

## The Cave Paintings



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- 1 One day a man named Don Marcelino went into the Altamira cave near his home in Spain. He took his five-year-old daughter María with him.
- 2 María knew what her father was looking for in the cave. He was looking

for tools that were thousands of years old.

- 3 Don Marcelino knew that people had found old tools in other caves. So he thought he might find some in this cave.

4 Don Marcelino had been digging for  
a long time when he found a stone tool.  
5 "María!" he called. "Come and look!"  
6 María looked at the tool. There was  
a picture carved on it.  
7 "It's a picture of a horse," María said.  
8 "Yes," Don Marcelino said, "it is a  
picture of a horse. But this horse isn't  
like our horses. There haven't been  
horses like this in Spain for thousands  
of years. The person who carved this  
horse must have lived here thousands  
of years ago."  
9 Don Marcelino went on digging.  
10 María watched him for a while. But  
then she grew bored. She went for a  
walk in the cave.  
11 Suddenly María called, "Papa! Papa!  
I see bulls!"  
12 Don Marcelino went to María. The  
top of the cave was very low. So when  
Don Marcelino walked around in it, he  
had to keep his head down.  
13 "I don't see any bulls," he said.  
14 "There!" María pointed to the top of  
the cave.  
15 Don Marcelino sat down on the floor.  
He had to sit down to see the top of the  
cave. And when he sat down, he saw  
the bulls.  
16 They were painted red. And they  
looked so real they almost seemed to be  
moving.  
17 "María," said Don Marcelino, "you

have made a great discovery! Just like  
the horse on the stone tool, these bulls  
are different from the bulls in Spain  
today. The painter must have lived  
when the toolmaker lived, thousands of  
years ago."

18 That night Don Marcelino wrote a  
letter to a friend who was a scientist.  
He told his friend about the cave paint-  
ings. And he asked him to come and  
see them.

19 His friend came as soon as he could.  
He was very excited when he saw the  
paintings.

20 "How wonderful!" he said. "Men  
have found old pictures carved on tools  
before. But they've never found any-  
thing like this. No one knew before  
that the people of long ago could paint  
such lovely pictures."

21 Don Marcelino and his friend went  
deeper into the cave. And they found  
more paintings.

22 "Your daughter has made a great  
discovery," his friend said. "People  
from all over the world will want to see  
these paintings. This cave will be  
famous."

23 It was true. The Altamira cave has  
become famous. Thousands of people  
have gone to see the paintings. And  
from them they have learned much  
about the lives of early men.

Don Marcelino had been digging for a long time when he found a stone tool. "María!" he called. "Come and look!" María looked at the tool. There was a picture carved on it.

"It's a picture of a horse," María said. "Yes," Don Marcelino said, "it is a picture of a horse. But this horse isn't like our horses. There haven't been pictures like this in Spain for thousands of years. The person who carved this picture must have lived here thousands of years ago."

Don Marcelino went on digging. María watched him for a while. But as she grew bored. She went for a walk in the cave.

Suddenly María called, "Papa! Papa! The bulls!"

Don Marcelino went to María. The entrance of the cave was very low. So when Don Marcelino walked around in it, he had to keep his head down.

"I don't see any bulls," he said. "There!" María pointed to the top of the cave.

Don Marcelino sat down on the floor. He had to sit down to see the top of the cave. And when he sat down, he saw pictures of bulls.

The pictures were painted red. And they looked so real they almost seemed to be alive.

"María," said Don Marcelino, "you

have made a great discovery! Just like the horse on the stone tool, these bulls are different from the bulls in Spain today. The painter must have lived when the toolmaker lived, thousands of years ago."

18 That night Don Marcelino wrote a letter to a friend who was a scientist. He told his friend about the cave paintings. And he asked him to come and see them.

19 His friend came as soon as he could. He was very excited when he saw the paintings.

20 "How wonderful!" he said. "Men have found old pictures carved on tools before. But they've never found anything like this. No one knew before that the people of long ago could paint such lovely pictures."

21 Don Marcelino and his friend went deeper into the cave. And they found more paintings.

22 "Your daughter has made a great discovery," his friend said. "People from all over the world will want to see these paintings. This cave will be famous."

23 It was true. The Altamira cave has become famous. Thousands of people have gone to see the paintings. And from them they have learned much about the lives of early men.

## How Well Did You Understand?

A Choose the best ending for each sentence. Write *a*, *b*, or *c*.

- This story is mainly about
  - how a man liked to dig for old tools
  - how an important scientist made a cave famous
  - how a girl found something people had never seen before
- María saw the painted bulls more easily than her father did because
  - her eyes were better
  - she was shorter
  - she was more excited
- The horse carved on the tool that Don Marcelino found looked like
  - a real horse today
  - a real horse of long ago
  - a toy horse today
- Don Marcelino asked his friend to come and see the paintings because Marcelino
  - was afraid they would disappear
  - knew they were important
  - did not know what they were
- From looking at paintings and carvings of animals made long ago, you learn
  - more about people who lived long ago
  - why animals of long ago died
  - how many animals there used to be

## Learn about Words

B Often you can find out the meaning of a word by seeing how it is used in a story. The other words in the story give you clues.

*Directions:* Find the word in the story that best fits each meaning. (A paragraph number tells you where to look.) Write the word.

- big, hollow place underground (1)
- things used in doing work (2)
- cut into wood or stone (6)
- important new find (17)
- interested and stirred up (19)
- farther and farther down (21)

C too = also  
two = the number after one

Say *too* and *two*. They are homonyms. **Homonyms** are words that *sound* the same but aren't spelled the same and don't mean the same thing.

*Directions:* Look at each word in **heavy type**. Note the paragraph number. Look at the paragraph and find the homonym. Which of the two words fits in the blank in the sentence? Write the word.

- new** (2)  
Scientists learn \_\_\_\_ things.
- sum** (3)  
Don Marcelino found \_\_\_\_ tools.
- board** (10)  
María was not \_\_\_\_.
- red** (16)

## Think about It

**D** A word was left out of each sentence. Look at the two words in **heavy type** under each sentence. Choose the word that best completes the sentence. Write the word.

1 People painted pictures of deer, horses, and \_\_\_\_ on cave walls.

**tools    bulls**

2 The walls were painted red, yellow, and \_\_\_\_.

**black    different**

3 Cave paintings have been found in Spain, France, and the \_\_\_\_.

**world    United States**

4 People of long ago knew how to use hammers, shovels, and \_\_\_\_.

**knives    clothes**

5 Days, months, and \_\_\_\_ have passed since people painted in caves.

**time    years**

**E**    ~~bake~~ + er = baker  
      ~~taste~~ + ed = tasted  
      ~~come~~ + ing = coming

When a word ends with *e*, you drop that *e* before adding the endings *er*, *ed*, and *ing*.

*Directions:* Each word below ends with *er*, *ed*, or *ing*. Write the word as it would be without the ending. For example, if you read *racing*, you would write *race*.

**6** carved

**7** named

**8** moving

**9** excited

**10** living

## Find Out More

You can learn many things about people who lived long ago by looking at the drawings and paintings they made. Find a book about native Americans or ancient Egyptians. Look for a drawing or painting made by these people. What can you find out about them just by looking at their drawings? What did they look like? What did they wear? What animals did they