The Power of She

Did you know that female deities are a part of many cultures around the world? *The Power of She* brings these powerful girls and women into the limelight.

Use this education guide to interact with the exhibit and learn about female deities such as The Queen of Sheba, Pachamama, Minerva, and Kali.

Activities in this guide are aligned to U.S. and/or U.K. educational standards. They are designed to be used by students and teachers as school lessons or enrichment opportunities.
Students can answer the following questions on their own or discuss in groups.

1. Compare the deities from different regions. What similarities and differences are there?
2. Read about the roles of each deity. Do any of them surprise you? Why or why not?
3. Are there any female deities shown on the map near where you live? If so, what role do they play in your region?
4. Make note of which deities you already know about or have heard of. Why do you think some deities are more well known today than others?
Activity: Road Trip

Do you love to travel, or love to dream about traveling? Find the map in the exhibit and use it along with the rest of the exhibit to plan a road trip to learn about three female deities during your travels. Use the planning guide below to build your itinerary. Have fun!

Destination 1
Location: ______________________
Deity: ______________________
Monument(s) to visit: ________________
Local language(s): __________________
Interesting fact about the deity: __________
_________________________________
Why you want to visit this area: __________
_________________________________

Destination 2
Location: ______________________
Deity: ______________________
Monument(s) to visit: ________________
Local language(s): __________________
Interesting fact about the deity: __________
_________________________________
Why you want to visit this area: __________
_________________________________

Destination 3
Location: ______________________
Deity: ______________________
Monument(s) to visit: ________________
Local language(s): __________________
Interesting fact about the deity: __________
_________________________________
Why you want to visit this area: __________
_________________________________

Educational Standards
NCSS I.C Middle Grades
Explain and give examples of how language, literature, the arts, architecture, other artifacts, traditions, beliefs, values, and behaviors contribute to the development and transmission of culture.

NCSS III.B Middle Grades
Create, interpret, use, and distinguish various representations of the earth, such as maps, globes, and photographs.
Activity: Deity Guessing

Get the whole class involved in learning about female deities by playing this fun guessing game. It will give students the opportunity to put their knowledge to the test and is a great way to compare and contrast different deities. Don’t worry, you can play this game even if there is only 2 of you!

To begin, ask students to write down a female deity onto a piece of paper and place these into a hat. Then ask a student to volunteer for the role of deity. Pick out a piece of paper from the hat and tape or blue tack it somewhere where the student cannot see it (but the rest of the class can). The idea is that the class knows who they are but the volunteer student does not.

The student should begin asking the class questions so that they can guess which deity they are.

Here are some examples of questions that would be good to ask:

- Where am I from?
- What am I a goddess of?
- What is my backstory?
- Am I still worshipped?
- Do I have a festival or celebration? If so, what is it?

If the student is struggling to think of questions to ask, get the class to call out facts about that deity.

The aim of this game is to get the whole class involved in thinking about and examining female deities, and so it is of little consequence if the roles are reversed. In fact, it could very easily be played the opposite way around – have the volunteer select the deity they want to be and get the class to ask them questions!
Activity: Ancient Egyptian Quiz

All the questions below relate to our ‘Women in Egyptian Mythology, Part 1’ podcast. The Answers can be found in the podcast itself, and on the left of this page.

1. Which Ancient Egyptian goddess had links to healing and curing diseases?
2. ‘Isis’ was actually the Greek name of which Ancient Egyptian goddess?
3. Her worship reached as far as Somalia – Which Ancient Egyptian goddess was this?
4. Which Ancient Egyptian goddess was considered to be the personification of Lower Egypt in the Predynastic Period?
5. Her nickname was “Lady of Terror” – which Ancient Egyptian goddess was this?
6. Which Ancient Egyptian goddess was associated with the Milky Way?

Answers:
1. Sekhmet
2. Aset
3. Hathor
4. Wadjet
5. Sekhmet
6. Hathor