

Cave Paintings & Petroglyphs

Maps, Mural, & Mini Museum



Continent Maps, Artifacts, Activities

Thank you for taking the time to check out these materials for the study of ancient rock art through this classroom museum, "Cave Paintings & Petroglyphs". This item contains all the materials for the museum. I hope you'll find it exciting and educational!

Sandie Flynn

Overview of Materials

Cave Paintings & Petroglyphs: Maps, Mural, and Mini Museum has many materials you can use to set up a child centered classroom museum to explore the origins of human art.

Parent Newsletter: Since you will need a number of items to create this enriching environment, a parent newsletter (in the file "Museum Artifacts to Make"—a sample is included at the end of this file) is included that will explain the center, and list materials that parents may be willing to lend or donate. **Send the newsletter home a month or two before you begin the unit.** This will allow you to begin to put the items together, and get some parental help doing so. It is a lot of work to prepare the materials, especially the first year, so you'll want to get as much help as possible. And your collection will grow as the children contribute their own artifacts and learning materials made as a part of your museum activities.

The items included in this unit are made up of three parts: Mural, Museum Artifacts & Activities, and Maps.



Mural:

The cave mural forms the background for your classroom museum. Complete directions are included for building the mural out of butcher paper. You can make the mural out of plain brown butcher paper (the EASY way), or you can have the students paint each section and then assemble the mural on your classroom wall (the HARD way, as illustrated). The instructions are step-by-step, with photographs of each action, so classroom volunteers can manage the project, if you wish.

Museum Artifacts:

There are a number of artifacts you (or classroom volunteers) can make for your classroom museum. Each one comes with a detailed, step-by-step set of illustrated directions. Plaster of Paris is used to make most of them. The students will be able to handle, and use, sturdy replicas of the earliest petroglyphs, a mortar and pestle, and will be able to carve on a couple of the items. The plaster artifacts need to be completely dry before the students use them, so it's best to make them ASAP, allowing them weeks to harden. Here are the included artifacts. You can choose which ones you wish to use.



Stone Mortar: Students may crush and grind limestone, chalk, briquettes, and other materials they find on the playground to create pigments.



Cupules: Small holes called cupules were carved into stone in Bhimbetka, India. They have no known use, but are the oldest petroglyphs found so far. Two stones can be made—one with holes already carved into it for student observation, and another rock on which they can make their own cupules.



Blombos Stone: Two ochre stones have been found in Blombos Cave in South Africa that contain the world's oldest "abstract art". Directions are included to make a replica of the stone with carvings, as well as a second rock for students to carve.



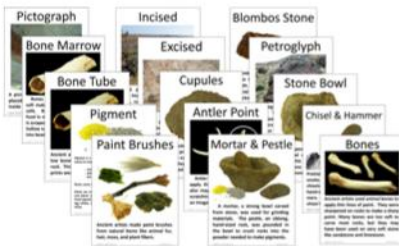
Petroglyphs: Volunteers can made several replicas of petroglyphs to hang on your classroom wall. They may also make some blank rocks for student carving, if you wish.



Bone Tools: After eating a delicious chicken dinner, one, or more, of your student's moms or dads can prepare some bones for student use. A couple of the bones will be sharpened, a bone tube can be prepared, and the rest of the bones can be used by the children for painting, and for creating their own bone tools. The bones will be boiled, scraped, and washed thoroughly.

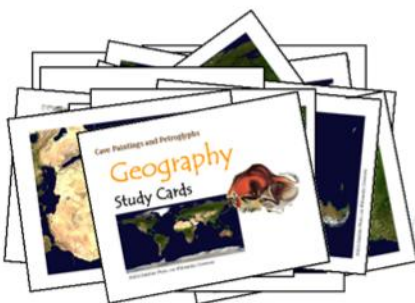


Brushes: Native brushes were made out of native materials, of course. Directions are included for making brushes from raffia, animal hair, fresh and dried moss, and twigs.

