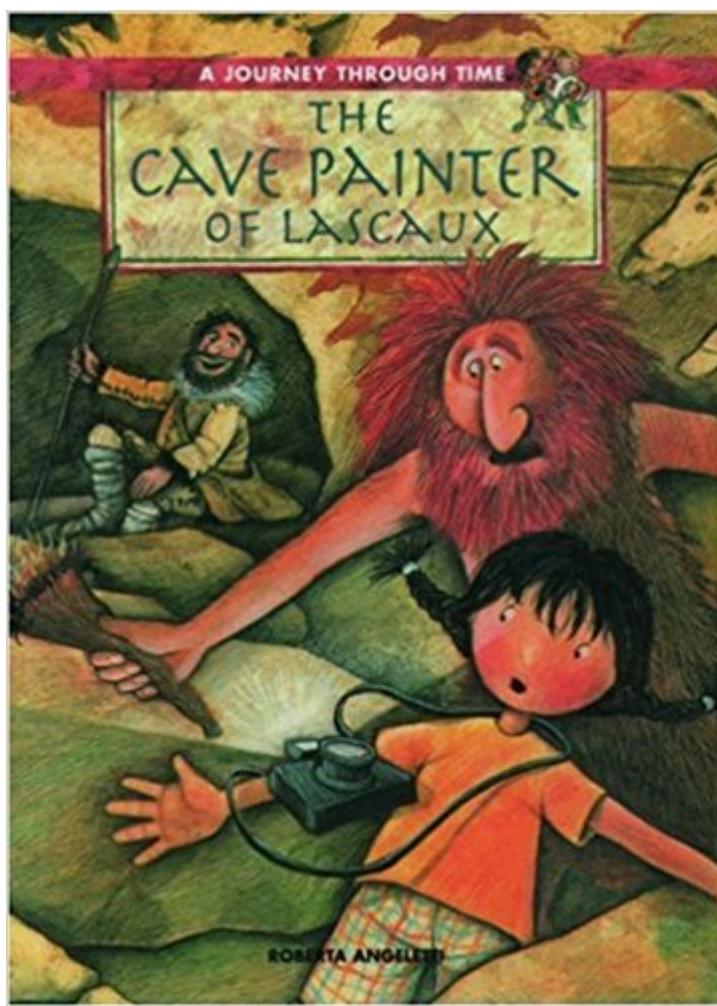


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# The Cave Painter Of Lascaux (A Journey Through Time Series)



## **Synopsis**

Cecilia is on a school trip to the Lascaux caves in southern France--a mysterious place with well-preserved prehistoric paintings on the walls. These are believed to have been created by our primitive ancestors several hundred thousand years ago. The little girl notices some strange footprints on the ground. Following them, she walks away from the other children and arrives in a dark, wide hall. She is about to turn on her flashlight, when suddenly ... Flash! Her camera flash goes off and lights up the paintings of deer and hunters on the walls. The flash goes off again and she sees more animals chiseled in the walls. In the dark, she feels someone trying to pull the camera off her neck. Frightened, she turns around and sees a primitive man. He gestures to her that he is the painter of the walls. Leading her out of the cave, he tries to start a fire by striking two sticks against each other. Cecilia has to get back, because her school bus is leaving, but she leaves the primitive man a box of matches as a farewell gift. Three pages at the end of the story explain how prehistoric people lived, what tools they used, how they painted, and how they hunted.

## **Book Information**

Age Range: 6 and up

Series: A Journey Through Time Series

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press (December 9, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0195215583

ISBN-13: 978-0195215588

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 0.7 x 11.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,009,764 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #90 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Prehistory #303 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Ancient Civilizations #4177 in Books > Reference > English as a Second Language

## **Customer Reviews**

Grade 1-3-This series entry repeats the flaws and strengths of its predecessors. The story is slight and secondary to the purpose-in this case, introducing readers to Paleolithic cave paintings in France. A child wanders away from her classmates and meets up with a tour guide dressed as a

cave man. He is as surprised as she is when an actual Homo sapiens appears and corrects some of the guide's points. The information presented in the narrative is minimal-this field trip is no "Magic School Bus" ride. The cave art, however, is a respectable imitation of the real thing, and the cartoon characters and perspectives are dynamic. The factual material, which describes the possible intent of the art and how it was created, is based on current theory. The book would work well one-on-one or with a group as a lead-in to the photographs and content of Dorothy Hinshaw Patent's well-documented Mystery of the Lascaux Cave (Benchmark, 1998).Wendy Lukehart, Dauphin County Library, Harrisburg, PA Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"The cave art ... is a respectable imitation of the real thing, and the cartoon characters and perspectives are dynamic. The factual material, which describes the possible intent of the art and how it was created, is based on current theory. The book would work well one-on-one or with a group."--School Library Journal"These delightful characters tell readers about the people who painted the animals and what the paintings meant to them, helping to bring the Stone Age to life."--Baton Rouge Advocate

I am an elementary school art teacher, and this book was a perfect addition to my unit on the Lascaux cave paintings. I read this book aloud to all my second grade classes. This book can be read aloud in ten to fifteen minutes which is perfect for my classes. My students thought the book was funny and they were engaged in the story. After the story, there is some additional useful information on prehistoric artists. Great Book!

I purchased this book last year and read it to my Kindergarten students when we were learning about cave art (I teach elementary art). They enjoyed the story and it gave them a good introduction to cave art. Today I was browsing on this site and happened to click on this page to see if anyone had reviewed this book. When I read the editorial review, I was puzzled. It seems as if the reviewer read a different version of the book than the one that I have. The book I have is about a girl whose class goes on a field trip to the Lascaux caves. This part of the story is not realistic, because the cave is closed to the public. While there, she gets separated from her group. As she is wandering through the cave the flash on her camera goes off and she catches a glimpse of the fantastic paintings of animals on the cave walls. All of a sudden, she feels a tug at her camera strap. It is a caveman who is trying to keep her from falling. It turns out that he is not a real caveman. He is an expert on the stone age and a tour guide. He's dressed like a caveman for the tourists. While they

are talking, a real caveman appears and tells them about how real cavemen dressed and lived. When the girl hears her tour bus honking and realizes that she has to leave, the real caveman gives her his necklace, she says goodbye to both cavemen, and she hurries to catch her bus. There is absolutely nothing in the story about a caveman attempting to start a fire with two sticks or the girl giving the caveman matches. I wonder if the reviewer read an earlier version of the story that was changed before it was published in the United States.

When Anna and her classmates go on tour to see the famous cave paintings in Lascaux, France, she gets separated from her group and meets a tour guide dressed as a caveman who explains to her some of the wonderful things she sees in the elaborate cave system. Then Anna and the tour guide meet someone else dressed as a caveman -- and he's the real thing! He is one of the artists who drew the famous paintings of humans and animal life on the walls of the cave. Their new acquaintance tells them what life was really like back in the Stone Age. Eventually Anna is able to rejoin her classmates and has learned a great deal about not only the cave paintings, but the people who made them. A superbly written and illustrated picturebook story by Roberta Angeletti, "The Cave Painter Of Lascaux" is further enhanced for young readers with a section about what archaeology has taught us about people of the Stone Age with respect to who they were, where they lived, what they wore, what we speculate they believed in, and how it's thought that the beautiful cave paintings in Lascaux were created so long ago. "The Cave Painter Of Lascaux" is as entertaining as it is informative and a welcome, enthusiastically recommended addition to school and community library picturebook collections for young readers.

I am very happy with the product and the speed of delivery.

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