

The aurochs from Vig

EARLY STONE AGE
ROOM 2



The aurochs was found in a bog with some small, **flint arrowheads**. All the aurochs' bones were in the bog. What do you think happened when **the aurochs died** 10,000 years ago?

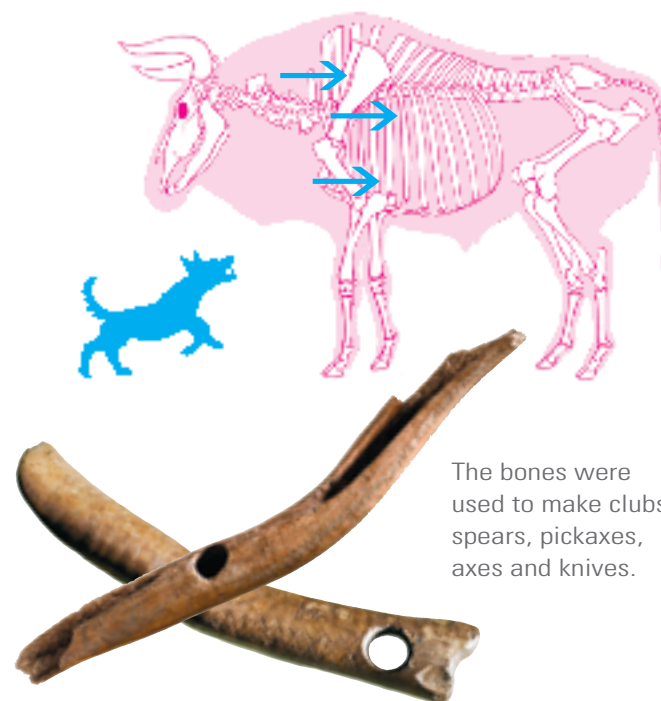
Maybe **hunters** had tracked the animal for days with **their dogs**? But an aurochs was not easy to kill with a bow and arrow. Some of the hunters' arrows had gone through the thick hide all the way to the skeleton. If you look carefully you might be able to see small holes in the bones. **The aurochs** must have **tried to escape into a lake**, where it drowned and sank to the bottom.

The aurochs was important for the people of the Early Stone Age, which is why they painted pictures of it. As they painted, they imagined how they would hunt the ox and maybe be lucky enough to catch one.

What would you paint?



CAN YOU SEE where the hunters' arrows have hit the skeleton?



The bones were used to make clubs, spears, pickaxes, axes and knives.

