

Make Prehistoric Animal Art

Make a collage showing ancient animals!



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, pipecleaners, 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



Detail from *Matanuska Ammonites* by Ray Troll



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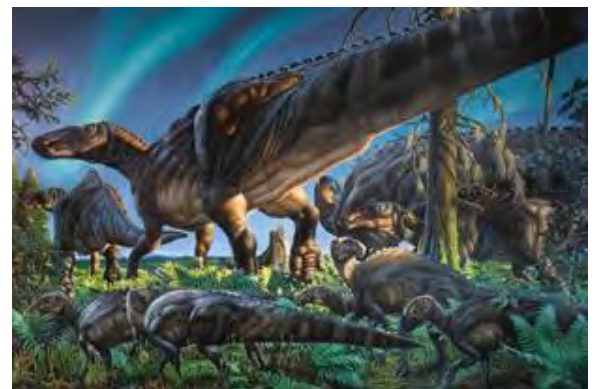
Paleo artists study fossils for evidence about an animal's size, shape, form and behavior. They use this evidence to imagine how the living creature once looked, and the environment it lived in. Paleo artists base their work on scientific research, and use their skills and creativity to translate this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



Cast of an *Ugrunaaluk kuukpikensis* skeleton



Arctic Hadrosaurs by James Havens, 2014

Fossil Cards Printable



Steppe Bison
Bison priscus
Gallery of Alaska: Interior



Woolly Mammoth
Mammuthus primigenius
Gallery of Alaska



Hadrosaur
Ugrunaaluk kuukpikensis
Lobby



Beringian Lion
Panthera leo spelaea
Gallery of Alaska: Interior

Fossil Cards Printable



Tarbosaur
Lobby



Pachyrhinosaur
Gallery of Alaska: Western Arctic Coast



Baby Mammoth
Mammuthus primigenius
Gallery of Alaska: Interior



Ammonites
Museum Store