



THE USE OF SYMBOLS HAS BEEN USED AS A STORYTELLING TOOL BY NATIVE AMERICAN NATIONS FOR YEARS!

GET OUTDOORS NEVADA

IN THIS LESSON YOU WILL:

- UNDERSTAND HOW SYMBOLS HAVE DIFFERENT MEANINGS
- KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PETROGLYPHS AND PICTOGRAPHS
- INTERPRET ROCK WRITING
- CREATE YOUR OWN ROCK WRITING STORY

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- WRITING TOOL (PENCIL, PEN, ETC)
- BROWN CONSTRUCTION PAPER
- WHITE CHALK

PROVIDED:

- SYMBOLS SHEET #1
- SYMBOLS SHEET #2
- WHAT'S YOUR STORY SHEET

ROCK WRITING





PAST AND PRESENT

LEARN ABOUT IT!

THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS GOES BACK MORE THAN THIRTY THOUSAND YEARS, WHEN THERE WERE MANY POPULATIONS OF PEOPLES- EACH WITH A CULTURE AND A VARIETY OF SPOKEN LANGUAGES. AT THAT TIME, OVER 750 TRIBES LIVED ALONG THE COASTS, IN THE WOODS, IN THE PRAIRIES, AND EVEN IN THE DESERTS!

TODAY, IN NEVADA, THERE ARE FOUR GROUPS OF NATIVE NATIONS: WASHOE, NORTHERN PAIUTE, WESTERN SHOSHONE, AND SOUTHERN PAIUTE- AND WE CAN FIND EVIDENCE OF THEIR ANCESTRAL HISTORY AND CULTURAL PRACTICES THROUGH THE FINDINGS OF PICTOGRAPHS (PAINTED IMAGES/SYMBOLS ON ROCKS) AND PETROGLYPHS (CARVED IMAGES/SYMBOLS ON ROCKS)- WHICH ARE FOUND ALL OVER NEVADA!

VISIT THESE WEBSITES TO LEARN MORE!

USDAC.US/NATIVELAND/
NEVADAINDIANTERRITORY.COM
KAIBABPAIUTE-NSN.GOV
LVPAIUTETRIBE.COM/HISTORY





THE POWER OF SYMBOLS

THINK ABOUT IT!

THE UNITED STATES TODAY HAS DIVERSE GROUPS OF PEOPLE - WITH DIFFERENT CULTURES AND WHO SPEAK DIFFERENT LANGUAGES. IMAGINE YOU MEET SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE AS YOU. WHAT ARE SOME WAYS YOU CAN COMMUNICATE WITH THEM WITHOUT SPEAKING TO THEM?



SOLVE IT!

IN ORDER TO MAKE COMMUNICATION EASIER, OUR SOCIETY HAS DEVELOPED SYMBOLS THAT CAN BE EASILY UNDERSTOOD BY ANYONE REGARDLESS OF SPOKEN LANGUAGE. DO YOU THINK YOU CAN FIGURE OUT WHAT SOME OF THOSE SYMBOLS REPRESENT?

TAKE A LOOK AT [SYMBOLS SHEET #1](#). WHERE DO YOU USUALLY SEE THESE SYMBOLS? WHAT DO THEY MEAN?

THE FIRST PEOPLES THAT WERE IN THESE LANDS ALSO USED SYMBOLS TO REPRESENT MEANINGS- AND THEY DOCUMENTED IT ON ROCKS AND STONES!

TAKE A LOOK AT [SYMBOLS SHEET #2](#). WHAT DO YOU THINK EACH OF THE PIECES OF WRITING REPRESENT?



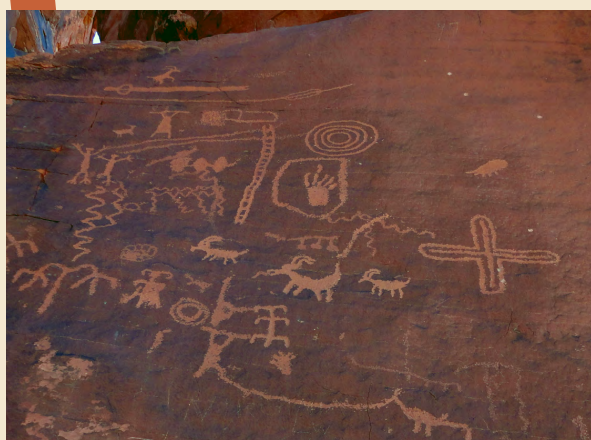


A TOOL FOR STORYTELLING

PETROGLYPHS ARE NOT JUST SYMBOLS FOR WORDS, THEY PORTRAY THE COMPLEX SOCIETIES AND RELIGIONS OF THE TRIBES THAT LIVED IN THAT AREA. SOME PETROGLYPHS REPRESENT SOMETHING TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHILE OTHERS MAY REPRESENT SOMETHING SHARED WITH THE WHOLE TRIBE. EVEN NOW, PEOPLE ARE STILL TRYING TO FIND OUT THE MEANING BEHIND THE WRITING...

