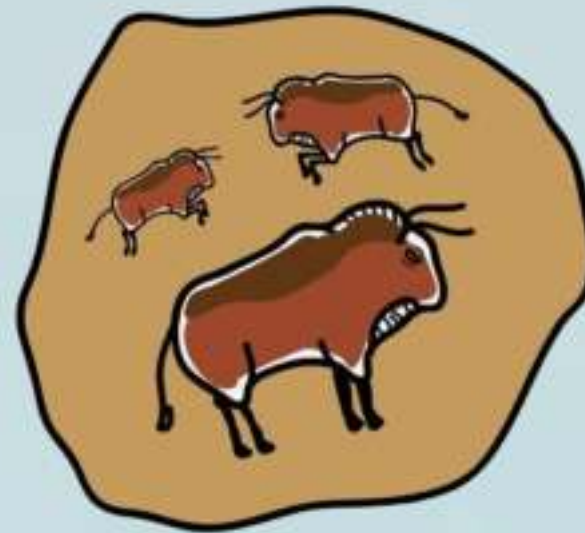


What was Stone Age cave art?

Objectives

- To explore the style of Stone Age cave art
- To find out how cave paintings were created



Starter Activity

What do you see?

Look at the photographs of Stone Age cave paintings.

Tell your partner what images you can make out in the pictures.

Can you see any:

- **People?**
- **Animals?**
- **Weapons?**
- **Anything else?**



A closer look



Look more closely at the picture on your sheet and answer the three questions.

- What can you see in the picture?
- Who do you think painted it?
- Why do you think the artist wanted to make this picture?

Now connect to <https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/history/stone-age/cave-painting/> and click on the labels to find out more about the cave paintings.



An important source

Remember that the Stone Age was a period of history before we had written or photographic records of life.

Why do you think cave paintings are so important to historians for learning about life in this time?



A Cave Artist's Toolbox



Natural Paints

Stone Age paint was made out of natural materials. You might have noticed that many of the paintings are made from browns, whites, reds and oranges. The paints were made by grinding up natural materials like rocks, woods, bones or charcoal and then mixing the powders with water or animal fat to create paint.



Tools

People would have used their fingertips to make the pictures. Alternatively, some cave artists used twigs or brushes made from animal hair.



Fire

It was dark in the caves and the cave artists would have needed a wooden fire torch to help them to see.



Tubes

Some cave paintings feature hand shapes on the walls. These would have been made by blowing paint through tubes and using the hands as a stencil.