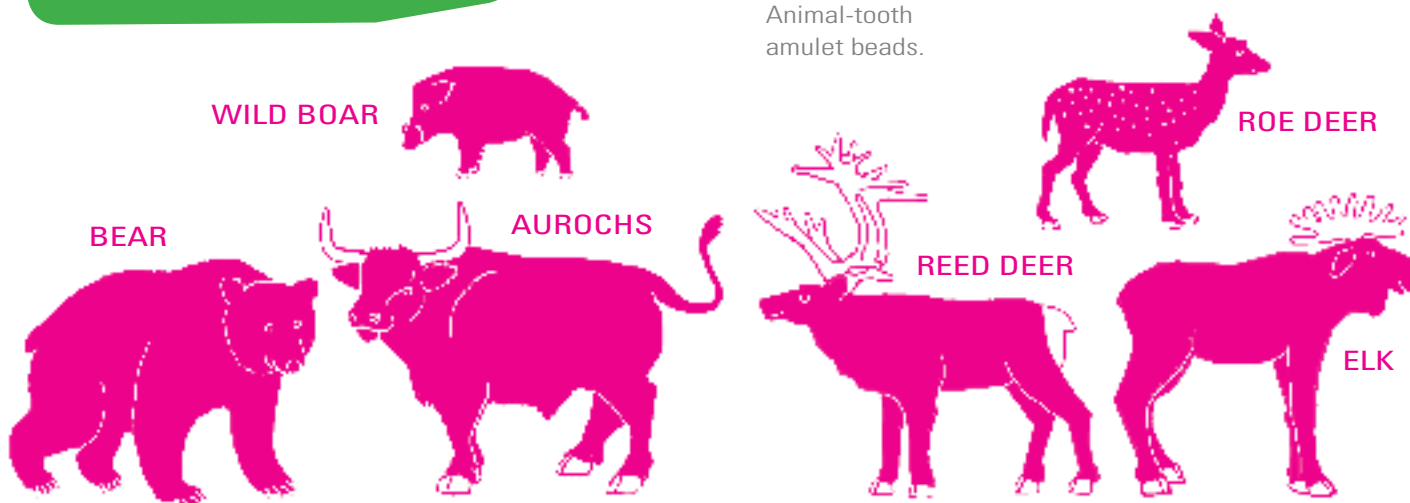
The Vedbaek Grave

EARLY STONE AGE
ROOM 3

In the grave there is **a woman** of 40 and **a child** of 3. They were **buried together 7,000 years ago**. There is a hairpin and a bird's bill by the woman's head. Next to the skeletons are tooth and bone beads and two flint knives. The beads are made of deer, wild boar, elk, bear and aurochs.

The woman and boy wore the beads around their necks as amulets. **They believed the amulets protected them from evil** and made them as strong and fast as the animals. The boy practised using the flint knives, so he could be a great hunter as an adult.

WHICH animals still live in Denmark?



Animal-tooth amulet beads.



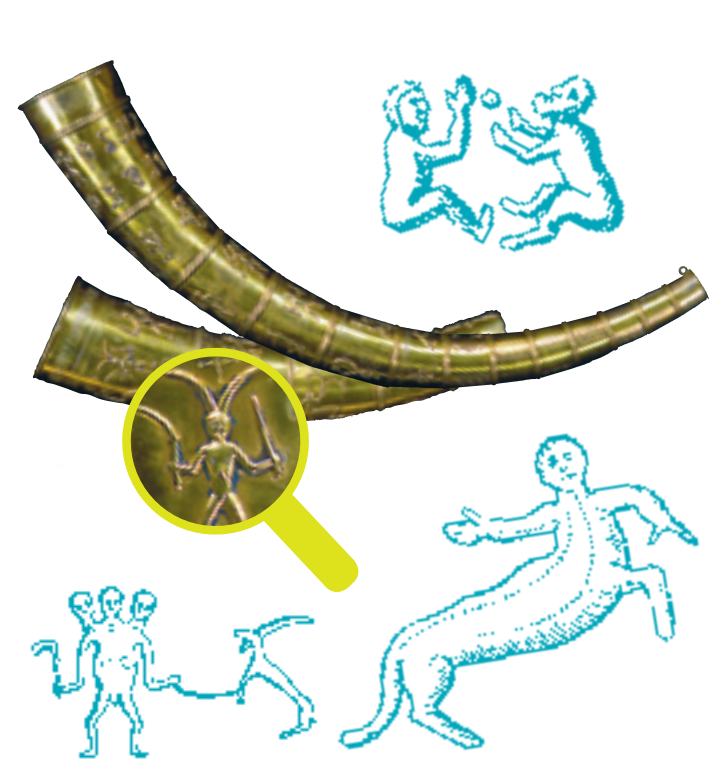
Answer: Roe deer, red deer and wild boar still live in Denmark.

The Golden Horns

IRON AGE
ROOM 22

The golden horns were discovered **by accident**. The long horn in 1639 by a girl called Kirsten, who almost tripped over it. She gave it to the king and was given a woolen skirt in return. In 1734 the short horn was found by a farmer called Erik. He also gave his horn to the king and received 200 rix-dollars.

The golden horns here are copies. The originals were **stolen by a poor goldsmith** in 1802. He got into the museum with an ordinary key and one he made himself. **The horns were re-melted** and the gold was used to make jewellery and false coins. The goldsmith was caught and sent to prison for 37 years.



There are strange figures on the horns. WHAT do you think they are?

Nobody knows what the horns were used for. Maybe for religious ceremonies, as drinking horns or wind instruments. WHAT DO YOU THINK?



Rune Stones

THE VIKING AGE
ROOM 15

The Vikings carved runes on stones **in memory of the dead**. Only the rich and powerful could afford a rune stone. **The Vikings** erected the stones on roads and near bridges. Only short words and sentences were carved – a bit like when we write an SMS.

The language was Nordic. It sounded like a mix of Danish, Norwegian, Swedish and Icelandic. It was called "dönsk tunga" (Danish tongue).



Rune stone from Glenstrup with the words: 'Thor erected this stone for his father Gunner'.