TALK ABOUT IT!

THE IMAGE ON THE RIGHT SHOWS A PETROGLYPH FOUND IN VALLEY OF FIRE. WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE MEANING OR STORY BEHIND THIS WRITING?

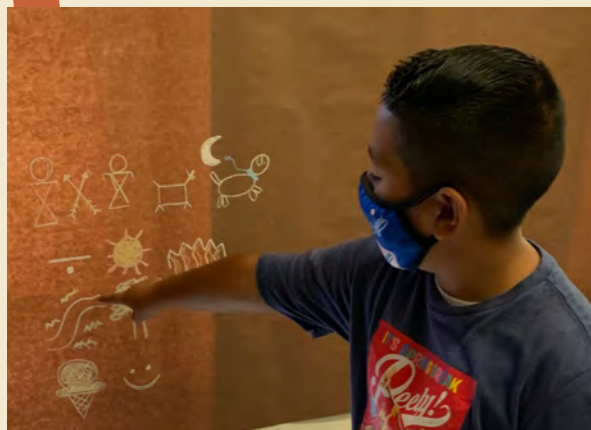


WRITE ABOUT IT!

IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO SHARE YOUR STORY! OPEN THE [WHAT'S YOUR STORY SHEET](#), AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS.

DRAW IT!

TAKE YOUR STORY AND RECREATE IT USING ONLY SYMBOLS! TAKE THE BROWN PAPER, CHALK, AND BEGIN!





GOING OUTDOORS

EXPERIENCE IT!

NOW THAT YOU LEARNED A LITTLE MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE OF PETROGLYPHS, WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO GO OUT TO ONE OF THESE SITES IN NEVADA, CHECK THEM OUT, AND SHOW YOUR RESPECT BY PRACTICING LEAVE NO TRACE PRINCIPLES...

SITES IN SOUTHERN NEVADA WITH PETROGLYPHS AND/OR PICTOGRAPHS

1 LAKE MEAD NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

- GRAPEVINE CANYON (NEAR LAUGHLIN)
- KEYHOLE CANYON (PAST BOULDER CITY)

2 RED ROCK CANYON NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

- WILLOW SPRINGS CANYON (PETROGLYPHS ON THE WEST, PICTOGRAPHS ON THE EAST)
- CALICO BASIN (ALONG THE BOARD WALK)

3 SLOAN CANYON NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

- HIDDEN VALLEY TRAIL
- PETROGLYPH TRAIL
- POPPY GUZZLER ROUTE

4 VALLEY OF FIRE STATE PARK

- ATLATL ROCK
- MOUSE'S TANK

5 ARROW CANYON WILDERNESS

8 LINCOLN COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

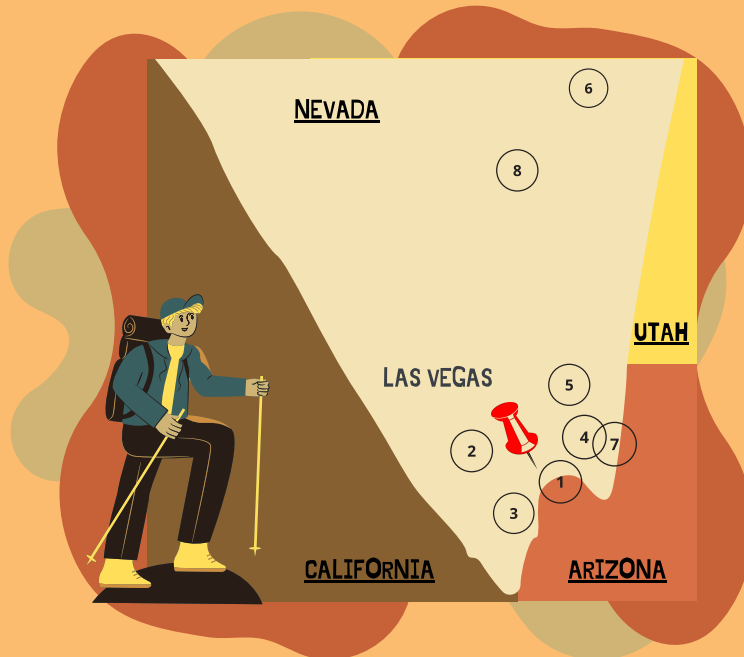
- ASH SPRINGS
- CRYSTAL WASH ENTRANCE
- CRYSTAL WASH MAIN

7 GOLD BUTTE REGION

- FALLING MAN SITE
- WHITNEY POCKET
- MUD WASH PANEL

6 BASIN AND RANGE NATIONAL MONUMENT

- MT. IRISH
- SHOOTING GALLERY
- WHITE RIVER NARROWS



...YOU CAN FOLLOW THE "LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND" PRINCIPLE BY ADMIRING THE WRITING FROM A DISTANCE AND LEAVING IT UNTOUCHED.