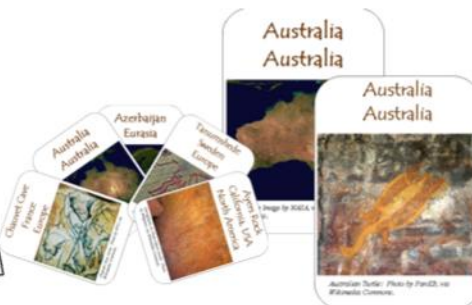


Museum Wall Display Cards: These 15 posters (8.5X11) are patterned after the explanation plaques found in most museums. There is a card for each of the artifacts described above, as well as other items important to cave paintings and petroglyphs.

Museum Activities: Most of the museum activities involve the use of the artifacts described above, however these items are also included.



Geography Study Cards help students identify landmasses associated with ancient rock art sites.



Go Fish
Students match images of rock art with a satellite image of the country and continent where it is found.



Task Cards
use items commonly found in classrooms and on the playground to explore more about rock art.

A list of items to add to your museum will give students more materials with which they can work creatively.



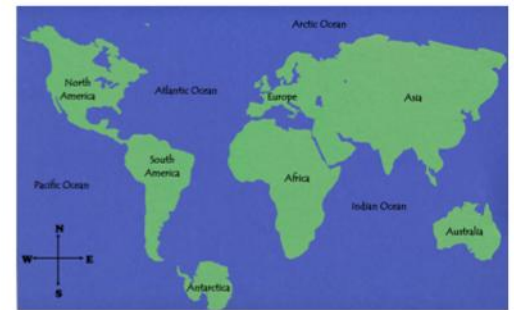
Maps:



Satellite Display Cards may be placed in your museum to help students learn more about rock art countries and where they are located on continents.



Continent Tracers facilitate recognition of continental shapes, and enable students to make their own maps. 2 sets—one with labels, one without.



Continent Tracers A set of tracers is included which are in the correct relation to each other so students can make a map of the world.



I hope you and your students will find these materials exciting and educational to use!

Mural Backdrop for Museum



Complete directions for making a mural for student "cave paintings" using plain brown, or painted white, butcher paper.

Petroglyphs & Pictographs



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Special points of interest:

- Making a classroom museum
- Artifact replicas made from plaster and other materials
- Things we need
- You can help



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Our Classroom Cave Museum

In a few weeks, our class will study ancient rock art. I would like to build a classroom museum to provide a place with materials for the students to explore, investigate, manipulate, discover, and learn. In order to turn a corner of our classroom into a "cave", I will need a number of materials. You may be able to help us prepare for this exciting unit.



A classroom museum for exploration, and discovery.

Here are some of the things we need:

- eye protection goggles, child size
- sand, in a plastic dishpan
- screwdriver and hammer
- interesting rocks which can be destroyed
- cleaned chicken and animal bones
- horse or dog fur
- agave, iris, or pineapple leaves
- smooth beach pebbles
- charcoal drawing sticks or briquettes
- raffia
- antlers
- stone tools—arrowheads, spearheads
- thin hemp twine
- Plaster of Paris, 5-10 pounds

If you would be willing to donate, or let us borrow any of these items, we would really appreciate it! Thanks for giving it your consideration.

Preparing Museum Materials and Games

Our classroom museum will be stocked with a number of print materials that need to be prepared. *Museum Display Cards, Maps, Geography Study Cards, and Task Cards* are some of the items we

need to print, laminate, cut out, and assemble. Laminating needs to be done at school, of course, but if you can help us print, cut out materials, and prepare storage envelopes for some of these

items, I'd be glad to send the materials home with your child. Thanks for everything you do to help us! Be sure to fill in the signup section on page 2 and send it back to school as soon as possible!

www.thematically.com



Tasks: Many Ways to Contribute to our Class

Artifacts to use in the museum will be made from plaster and other materials. If you are willing to help us prepare these items, we would really appreciate it!

