

## Senet - an Ancient Egyptian board game

### Evidence for Senet:

- Senet is a game that is often found in Ancient Egyptian tombs.
- The instructions provided have been made up by archaeologists who have experimented with the games to find out how they are played.
- Senet is considered by some to be the oldest board game in the world. 5000-year-old games have been found in tombs. The earliest painting of one being used dates back over 4500 years.
- Senet appears in Chapter 17 of the Book of the Dead.
- When you play Senet you will be doing something exactly like the Ancient Egyptians – including the Pharaohs.
- Some people believe that Senet refers to the journey through the Duat (Underworld) and on to The Field of Reeds (Ancient Egyptian heaven).
- It is possible that the modern game Backgammon originates from Senet.

### Follow-on activities

1. Design an advert for Senet - pretend it is a new 'must have' family game for Christmas. Use some persuasive writing.
2. Write your own set of instructions for Senet. Use the format of a modern board game.