

6th Grade Social Studies E-Learning Worksheet: Cave Paintings

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions:

Read the passage below about cave paintings. Then answer the multiple-choice questions that follow.

Cave Paintings

Cave paintings are some of the oldest forms of art discovered by humans. These paintings, found on the walls and ceilings of caves, date back to prehistoric times. The most famous cave paintings are found in Lascaux, France, and Altamira, Spain. They depict a variety of subjects, including animals like horses, deer, and bison, as well as human figures and abstract symbols.

The purpose of these paintings is still a subject of debate among historians and archaeologists. Some believe they were part of hunting rituals, meant to bring good luck or teach young hunters. Others think they might have had religious significance or were used to tell stories and pass down traditions.

Creating these artworks was no easy task. Early humans used natural pigments made from minerals and plants. They often ground these materials into a powder and mixed them with water or animal fat to create paint. To apply the paint, they used their fingers, brushes made from animal hair, or blew the pigment through hollow bones.

Despite the challenges, these ancient artists created masterpieces that have endured for thousands of years. Cave paintings provide a glimpse into the lives and minds of our early ancestors, showing their connection to nature and their creative spirit.

Questions

1. Where are some of the most famous cave paintings located?
 - A) Lascaux, France, and Altamira, Spain
 - B) Paris, France, and Madrid, Spain
 - C) Lascaux, France, and Rome, Italy
 - D) Altamira, Spain, and Berlin, Germany

Answer: _____

2. What do the cave paintings depict?

- A) Only human figures
- B) Only abstract symbols
- C) Animals, human figures, and abstract symbols
- D) Only animals

Answer: _____

3. What is one theory about the purpose of cave paintings?

- A) They were used for decoration.
- B) They were part of hunting rituals.
- C) They were a form of entertainment.
- D) They were made to sell.

Answer: _____

4. How did early humans create paint for their cave paintings?

- A) By buying it from a store
- B) By using modern technology
- C) By mixing natural pigments with water or animal fat
- D) By using plastic and synthetic materials

Answer: _____