



Sometimes Moore would begin with a pebble or a bone, and build around it to create a sculptural maquette. A different process from direct carving.



Use this pebble as the starting point for a sculpture of your own. Add to the form by drawing and collaging on to it. How big do you imagine it to be?



Maquette: a small experimental sculpture made to imagine a larger work.

Be inspired by bones, stones, shells and great universal themes.

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Dating back some 800,000 years, the oldest human footprints to be found outside of Africa were uncovered by the tide at Happisburgh in Norfolk in 2014.

Henry Moore's first outdoor sculpture was made in Norfolk in 1922, he had a long relationship with the county and its coastline. His sister was a teacher in the village of Wighton and their parents retired here.

Moore holidayed at Happisburgh with his contemporaries, Barbara Hepworth and Ben Nicholson. This sculpture was carved from a piece of ironstone found on Happisburgh beach.

What do you think makes Norfolk special?

Moore, Henry
Reclining Figure
1930
Object no. 80



The Sainsbury Centre is a shell built to house the collection of Robert and Lisa Sainsbury, that arguably started when they bought Moore's 'Mother and Child'. This sculpture was originally displayed at the bottom of the stairs in the Sainsburys' home, before moving to the centre of the galleries.



This was Moore's first full body Mother and Child.

Moore, Henry
Mother and Child
1932
Object no. 82

Like 'Mother and Child', the sculpture 'Square Form' was carved from a single block of stone. This sculpture was inspired by Moore's interest in Mesoamerican art.



Moore, Henry
Square Form
1936
Object no. 83

Mesoamerica: the area extending approximately from central Mexico to Honduras and Nicaragua.



Cut this photograph of a square stone block into an asymmetrical form. Use straight and curved lines.

Carving from stone requires the artist to visualise their finished sculpture within the block, and to create this only by removing material (not sticking bits back on!).

Asymmetry: the state of two halves, sides, or parts that are not exactly the same in shape or size



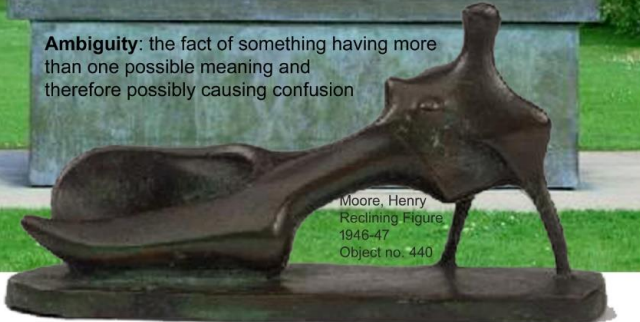
In his making, Henry Moore took ideas from organic forms like pebbles, bones and shells. He enjoyed the ambiguity of the sculptures. They are figures, but they might be landscapes or old bones.

Moore, Henry
Reclining Figure
1957-1958
Object no. 86



Ambiguity: the fact of something having more than one possible meaning and therefore possibly causing confusion

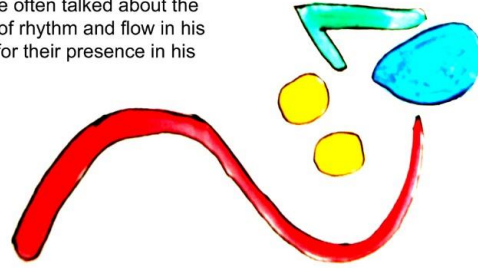
Moore, Henry
Reclining Figure
1946-47
Object no. 440



Use the bones, stones and shells in this resource to create your own ambiguous figures.



Henry Moore often talked about the importance of rhythm and flow in his work. Look for their presence in his sculptures.



Rhythm: a regular movement or pattern of movements

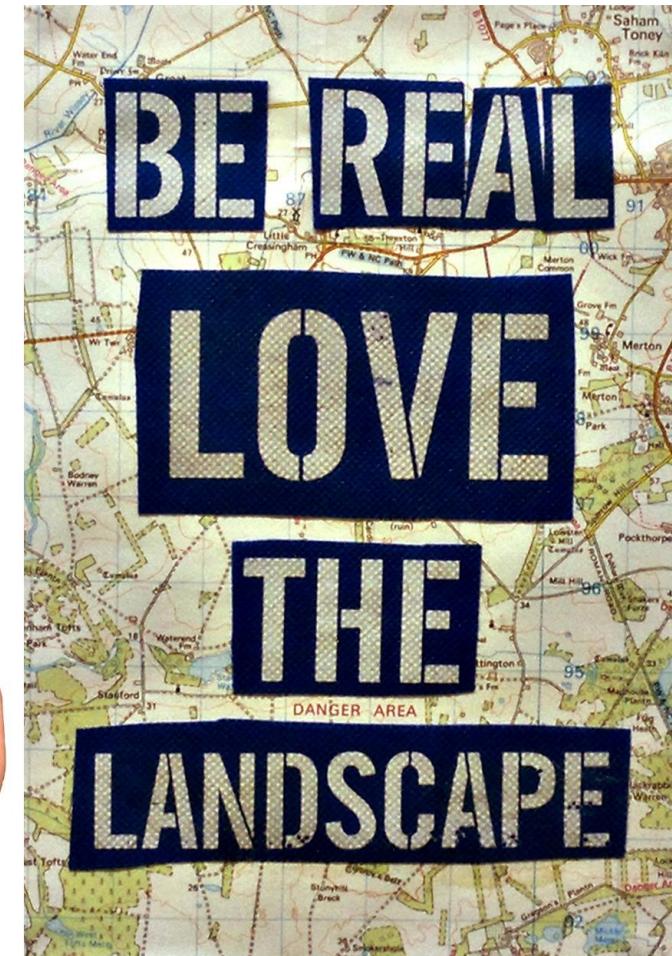
Flow: the movement of something in one direction



In what ways is this flint hand axe, as made by our ancestors, similar to Moore's reclining ironstone figure, and in what ways is it different?

