

# Tips

## Do this activity on your own first!

That is the easiest way to plan. It will also give you the opportunity to familiarize yourself with how the platform works. Make sure you keep scrolling after the fly-through video, there is more to learn and do after that.

## Timing

- Students will need at least an hour for this activity if they're doing it on their own or in pairs. If you're doing it as a group, it will take longer. We suggest setting aside 22 – 3 hours total.
- There are natural breaks between the three parts of this activity (Digital Lesson / Art Creation / Sharing), so it is easy to break it up over 2 or 3 days if that is helpful.

## Materials

- You can make this activity work with any material.
- Markers/crayons are the easiest.
- One group of students really enjoyed using charcoal.
- Many students asked if they could use paint and go outside to create art on rocks.
- If you'd like kids to carve their art instead of draw, try this **Sand Play Dough** recipe for a base to etch their art into.
- If you're feeling adventurous, have kids make their own paint! [Science Friday](#) has some good suggestions for exploring this option, and [this link](#) will give you some basic background in how the earliest artists made paint that we can still see today.

## Set-Up

### *Digital Lesson*

- Decide if you want kids to do the activity alone, in small groups, or as a class
- If you are watching the activity as a group, if possible, we recommend letting kids watch the activity again on their own. Students love that they can zoom in and out during the fly-through video and they can repeat anything they missed.
- If multiple kids are doing the activity simultaneously on their personal devices, earphones are a big help.

### *Art Creation*

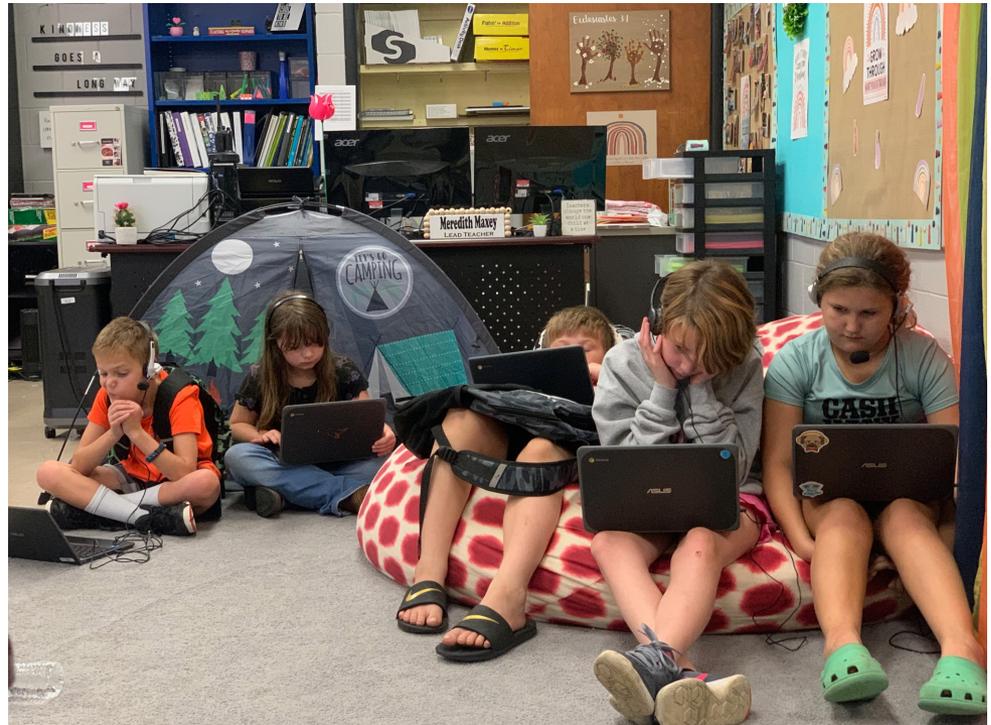
- Kids can use individual pieces of paper to create their art, or you can set up butcher paper on top of or underneath tables and have kids work on their art at the same time.
- Consider the mood you want to create – you can lower the lights, use flashlights or battery-operated candles, play soft instrumental music in the background. A calm atmosphere can help kids focus and better empathize with the original artists.

### *Sharing*

- There are multiple options for sharing, depending on your goals for your students. For example, you can have students:
  - share work one-by-one in front of the whole class
  - display art on their desks, then take turns walking around and asking each other questions
  - pair and share – work in twos, describe their art to each other, then describe their partner's art to the rest of the class
- You might also want to consider using a cell phone to take pictures of the art and/or record kids talking about their work. Students could also be filmmakers and create a documentary about each other's art.

# Extension Ideas

- Have students write/journal about what they learned and/or what their art is about
- Create an American history timeline. It is very hard to date petroglyphs, and they weren't all necessarily created at the same time, but we think the artwork in Devilstep Hollow Cave was created over a thousand years ago.
- Have kids play anthropologists – rather than having students tell each other what their artwork means, assign an art piece to each student and ask them to study it and make inferences about what the artwork represents and what that might tell us about the artist. Ask them to share their ideas with the class, then have the original author share what they intended.



# Learning Outcomes

## Art and Culture

- Humans have created arts for thousands of years
- People create art for a variety of reasons
- Interpreting art allows us to make inferences about the artists
- Creating art helps us learn and express our ideas and identity and empathize with the artists
- Icons are symbols or images with shared meaning among a culture

## Devilstep Hollow Cave art site

- One of 10,000 caves in Tennessee
- Located at the head of the Sequatchie Valley

## History

### *Mississippian People*

- Indigenous people who lived in the area and created the art in Devilstep Hollow Cave
- Like us, they believed and imagined. More than just what they could see and touch.
- Like us, they had shared stories that gave meaning to their lives
- They believed in an upper world, a middle world, and an underworld
- They were a unique and interesting people who helped shape our home in the past. Their lives and contributions are worthy of study, remembrance, and honor.

### *Chickasaw Nation*

- The Chickasaw Nation used to live in the Southeastern United States, including Tennessee
- The Chickasaw Nation is now based in Oklahoma
- Current members of the Chickasaw Nation still recognize many of the images we see in the Devilstep Hollow cave

# Sand Play Dough Recipe\*

## Ingredients

- 1/2 cup flour
- 1/4 cup salt
- 1 teaspoon cream of tartar
- 1 Tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup water
- 1 cup sand

## Directions

1. Combine dry ingredients in a large pot and stir until well mixed.
2. Stir in water and oil until combined.
3. Cook over medium heat, stirring frequently, until dough is thick.
4. Remove play dough from the pot and place on a plate or cookie sheet until cool enough to handle. Cover with a paper towel or dish cloth so it won't dry out.
5. Once dough is cool enough to handle, knead sand into dough until well incorporated.
6. Once dough reaches room temperature, store in an airtight container or zipper bag.

\*from [LeftBrain|CraftBrain](#)