This wooden cover would have contained a mummified Egyptian! Protecting the mummy was very important because the Egyptians believed the afterlife was very important. The cover was made to look like the person the coffin held.

Notice the scarab beetle on the top of the coffin. The scarab beetle was a good luck symbol to Ancient Egyptians. Why do you think that was? **What are some symbols for good luck in our society?**

Look for an empty box in your recycling bin. **Decorate it using some of the same patterns you see on the sarcophagus cover.** Then find something special to put inside!
Sarcophagus Cover, Late Period, 664–525 B.C.E.,
Cartonnage, gesso, and paint on wood, Gift of Walter P. Chrysler, Jr., 0.1977