Paleo art is any artwork that depicts prehistoric life according to scientific evidence. Paleo art, including drawings, paintings, and sculptures, helps shape the way we picture ancient life.

Left: Gravina and Hound Island Fauna by Ray Troll.

**Materials Needed:** Fossil Cards printable, paper, colored pencils (or crayons or markers), scissors, glue, other craft materials (tissue paper, yarn, sequins, pipe cleaners, etc.) You can use whatever supplies you have!

**Instructions:**

**Step 1:** Choose a fossil card. Look at the picture, and imagine what the animal looked like when it was alive.

**Step 2:** Draw what you think the animal looked like when it was alive. Be creative!

**Step 3:** Use a variety of craft materials to create a habitat for your animal. What kind of environment did the animal live in? What is the animal doing? What other animals or plants live there?

**Think and Discuss:**

What can you find out about how an animal looks from a fossil? What can’t you tell?

How does paleo art combine science and art?
Paleo Art

Paleo art is any artwork that depicts prehistoric life according to scientific evidence. Paleo art, including drawings, paintings, and sculptures, helps shape the way we picture ancient life.

Paleo artists study fossils for evidence about an animal's size, shape, form and behavior. They use this evidence to imagine how the living creature once looked, and the environment it lived in. Paleo artists base their work on scientific research, and use their skills and creativity to translate this information into works of art.

Paleo art is an example of science and art working together to educate, inspire, inform, and imagine.

Discover paleo art in the museum! Explore artists such as James Havens, Randall Compton, and Ray Troll. Take a deeper dive into paleo art with a video by the Field Museum: Paleoart: Painting the Land Before Time.
UAMN Virtual Junior Curators: Animals in Art

Fossil Cards Printable

Steppe Bison
*Bison priscus*
*Gallery of Alaska: Interior*

Woolly Mammoth
*Mammuthus primigenius*
*Gallery of Alaska*

Hadrosaur
*Ugrunaaluk kuukpikensis*
*Lobby*

American Lion
*Panthera leo atrox*
*Gallery of Alaska: Interior*
Fossil Cards Printable

Tarbosaurus
*Lobby*

Pachyrhinosaur
*Gallery of Alaska: Western Arctic Coast*

Baby Mammoth
*Mammuthus primigenius*
*Gallery of Alaska: Interior*

Ammonites
*Museum Store*