Mortar and Pestle

Ancient artists prepared pigments for their paints in a mortar and pestle. They crushed rock and plant parts to release the colors, mixed them with water, and added sticky liquids. I want to have a stone mortar for the students to use, as well as a "rock" that they can carve into a bowl. Along with the mortar we'll need a hand sized (child sized) rock to use as a pestle.



into rocks, for no apparent purpose, but they are the oldest petroglyphs found so far. I'd like to have a replica of a rock carved with cupules, as well as a rock for student made cupules.



Brushes and Bone Tools

We need a family to enjoy a good chicken dinner, and then prepare the bones for us to use. I'd also like to have some sample brushes made out of natural materials, as well.



There are detailed, step-by-step directions for all of these projects.

Petroglyphs

Petroglyphs are images carved into, or out of, stone. Humans have been drawing on rock for thousands of years, and the evidence has lasted for a surprisingly long time. To help students learn more about ancient rock carvings, I'd like to have a few examples for them to handle in our museum.

Cupules

Natives in India carved little holes



Plaster rocks will give us an opportunity to make our own carvings, just like the ancient people did all around the world!

Here's how I can help!

I would like to help with the classroom museum by

printing _____ laminating _____ cutting _____ donating _____ lending _____

I can make _____

Name _____ Phone Number _____

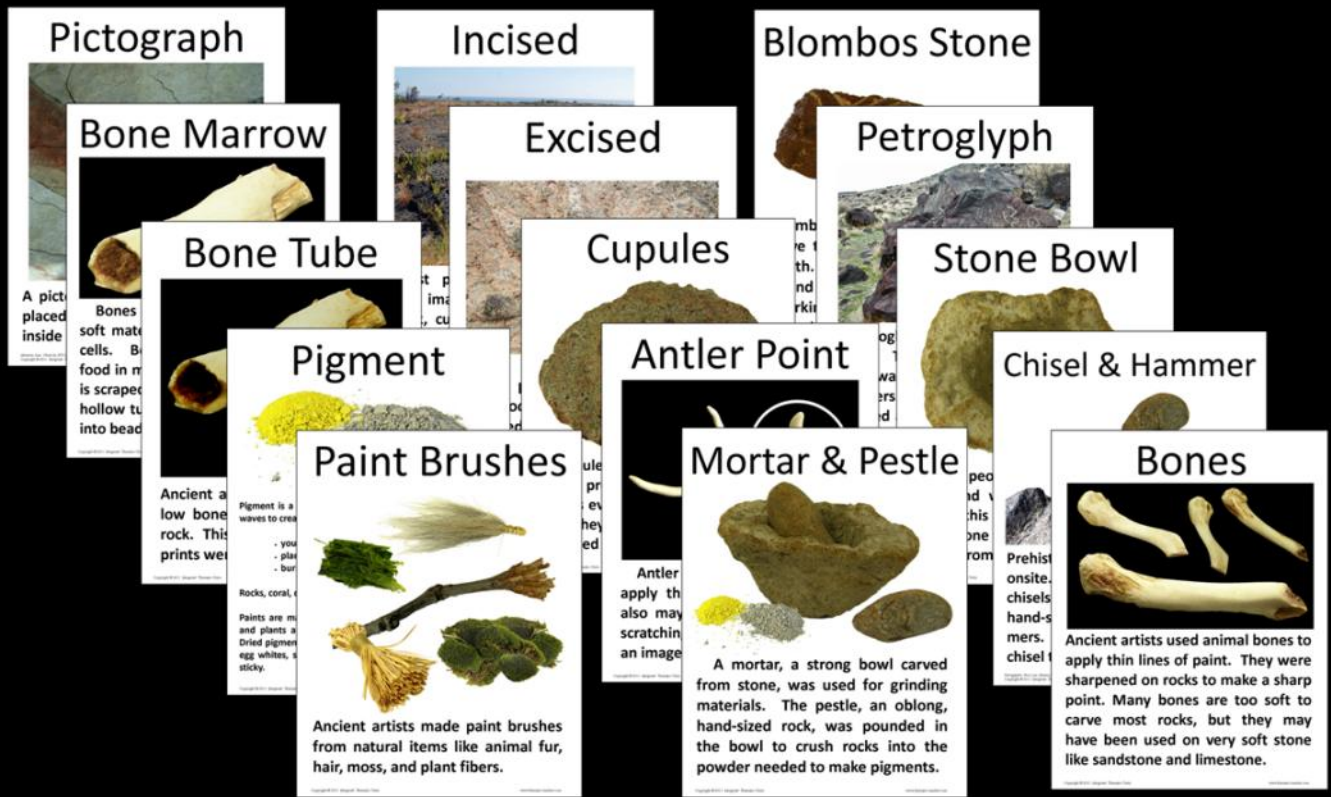


Parent Newsletter
to solicit volunteers to help create the artifacts
and prepare the museum materials.

Museum Artifacts



Complete directions for making
artifacts for student use.



15 Museum Display Cards are modeled after information plaques found in museums. There is a card for each artifact included in this unit and other important rock art information.

Pigment



Pigment is a material that absorbs or reflects certain light waves to create a color. It can be found in

- your skin—freckles and tans are a brown pigment,**
- plants—chlorophyll is a green pigment,**
- burned objects—charcoal is a black pigment.**

Rocks, coral, dirt, and flowers also have pigments.

Paints are made from pigments. Colored rocks, minerals, and plants are crushed in a mortar to release the color. Powdered pigment is mixed with water. Ancient people added egg whites, saliva, blood, or animal fat to make the paint sticky, helping it stay on the rock surface.

