

The art of Africa is as diverse as its people, 185 countries in sub-Saharan Africa alone. **View images of ceremonial masks from Africa.** Most masked beings are manifestations of nature spirits or ancestors. Ceremonial masks were combined with movements in African culture as an artistic way for storytelling at religious or ceremonial events, called **Masquerades**.



How have shapes & textures been used to express feelings?

Can you guess the main idea or emotion behind each of these masks?



Masks tell stories by expressing emotions designed to entertain or persuade religious spirits or important persons within the community.

Find your favorite mask & draw it below.

Find a mask that uses **angular, jagged lines, sharp edges, pointed shapes, and diagonals** to express ANGER, SURPRISE, OR HAPPINESS.

Title of Artwork:

Emotion Expressed:

People & Place:

Date Created:

Materials:

Find a mask that is based on animal forms. Does it have small eyes, stripes, spots or whiskers?

Title of Artwork:

Animal:

People & Place:

Date Created:

Materials:

What materials is the mask made from?

Who used this mask? Where are they from? Locate where on the map.

What did they use the mask for?