

Making an Ancient Greek Manuscript

Use tea bags and wax to create an Ancient Greek manuscript to write your instructions out on. **Ask an adult to help you with this activity.**



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1. Heat the oven to approximately 160°.
2. Put two tea bags in a large (bigger than A4) baking tray and add warm water so that you have a couple of centimetres depth.
3. Allow the tea mixture to infuse, darken and cool down.
4. Lay a sheet of white A4 paper in the tea and leave to soak for a few minutes.
5. Transfer the wet sheet to another baking tray and place in the oven to dry out.



6. Check the paper occasionally, turning if need be to keep the sheet flat as it dries.
7. When dry, tear at the paper's edge to make it look older. You can also ask a grown up to singe the edges with a flame to create a similar, aged effect.
8. Write out Daedalus's instructions in your neatest handwriting. Watch out – pencil is not easy to read on tea paper. A black pen is much better.
9. Roll or fold up your instructions and get help from an adult to seal them with dripping wax from a lit candle. Who knows – you might even be able to use beeswax, like Daedalus did on his and Icarus's wings!

Create a Mosaic

A mosaic is a piece of art made up of small coloured pieces. These pieces can be coloured glass, stone, paper or other materials. The small pieces combine to make one large picture or pattern.

The Ancient Greeks and Romans created mosaic art, some of which we can still see today. They also used mosaics to decorate the floors and walls of their houses.

To make a mosaic, you will need:

- a large piece of paper to put your mosaic on;
- a pencil;
- small squares of different coloured paper (cut paper into strips and then into squares). Different types of paper such as tissue paper, shiny paper and sugar paper look good when used together. You might want to have different shades of the same colour to add depth to your mosaic.
- scissors;
- glue.

What to do:

1. Choose what your mosaic is going to be of. It could be a pattern or a picture. Look at the examples on the next page if you need inspiration.
2. Lightly draw your design with a pencil. This will help you know where to place the coloured squares.
3. You may want to arrange your pieces of paper into same-coloured groups.
4. Stick the squares in the right place on your design. You might need to cut the squares into different shapes.
5. Some mosaics have a border of black squares, you may wish to add one when you are finished.