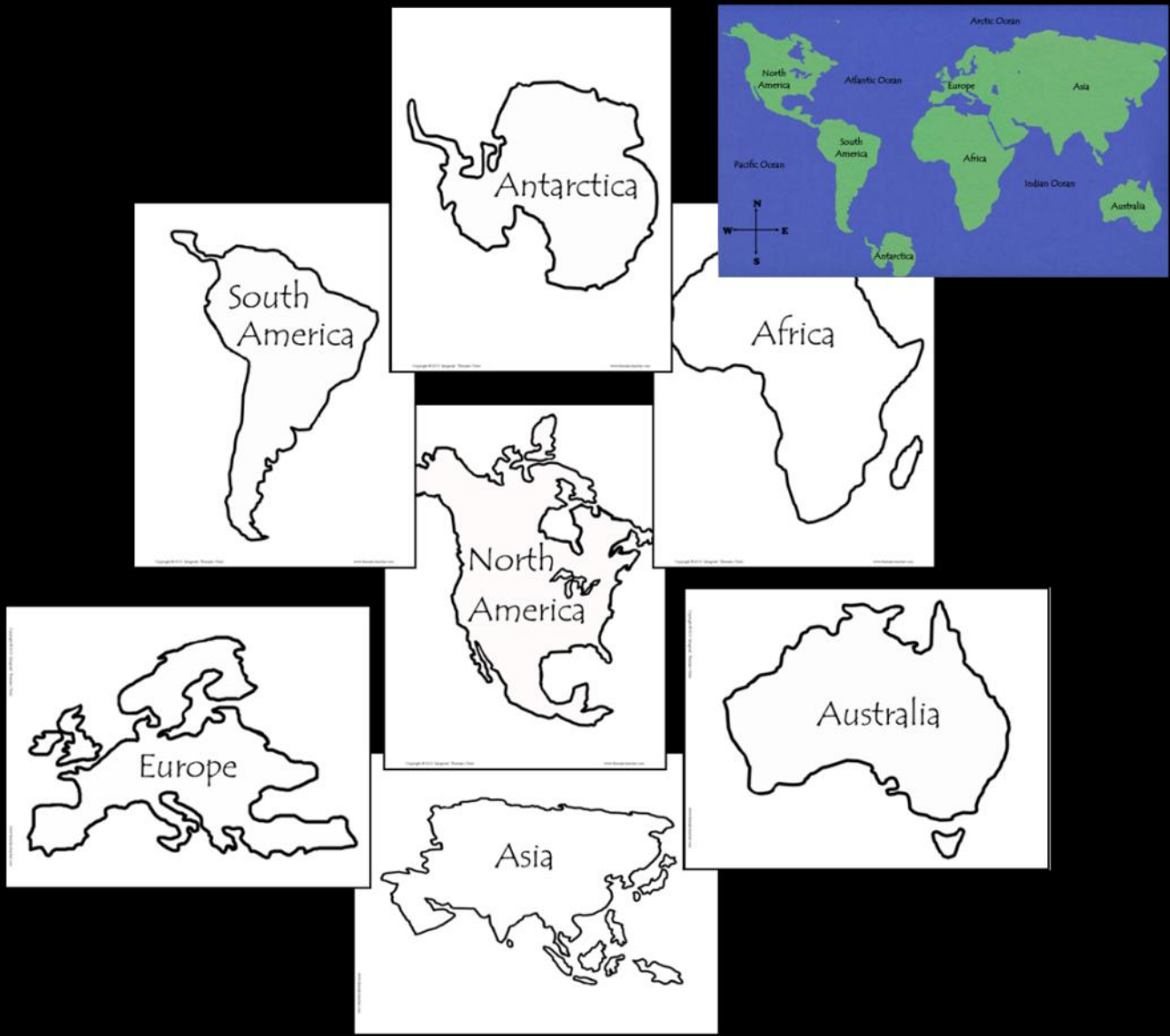


*Museum Maps & Cards
help students recognize landmass
shapes, countries, & continents
related to important rock art sites.*

Europe



Satellite Image by NASA, via Wikimedia Commons.



Continent Tracers
allow students to
make their own maps
using information
found on satellite images.

Australia
Australia



Satellite Image by NASA, via Commons.

Australia
Australia



Photo by PanKB, via Commons.

Altamira Cave
Spain
Europe



Photo by HTO (Own work (own photo)) [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons.

Spain
Europe



Satellite Image by NASA, via Wikimedia Commons.

