

Lesson Title: Rock Art Caves**Grade Level:** 4th

Rationale Students use the Internet to learn about rock art. Students work together in small groups to create caves for other students to explore in the classroom.

Materials:

- Computers with Internet access,
- Examples of rock art from Texas and the world (included)
- Brown paper, colored markers

Lesson Duration: One class period**Objectives:**Social Studies, 4th Grade

- Social Studies 114.6 (22A), differentiate between, locate, and use primary and secondary sources
- Social Studies 114.6 (22B), analyze information by drawing inferences
- Social Studies 114.6 (22C), organize and interpret information in visuals

Art, 4th Grade

- Art 117.14 (2A), integrate ideas about self, life events, family and community in original artworks
- Art 117.14 (2B), design original artworks
- Art 117.14 (3B), compare and contrast selected artworks from a variety of cultural settings

Activity:

Step 1: Teacher shows images of rock art from various sites in Texas and around the world (included).

Step 2: Students seek out further examples of rock art on the Internet.

Texas Beyond History has several rock art pages:

www.texasbeyondhistory.net/plateaus/artistic/trail.html;

www.texasbeyondhistory.net/plateaus/kids/parade.html;

www.texasbeyondhistory.net/pecos/art.html; and www.texasbeyondhistory.net/transp/artistic/index.html.

Students can easily find a dozen more through links and related searches. These websites will provide a wide variety of rock art examples that will show a diversity of people, culture, geography, content, time, and specific medium.

Step 3: Students copy one or more rock art drawings from the Internet. Divide students into small groups and give each group several large sheets of brown paper and colored markers. The groups cover the “cave walls” with rock art designs.

Step 4: Tape the sheets of paper over desks or attach to the wall or bookcase to make a “cave” for each group. Rock art designs should be inside the cave.

Step 5: Groups explore the different caves and try to learn something of the culture portrayed by the rock art.

Modification: Have specific rock art URLs chosen and saved as “favorites” ahead of time for student use.

Student Product: Paper cave drawings

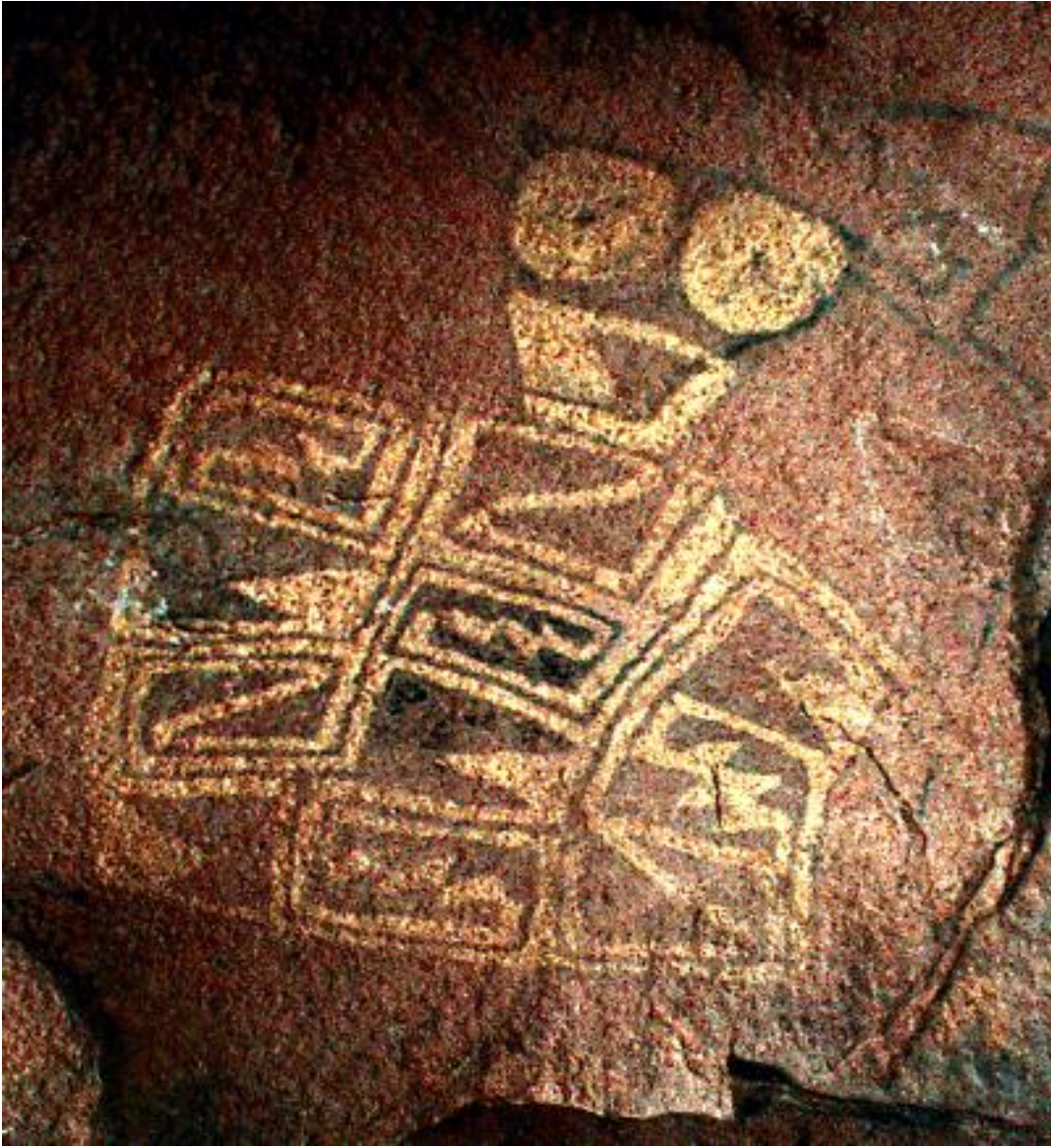
Closure: Groups make inferences about the culture of another group’s “cave” to the class, based on their interpretations of the drawings.

