



Bes vessel

This is called a bes vessel. It's a pottery container which was used to hold liquids. But once you put the liquid inside this vessel it acquired magical properties because of the face of the god Bes on the outside. Bes is a kind of ancient Egyptian trickster god, with quite a surprised or grotesque looking face. And it was hoped by the ancient Egyptians that Bes would frighten away any would be danger from particularly mothers with young children or people who were vulnerable in society. So if you put liquid in this vessel, it would absorb the power and the protection of the god Bes and you could drink it or apply it to an injury or wound.