Australia
Australia

Azerbaijan
Eurasia

Tanumshede
Sweden
Europe

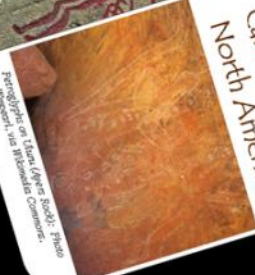
Chauvet Cave
France
Europe



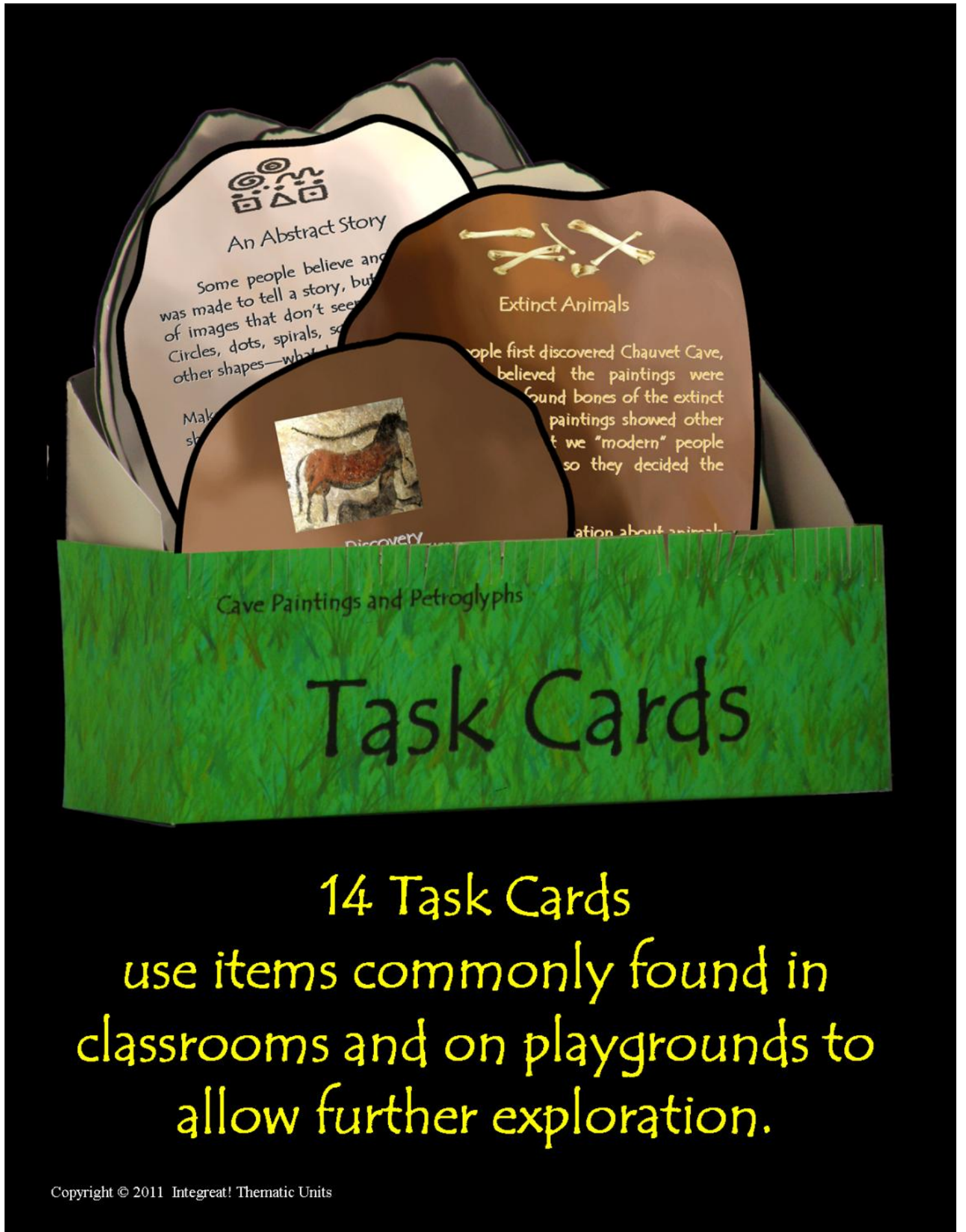
Chauvet Cave Art: Photo by HTO, via Commons.

Engraving on a rock from Tanumshede, Sweden. Photo by HTO, via Commons.

Ayers Rock
California, USA
North America



Go Fish Game
matches a piece of rock art
with the country and continent
where it is found.



An Abstract Story

Some people believe and was made to tell a story, but of images that don't seem to have any meaning. Circles, dots, spirals, and other shapes—what do they mean?

Make a story about the shapes.



Extinct Animals

When people first discovered Chauvet Cave, they believed the paintings were made by modern people. They found bones of the extinct animals. The paintings showed other animals that we "modern" people don't have today. So they decided the paintings were made by people who lived a long time ago.



Cave Paintings and Petroglyphs

Task Cards

14 Task Cards
use items commonly found in classrooms and on playgrounds to allow further exploration.



Painting with Plant Materials

Ancient people used plant materials to make paints and brushes.

- 1) They crushed leaves, flowers, and petals to make pigments.
- 2) They beat leaves with a stone and pulled out the plant fibers, which they tied together to make brushes.

Make a painting using plant materials. Share it with the class.

Pigment

Ancient people often used pigments made from rocks and dirt to make paint.

- 1) Look around the playground for a rock or some dirt that might make a good pigment.

- 2) Grind it to a powder in the mortar.

- 3) Mix it with water and add something to make it sticky.



- 4) Make a painting.

- 5) Give your pigment a score to tell how useful it was as paint.

- 6) Add a label to the painting to tell about the pigment.