



ANCIENT & MODERN STONE ART

ACTIVITY SHEET

Created for
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Let's look at Ancient Stone Art

How did early Stone
Age Settlers carve
these designs?

And Why ??



To answer this question
we need to go back 5,000
years.

This was the time of the
Stone Age Farmers.

They built great stone
tombs to honour their
dead.

The Portal Tomb shown
here is an important
monument in Co. Clare.



These spiral geometric shapes can be seen at the entrance to a famous passage tomb in Newgrange.



ANCIENT STONE TOOLS

These geometric shapes were very difficult to design.

The only tools were sharpened flint or quartz stone.

A polished stone axe was used to chisel out these patterns. Just like the one here.



WHY DID THESE SETTLERS DECORATE THEIR TOMBS?

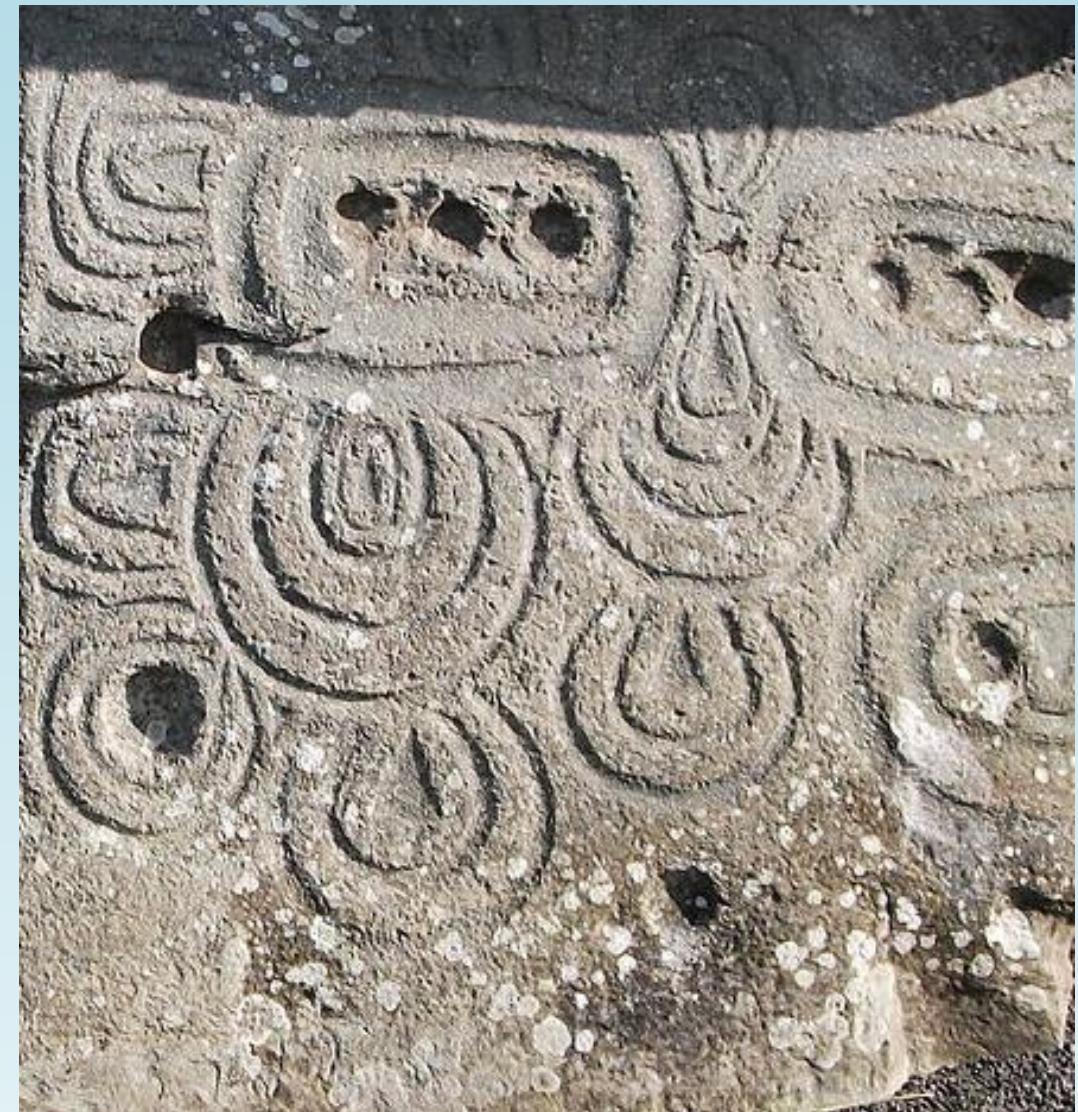
The answer is...

We do not know!

Could these designs show the movement of the sun and the stars?.

Could they be maps of the area?

Most experts agree this wonderful prehistoric art had a magical or religious message.



MODERN STONE ART

Let's move forward and
discover the wonderful ways
we can enjoy Stone Art

MODERN STONE ART

Unlike our ancestors, we can now create art on stones by using modern tools.

- Acrylic Paint
- Acrylic Markers
- Pencils
- Paintbrushes



TO BEGIN

Gather some stones, the size and shape will depend on what you want to design with your stones.



WASH THE STONES



PREPARING THE STONES

Always paint your stones
white to begin.

This guarantees a good base
for a Colour Coat.



GARDEN FLOWER SHAPES



ABSTRACT STONE ART



FLOWERS ON STONES

Once the stone is painted you can design a flower onto the stone.

Use an acrylic marker for this delicate work



CARTOONS ON STONES



HAVE FUN WITH YOUR STONE ART

Now it is your turn to draw any design you would like to put on your stones.

From simple stone petals to cartoon imagery you can use this introduction to Stone Art to be creative.

Have fun and explore all the possibilities.

We here in Dublin Castle would love to see your stone art. We are open every day! You can also post pictures of your stone on Social media, and tag @dublincastle