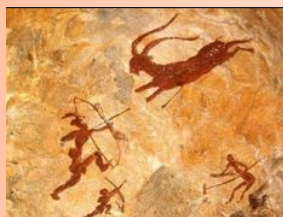


Cave painting



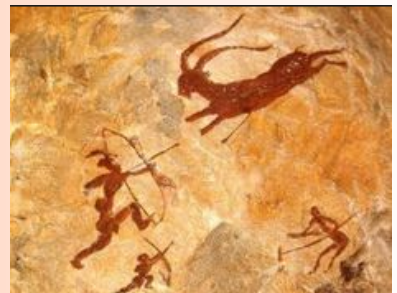
Cave painting



Cave painting

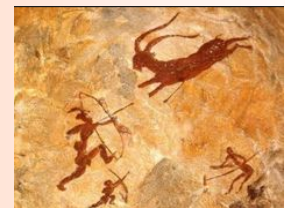
Where in the world have cave paintings been found?

What did people paint on their walls?



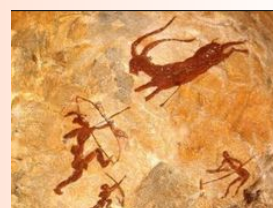
Cave painting

Usually these paintings were made in prehistoric times. Most cave paintings date from 10,000 to 20,000 years ago. The oldest are from about 32,000 years ago.



It is not known why these paintings were made. Some people think they may have been used for rituals. They may also have been a way to transmit information; to tell other people about something. These caves usually also do not show signs that people lived there all year round.

Cave painting



Today, there are about 350 caves known which have paintings in them. Many are in [France](#) and [Spain](#). The best known are probably the caves of Altamira (in Spain), Lascaux (in France), or Creswell Crags in England. Sometimes, paintings were also done on cliff faces. Fewer of those have survived though, because of erosion

The paintings were drawn with red and yellow [ochre](#), [hematite](#), and charcoal. Sometimes the silhouette of the animal was put into the rock first.