NUBIA: Teaching Materials

Teachers can borrow all of the materials below for free. However, only CDs and DVDs can be sent through the mail.

Books for Adults:


- *Ancient Nubia: African Kingdoms of the Nile* edited by Marjorie M. Fisher, Peter Lacovara, Slima Ikram, and Sue D'Auria (N. B.: this award-winning new book is lavishly illustrated with the most stunning photos of Nubia and its ancient arts, jewelry and monuments I have ever seen. NYT photographer Chester Higgins deserves the praise. The photos might also be great for students to explore and respond to.

- *Ancient African civilizations: Kush and Axum* edited by Stanley Burstein

- *Ancient civilizations of Africa* by UNESCO, edited by G. Mokhtar

- *Ancient Nubia* by P. L. Shinnie

- *Nubia: ancient kingdoms of Africa* [exhibition catalog] by Geoff Emberling

- *The Kingdom of Kush: The Napatan and Meroitic Empires* by Derek A. Welsby

- *Nubian ethnographies* by Elizabeth Warnock Fernea

- The poem: “*The Negro Speaks of Rivers,*” Langston Hughes.

Juvenile Books As Nubia is usually taught at gr 5-7, most of these books reflect that orientation.


Ancient Egyptians and Their Neighbor: an activity guide by Marian Broida (N.B.: this is an activity-based book on the Nubians, Egyptians & 2 other nations)

Egypt, Kush, Aksum: northeast Africa by Kenny Mann

A Glorious Past: ancient Egypt, Ethiopia, and Nubia by Earnestine Jenkins

The Nubians: people of the ancient Nile by Robert Steven Bianchi

Nubian Kingdoms by Edna R. Russmann

Periodicals:

- For grades 4-8: Calliope: “Ancient Nubia,” 1996
- For grades 4-8: Dig! Magazine of archeology (though no articles on Nubia)
- For grades 4-6: "The African Voice: Nubia’s Candace Strikes Again!" a 4 page mock newspaper of ancient Nubian news; published by Time (as part of a small box on African kingdoms), now out of print, but available to teachers in Boston area.
- For adults: Smithsonian: “The Glory that was Nubia,” June 1993

CDs:

- Aïda composed by Verdi, sung by Leontyne Price and Placido Domingo
- For children: Aïda: Leontyne Price tells the story for children, while including stunning short operatic excerpts that also convey the story. (A must!)
- Aswan! The Nile Project’s first album. www.Nileproject.org The concert, held in Aswan, was the culmination of a ten-day residency that brought together 18 artists from Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritrea, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda to collaboratively compose, perform, and record a new body of songs inspired by the Nile Basin’s diverse musical traditions and instruments.

Museum exhibit:

(Boston) Museum of Fine Arts: “Gold and the Gods: Jewelry of Ancient Nubia” This exhibits takes up one full room and is open until May 2017 http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/gold-and-gods the accompanying book: http://www.mfa.org/collections/publications/jewels-of-ancient-nubia The MFA also has on permanent exhibit two colossal, magnificent statues of Nubian kings, which are located, oddly enough, in an ancient Egyptian gallery.

Websites:

http://www.numibia.net/nubia/intro.htm
From the Nubian Museum in Aswan Egypt. It includes some simple kid activities. What especially interesting to us here is that people in Aswan pushed for and have this museum; that it includes artifacts that were salvaged before Lake Nasser drowned many other artifacts; that it’s a point of pride for local Nubians. I have a film clip of the director of the museum saying that if the MFA doesn’t want to put Nubian art on display, then he’d be happy to have it returned.
Alsarah, one of Nubia’s leading, if not the leading, female pop star may be coming to Boston March 2013. If so, she will be at BU, w/ a special concert for K-12 teachers (together with BU students). This article gives a succinct description of her work, plus a terrific/illuminating interview about the Nubian-ness of her music, plus a 5 min YouTube clip of her singing with her briefly describing the lyrics to the song. You don't want to miss this if you can help it! (Nakia: I think you especially will enjoy her--but then you're the teacher I know best at MHS.)

A short news article that provides very important 'injuries', past as well as present, is being ignored by outsiders to Nubia.

The Nile Project was founded in August 2011 to bring together all the peoples living in the Nile basin, using music. The Nile Project especially addresses cultural and environmental challenges, using an innovative approach that combines music, education and community involvement up and down the Nile--and across the US in 2014-15, including Boston University (a one-week residency), Lincoln Center and the Smithsonian Festival.

Posters: (available for Boston area teachers to borrow from BU African Studies)
- Taharqa, a Nubian king
- How Big Is Africa?
- Do Africans See Wildlife: Their Answers May Surprise You

Biblical References to Nubians:
- Moses had a Nubian wife: Numbers 12:1
- Isaiah described the people of Nubia “Ethiopia” as a “great” and “formidable” nation.
- Taharqa, Nubian king, and son of the King Piye, who conquered Egypt and beat off the Assyrians: in the Bible he is referred to as “Ethiopian”: 2 Kings 19:9; Isaiah 37:9

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www.bu.edu/africa/outreach for many additional teaching resources on Africa

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