

ROCK ART

Vocabulary

ancestor	ochre
decipher	scarification
harmonious	desiccation
pigment	transformations
perspective	patina

Introduction

Read aloud the Editor's Note and have students tell about the pictures they enjoy drawing. Ask them what their drawings might tell future generations about themselves and their lives.

Questions for Discussion

- What are some of the reasons that Ice Age peoples probably created art?
- Why did Ice Age artists draw and paint primarily animals? What do their images show that they observed about animals around them?
- What were some of the techniques and materials used to create cave paintings?
- What does the rock art of Tassili show about the past environment and peoples of the Sahara Desert?
- What do the rock paintings of South Africa tell us about the people who lived there long ago?
- Where is the largest concentration of rock art in the New World? Describe the artwork there.

Writing Workout

Students may complete one or more of the following activities:

- Write an adventure story about being on a research expedition to one of the famous rock art sites.
- Write a story to accompany one of the rock drawings or paintings in this issue.

Viewpoints

Have students compare how various rock art creators viewed themselves and their surroundings.

Then and Now

Pose these questions to students: If early rock art creators could visit an art museum today, what artists and styles might appeal to them? What modern art materials might they be interested in using?

Get Into Art

Students may complete one or both of the following activities:

- Create a cave painting using the activity on page 8.
- Create a rock painting that will reflect your culture for future archeologists.

Literature Enrichment

Share "The Legend of Crooked Mountain," an American Indian tale that appears on page 22.

Talking Stones

"Seneca Stone Reading" (see page 33) gives directions for following this long-standing Seneca tradition. Have each student find a rock and follow the guidelines to discover more about his or her personality.

Mark It on the Map

Create a class map about the world's major areas of rock art. (See the map on the inside back cover.)

Just for Fun

Students will enjoy the "Animal Scramble" activity on page 16.

Prairie Scene
Sherry Rose
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