

Go to the Benin area on the Second Floor

Did you know that the Kingdom of Benin used images in carvings and art to tell stories of life inside of the palace?

Have a look at the elephant tusk on the left side and top shelf of the shrine case.

Can you see it? What story do you think the artisan was trying to tell?

Task: If you could be an Artisan, what object would you make? Draw your design in the box below.



Life through African Artisans

We are celebrating the skilled Artisans of Africa. Carvers are extremely important in societies across the world. They are highly skilled, but their objects are used in rituals, traditions and day-to-day life. Some carvers are said to have spiritual abilities.

This trail will take you on a journey from Africa to the Caribbean and Britain to see the wonderful world of carvings and what they mean to people across the world.

O	O	E	L	H	O	S	E	I	R	O	T	S	E
A	E	I	W	I	T	A	L	E	C	A	O	Y	T
R	Y	N	O	S	L	N	E	I	C	S	G	L	A
C	G	C	O	L	L	B	O	K	F	N	C	R	R
H	O	T	D	R	I	H	I	M	C	E	A	T	B
A	L	E	F	O	B	J	E	C	T	S	I	O	E
E	O	A	N	A	B	H	I	S	T	O	R	Y	L
O	P	T	R	A	D	I	T	I	O	N	S	D	E
L	O	N	A	E	B	B	I	R	A	C	L	A	C
O	R	A	C	A	R	V	I	N	G	S	S	F	L
G	H	S	E	G	O	F	O	L	K	L	O	R	E
Y	T	L	H	A	R	B	L	A	C	K	O	I	F
M	N	E	B	A	R	T	I	S	A	N	S	C	Y
A	A	M	U	S	E	U	M	F	B	N	T	A	D

MONTH
CARIBBEAN
LIFE
ARCHAEOLOGY
OBJECTS
AFRICA
HISTORY
ARTISANS
BLACK
ANTHROPOLOGY
WOOD
CARVINGS
FOLKLORE
TRADITIONS
MUSEUM
CELEBRATE
STORIES

Go to the Spotlight Gallery at the back of the Ground Floor



You may have to look up to see me,
but I am big, black and smiling!
I am inspired by African and Jamaican
folklore.

Can you find my name?

What material do you think I am made from?

- A. Stone
- B. Bone
- C. Wood

Go to the 1st Floor and to the West Africa case

Can you circle Nigeria, Sierra Leone (S. Leone) and Ghana on the
map of West Africa below?

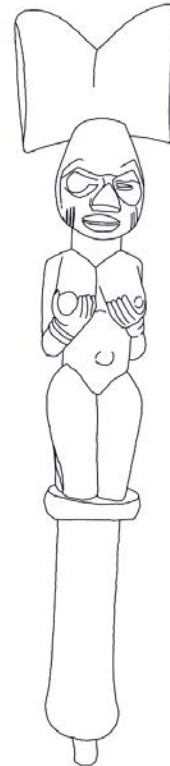


Stay on the 1st Floor

Can you see this mask in the middle of the case?
It is worn by women and has round cheeks.

What is the name of the people who
wear this mask?

Did you know that these masks connect
people to the spiritual world?



Look for this object in the Nigeria case, which
is right of the West Africa case.

What do you think it was used for?
