

Rosetta Stone Project: Sample Reflection Comments by Students

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“Although it took a lot of patience, it was worth it in the end.”

“I enjoyed this because it was hands on, instead of just writing and researching.”

“This project taught me so many things, including patience. I learned to be patient while doing the symbols and letters because it took a lot of time to perfect them.”

“For my Rosetta Stone project, I chose to write a Mesopotamian message. The message was, ‘Failure follows him who does not listen.’ It stuck out to me because... from the moment you enter school your teachers and parents are always telling you to listen, but what they don’t convey to you is what will happen if you don’t listen. If you don’t listen to the people around you, there is no way you will ever achieve success in the world...If I were a scribe, it is the message I would inscribe on a tablet for a royal baby.”

“When I was carving, I tried different techniques to see if I could get my stone to look more authentic and it turned out to be really interesting looking. I enjoyed this project and I feel that I learned a lot about the different scripts and will have something I can keep and show to my kids, which will have meaning behind it.”

“The project made me try to be artistic, which I’m not on a regular basis, which was also good. I’m just glad that I had a chance to experience this.”

“Overall my favorite part of this project was learning how to write in ancient scripts. I love seeing what my name looks like in hieroglyphics, and how every letter looks the same in cuneiform.”

“Through participating in this project, I learned to better recognize key differences between ancient texts and modern languages as well as compare similarities between the characters.”

“I felt like I was going back in time. Over all, this project was interesting, fun, and gave ancient civilizations a twist.”

“Creating marks on the tablets as young apprentices might have thousands of years ago was fascinating to think about.”

“The process of creating the physical tablet was a lot of fun! I was really excited to work with clay and actually MAKE our own Rosetta Stones at school...just like scribes would have done thousands of years ago. Hands-on projects are the best, and this was an extremely unique and creative project. No two tablets looked even remotely the same, and I also liked that we could pick our own quotes as well. In this way, our personalities were brought out in each and every Rosetta Stone made.”

“During the Rosetta Stone project, I was an Egyptian scholar and scribe. I chose to create my own message to present to the royal newborn, rather than quoting another Egyptian scholar, although I made sure I can justify the relationship between my message and Egyptian culture. I wanted to tell the child that it is a good thing to ‘allow yourself to shine, do not allow others to keep you from success.’...My message encourages the child to be a good person and to avoid wrongdoers who can keep him or her from a happy life and afterlife.”

“It was fun and interesting to learn about ancient civilizations and their different forms of writing and their relation to everyday tasks and objects.”

“My favorite part of this project was the constant reminder that I was writing the way ancient people wrote.”

“The message I chose was, ‘The one who respects others is the one who is respected.’...Respect for others is a universal and eternal message, so it isn’t unique to just the ancient Mesopotamian and Egyptian cultures.”

“The complicated and hard way of writing hieroglyphs revealed to me that in ancient Egypt, scribes must have been highly valued and respected people...it was challenging, yet when I finished I felt very accomplished and rewarded.”