Pretend you are a news reporter. Write a news article telling who, what, when, and why about the discovery of Tut's tomb.
- Make up your own hieroglyphic code. Then write a short letter to a friend in your hieroglyphics.
- Pretend you are an Egyptian scribe. Using a feather and juice pressed from berries, write an account of Tut's burial ceremony as you think it might have been.



Art in Action

- Make a clay tablet. Inscribe it with a message in your own hieroglyphics.
- Make a mummy. Mix together some oil, some herbs, and some spices. Take gauze or cloth strips and dip them in the oil mixture. Then wrap the strips around an old, discarded 30-cm doll.
- Make a sarcophagus. Take an old 30-cm doll. Rub it with petroleum jelly. Then, using plain paper towel strips and a paste of flour and water, papier-mâché a four-layer covering around the doll. After the layers have dried, carefully cut around the sides to remove the two pieces. Paint and decorate the sarcophagus in the Egyptian style.
- Make a large poster showing a cutaway (inside) view of a pyramid. Be sure to title, label, and color your poster.

