

Year 3 - Prehistoric Art

Key Vocabulary

Cave Paintings	Painted on cave walls and ceilings in prehistoric times, around 10,000 to 20,000 years ago.
Charcoal	A black crumbly drawing material made of carbon and often used for sketching.
Geometric Shapes	The form or outline of a 2D shape.
Iron Age	A time in early human history when people began to use tools and weapons made of iron.
Line Drawings	The outline of a shape without any tone .
Native	A person who was born in or comes from a particular place.
Prehistoric	The time before written history began.
Proportions	The scale and size of an object.
Stone Age	The oldest time when humans are known to have existed. They used tools made of stone.
Texture	The way a particular object feels.
Tone	Shading using areas of dark and light to create a 3D effect.

Large wild animals, such as bison, horses, aurochs, and deer were important to people in prehistory.



The earth colours which prehistoric people painted with were: red, yellow and umber pigments, black charcoal from the fire, burnt bones (bone black) and white.

Key Facts



Charcoal is made from thin peeled willow twigs which are heated without oxygen.

Crushed charcoal can be used to create different textures.

Charcoal smudges easily. Fixing spray can be used to stop it smudging any further.



The process of making art in prehistory was to tell stories and record history. Early man created art to communicate.

