Cave art gives us a little glimpse into prehistoric life. This type of art can be found all over the world and is the earliest known form of painting and engravings, found on the walls of caves and rocky shelters. These paintings vary from patterns of human hands to simple images of now-extinct animals. The oldest form of cave art is currently thought to be in an ancient cave hidden in the limestone caves of East Kalimantan, Indonesia, on the island of Borneo. There are hundreds of hands that look like they are waving inside bursts of red/orange paint as well as images of cow like creatures in some of the caves. These paintings are thought to be between 40,000 and 52,000 years old!

Cave art would have been made using red or black pigments made from the naturally occurring colours in the environment around the cave. Have a go at making your own cave art, perhaps you could draw the members of your family or have a go at drawing some of your favourite animals!

Creating your own cave art:

You can make your own cave art using chalk on a chalk board, cloth or pavement. You could also try using mud or charcoal in the same way! You will be able to make different colours from mud collected from different places! Try mixing mud with a little water and use a stick as a paint brush to replicate the simple lines used in the caves all those years ago.

Perhaps you could make your own natural paintbrush by tying leaves, herbs or grass to the end of your stick as bristles.