Assessment: Ask students how ancient rock art differs from current day graffiti.

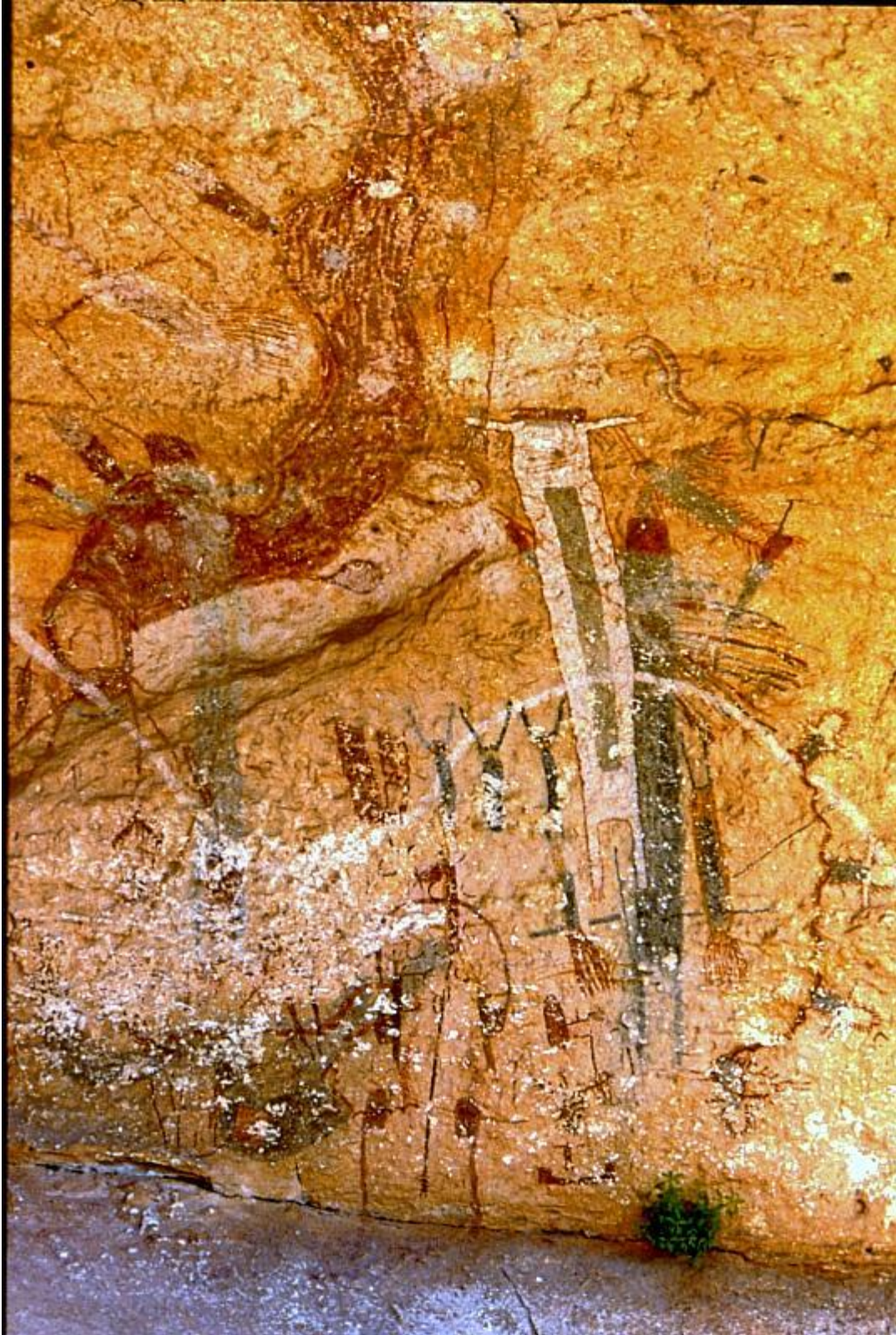
Extension: Have students explore the interactive, “**Mysteries of the Texas Desert: The Lost People of Hueco Tanks**” www.texasbeyondhistory.net/kids/hueco.html

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Examples of Rock Art in Texas and the World



Hueco Tanks, west Texas



White Shaman Cave, Lower Pecos region, southwest Texas



Wandjina Rock Paintings, Kimberley, West Australia



Horse Painting, Peche Merle, France