

PROJECT!

BLACK-FIGURE VASE

We know a lot about ancient Greece by studying their vases, which illustrated everyday life. Want to tell future archaeologists about your life? Make your own Greek-style vase.

1 Brainstorm a scene or story from your life that you could sketch. For example, playing a sport, reading, cooking, or visiting an amusement park. Use your pencil to sketch this scene around your terra-cotta pot. Keep in mind that ancient Greek black-figured and red-figured pottery usually showed figures in profile, from the side.



2 When your sketch is ready, spread newspaper around your workspace. Place your pot on top of the newspaper and begin painting. Let your pottery dry.

3 When your paint is dry, spray the outside of the pot with shellac. Make sure to spray paint in a well-vented area and to protect your work area with newspaper.

CONSIDER THIS! The artists who painted ancient Greek vases typically worked together in a shop under the direction of a master potter. Can you think of some reasons why working together in a group like this might be a benefit?

SUPPLIES

- * terra-cotta pot or vase, any size
- * pencil
- * black, acrylic paint
- * thin paint brush
- * newspaper
- * spray shellac (available at craft stores)