Ring (room 102) and comb (room 19) with runic inscription.



THE FUTHARK

ƿ	u	þ	ā	r	k	h	n	i
f	u	th	ā	r	k	h	n	i
ʀ	ʁ	ʁ	ʁ	ʁ	ʁ	ʁ	ʁ	ʁ
a	s	t	b	m	i	r		

DID YOU KNOW that in Viking times people had names like Toki, Eiríkr or Ragnhildr? But they only had 16 letters to spell with! So if there's a rune missing for your name you have to find a sound that's close to it. Martin, for example, is written 'Murtin'.






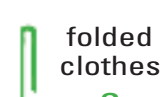


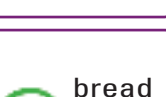



WRITE YOUR NAME or something else using the 16 Viking runes – the Futhark – above!



Exploring the Past

Prehistoric Denmark – ground floor
Antiquities – 3rd floor



 arm a	 rush j/i	 mouth r
 leg b	 owl m	 folded clothes s
 hand d	 water n	 bread t
 winding wall h	 stool p	 chicken w

Hieroglyphs

EGYPT OF THE PHARAOHS
ROOM 303



Look at the big, stone 'soul door'. It's more than 4,400 years old and comes from a tomb. Here the door linked the worlds of the living and the dead. The dead could come here to collect the food the living sacrificed to them. The door is full of hieroglyphs that tell us about the dead. His name was Ptah-wash. He was a grand man who worked for the king

Hieroglyphs are symbols in the shape of people, animals, plants and objects. There were 800 different symbols. People drew beautiful symbols on the walls of tombs and temples. They were carved in stone and painted in different colours.

The hieroglyphs could be written vertically and horizontally, and both from the right and the left. CAN YOU SEE this on the door?

BRING the hieroglyphs to life. STAND like the figures on the door. Can the people you're with see which figure you are? CAN YOU FIND some of the symbols on this page on the big door?



Tomb Models

REALM OF OSIRIS
ROOM 301



The Egyptians lived on the banks of the Nile. The river provided drinking water for people and animals – and water for the fields where they grew grain for bread and beer. Goods were transported on the Nile, and bodies were sailed to the kingdom of the dead on the west bank of the river - where the sun set.

Small figures have been discovered in the tombs. They tell us a lot about everyday life in ancient Egypt. They look like toys, but in the tombs they were magical helpers that worked for the dead and made sure they always had food.



Ships were the Egyptians' most important means of transport.

Look at the tomb model where the figures are slaughtering an animal, baking bread and brewing beer. WHAT animal are they slaughtering?

Look at the longest ship. The ship is ready to sail the dead to the West – the kingdom of the dead. WHO do you think the empty chair is for?

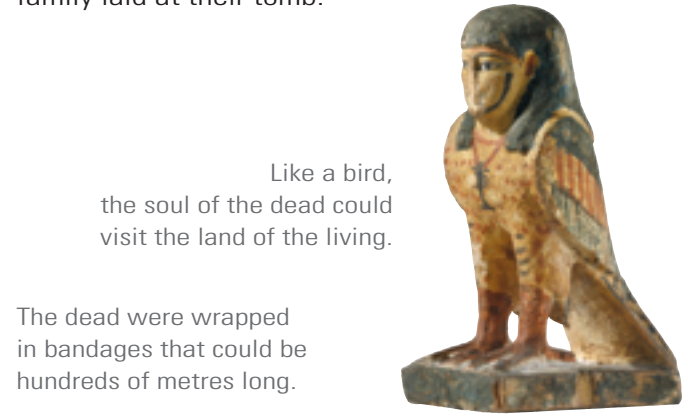
Mummies

REALM OF OSIRIS
ROOM 301

The entrails were put into four jars. The lids are shaped like the gods who guarded the stomach, intestines, lungs and liver.



The Egyptians believed in life after death. Since the soul of the dead lived on in the body, the body had to be preserved. The body was embalmed to stop it rotting. This took 70 days. The body was dried with a kind of salt, and the entrails were removed and placed in jars. The heart had to stay in the body. The body was rubbed with fragrant oils. To protect it, the mummy was wrapped in cloth and placed in a casket. For the dead to live on in the afterlife they needed food and drink, which their family laid at their tomb.

