

# How to make a cave painting

When people long ago made cave paintings, they didn't have brushes, pens or pencils to use. To paint on the walls of the caves, they used their hands and other things that were readily found around them.

You are now going back in time! You have no brushes, no pens or pencils! Look and see what you have to make your own cave paintings.

**Suggested items for cave painting:** Matchsticks/twigs of all shapes and sizes;  
Sponges (like the moss the cave painters used);  
Feathers;  
And, of course, your own hands!

The cave painter needed to make their own paints, but you can use ready mixed paint. Try to use paints in the colours that cave painters would have used such as black, brown, red, green and yellow.

Search on the internet for picture of old cave paintings. These will give you ideas of what to do. If you would like to draw one of the animals, you could use a stick dipped in paint to draw an outline of the animal of your choice on a piece of paper.

Once you have an outline, you could colour the animal. Perhaps a sponge ('moss') could be used to do this or you could use your fingers instead.

Outlines can also be made by using feathers or again, by using your fingers.

When painters have finished their paintings they often signed them. Cave painters of long ago could not write their names, so if they wanted to say they had done the painting they could put their hand or finger/thumb print on the painting. You might like to put your finger/thumb print on your painting instead of writing your name!