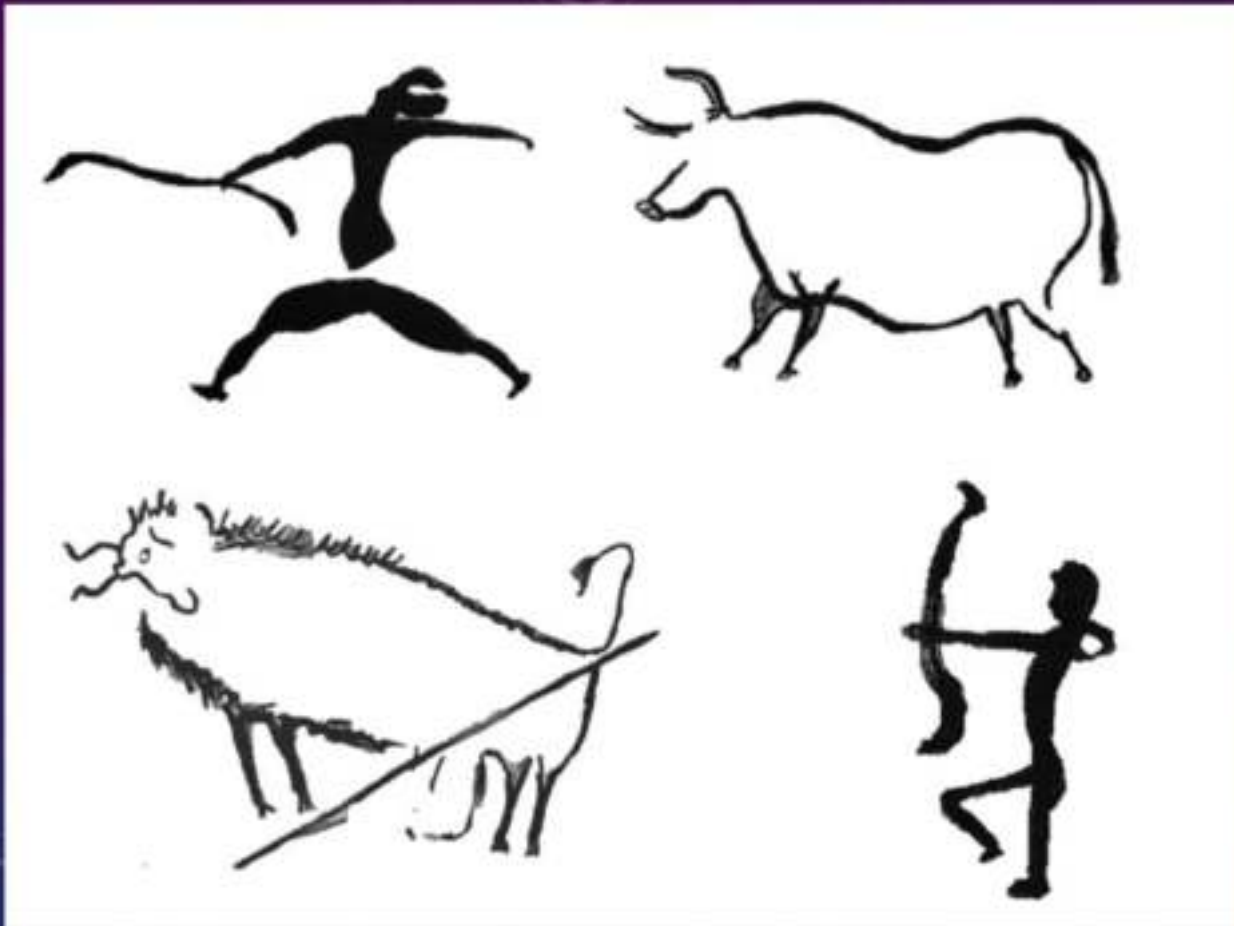


Your Own Cave Art

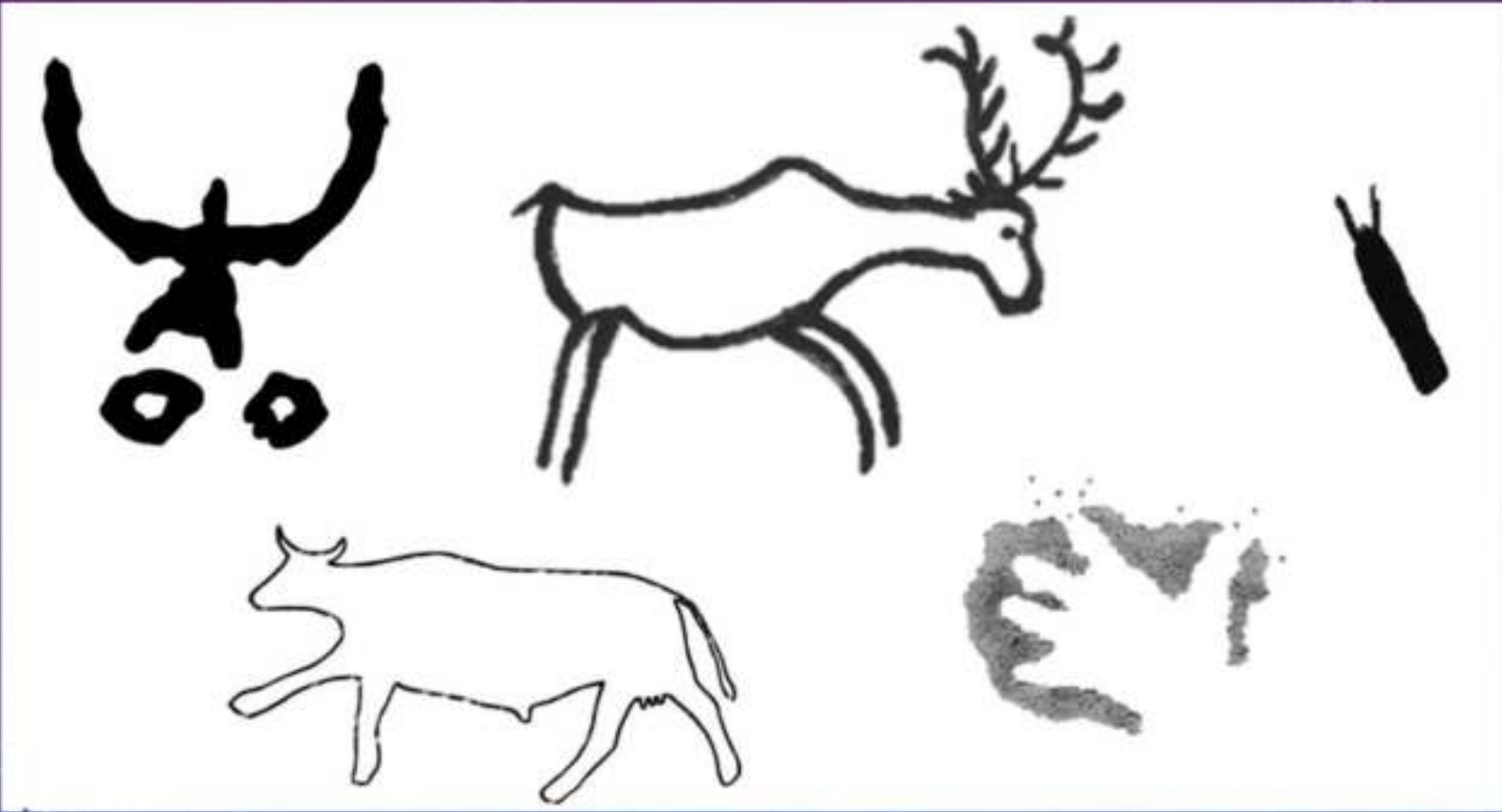
Your task is to make your own cave art.

Look on the home learning sheet for ideas of how to do this.





Some
examples that
you could
draw!



Why was cave art created?

Historians are still not entirely sure why people in the Stone Age created cave art, although lots of people have different theories about it.



Below are some possible answers. Tell your partner which theory you think is most likely.

To
decorate
the caves

To
communicate
a message to
other people

As part of a
good luck
ritual before
a hunt

To keep a
record of
events like
important
hunts

