

# The Stone Age Artist



A cold wind blew into the cave but Red Fingers didn't shiver. She was a cavegirl and cavegirls didn't feel the cold. She bent down to look at her painting. It was getting dark but the sun lit it up with an orange glow.

Fire Man walked up to Red Fingers. He had his hands above his head, trying to make them look like deer antlers. He was telling her about the deer he was cooking for dinner but Red Fingers wasn't hungry. She shook her head and tapped her finger into some paint. She rubbed it into her painting.

Fire Man made a noise and patted his belly. "Eat," he seemed to say.



Red Fingers shook her head again. She dipped another finger into the paint.

"Eat," Fire Man repeated. He rubbed his hands together and blew on them. Then, he flicked his arms into the air. He was trying to show Red Fingers that he was making a fire to cook their meal.

Even though she was hungry, Red Fingers didn't want to eat. She wanted to finish her painting and wished Fire Man would leave her alone.

All day, Fire Man had been hunting for food. He had returned carrying a deer with beautiful antlers.

She could hear Fire Man grumbling to the others but she didn't care. She held a red rock over her paint and scraped at it with a stone. Tiny bits of dust fell off like rain and she watched as they spread into her mixture. Red Fingers then spat into the paint, mixing it all together with a stick.

The smell of food cooking made Red Fingers stop for a moment. The Old Woman walked up to her, holding something. She held out her hand and gave Red Fingers a piece of warm meat.

Red Fingers sniffed it, then took a bite. She was hungrier than she thought. The meat tasted so good



and she felt bad for ignoring Fire Man.

It was getting dark and the Old Woman hobbled off. Wolves howled outside as Red Fingers looked at her painting. It was a picture of a deer with beautiful antlers.

That night, Red Fingers thought about all her other cave paintings. She wondered if her children might one day get to see them.

A cold wind blew and Red Fingers pulled her fur skin tight. She was soon asleep, dreaming of wolves, mammoths and the deer with beautiful antlers.



# Questions

1. Why didn't Red Fingers shiver? Tick **one**.

- because it was getting dark
- because she liked the sun
- because she was a cavegirl and cavegirls don't shiver
- because the wind was warm

2. What animal did Fire Man try to act like?

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3. What did Fire Man do when he made a noise? Tick **one**.

- grumble
- pat his belly
- dip his finger in the paint
- hunt

4. Why do you think Red Fingers spat? Give evidence to help explain your answer.

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5. Draw a line to match the sentence with the correct ending.

Wolves howled outside

She held a red rock over  
her paint

She was hungrier

and scraped at it with a  
stone.

than she thought.

as Red Fingers looked at  
her painting.

6. Number these to show the order that they appear in the text. The first one has been done for you.

|   |  |
|---|--|
|   | "Eat," Fire Man repeated.              |
|   | Tiny bits of dust fell down like rain. |
|   | Fire Man walked up to Red Fingers.     |
| 1 | A cold wind blew into the cave.        |
|   | Wolves howled outside.                 |

7. **It was getting dark and the Old Woman hobbled off.**

What word could you use instead of **hobbled**?

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# Answers

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- because it was getting dark
- because she liked the sun
- because she was a cavegirl and cavegirls don't shiver**
- because the wind was warm

2. What animal did Fire Man try to act like?

**Fire Man tried to act like a deer.**

3. What did Fire Man do when he made a noise? Tick **one**.

- grumble
- pat his belly**
- dip his finger in the paint
- hunt

4. Why do you think Red Fingers spat? Give evidence to help explain your answer.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: It says that Red Fingers mixed it all together with a stick so I think Red Fingers spat because she wanted her paint to be more runny.**

5. Draw a line to match the sentence with the correct ending.

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Wolves howled outside              | and scraped at it with a stone.        |
| She held a red rock over her paint | than she thought.                      |
| She was hungrier                   | as Red Fingers looked at her painting. |

6. Number these to show the order that they appear in the text. The first one has been done for you.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 3 | "Eat," Fire Man repeated.              |
| 4 | Tiny bits of dust fell down like rain. |
| 2 | Fire Man walked up to Red Fingers.     |
| 1 | A cold wind blew into the cave.        |
| 5 | Wolves howled outside.                 |

7. **It was getting dark and the Old Woman hobbled off.**

What word could you use instead of **hobbled**?

**Pupil's own responses, such as: You could use walked/hopped/limped.**