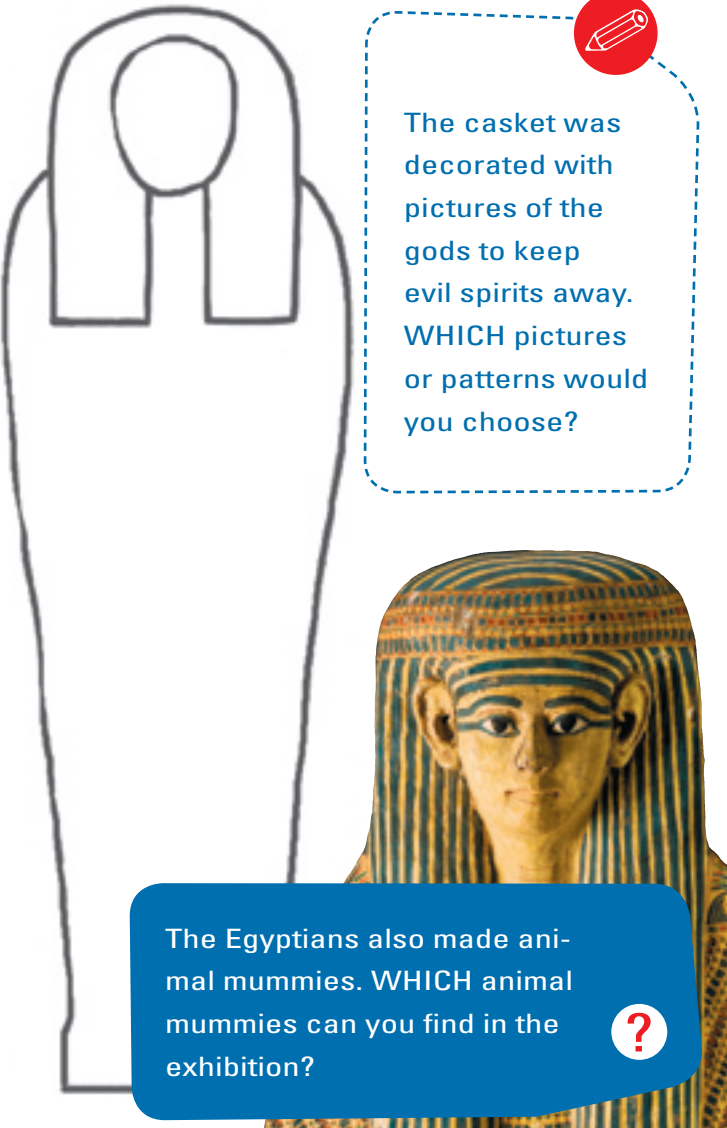


Like a bird, the soul of the dead could visit the land of the living.

The dead were wrapped in bandages that could be hundreds of metres long.



Answers: Bird, cat, crocodile, perch



The casket was decorated with pictures of the gods to keep evil spirits away. WHICH pictures or patterns would you choose?

The Egyptians also made animal mummies. WHICH animal mummies can you find in the exhibition?

GUIDE FOR CHILDREN

This guide takes you on a journey back in time - in Denmark and the Egypt of the pharaohs. On your way you will see runes, golden horns, skeletons, mummies and hieroglyphs of people and animals. 1-hour tour Ages 6 +

FACILITIES FOR FAMILIES, GROUPS AND SCHOOLS

We have baby slings, pushchairs, wheelchairs, baby-changing facilities, a drinks automat and lockers for groups. You also can eat a packed lunch in the museum's dining hall or gardens.

THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

All children - accompanied by an adult - are welcome. Groups should book a time to visit on 33 47 38 38. Ages 4-12 Open Tues-Fri 10-17, weekends 10-16.30

TOY EXHIBITION

Exhibition on the 2nd floor with antique toys and a whole town of dolls' houses.

FAMILY WORKSHOPS

There are free family workshops every Sunday from 12-15 – except from June-August.

RESTAURANT

Restaurant Julian on the 1st floor has a children's menu. Tel: 33 93 07 60.

THE MUSEUM SHOP

The shop on the ground floor sells children's books and toys. Children in groups should be accompanied by an adult.

READ MORE ABOUT THE PAST

Antiquities:
<http://www.nationalmuseet.dk/sw33870.asp>
Prehistoric Denmark:
<http://www.nationalmuseet.dk/sw33830.asp>