Find and/or make your own Mother and Child combinations. Here are some of ours.

Moore, Henry
Madonna and Child
1943-44
Object no. 84



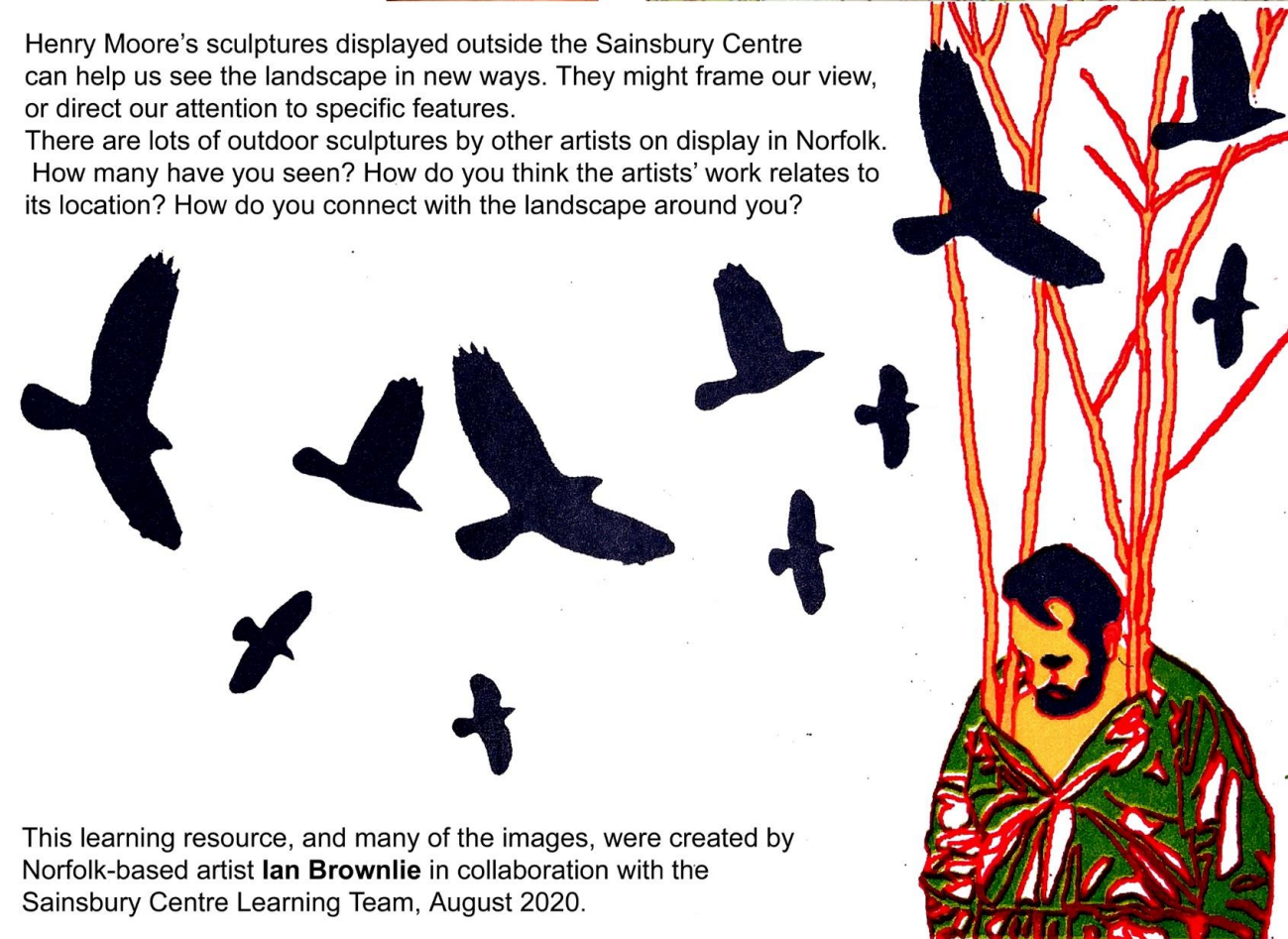
The *Reclining Figure* (Object 440) is small, spanning the length of an adult hand. However, *Reclining Figure* (Object 86) is bigger than a full-grown person. Although created a decade apart and being of a different magnitude of scale, by putting the sculptures together in this way it is possible to see the similarities, consistencies, signatures at play in Moore's practice and to glimpse the essential role of maquettes as a step in the realisation of large scale works.

A pebble is a mountain.

'I would rather have a piece of my sculpture put in a landscape, almost any landscape, than in the most beautiful of buildings.'

- Henry Moore (1896-1986)

Henry Moore's sculptures displayed outside the Sainsbury Centre can help us see the landscape in new ways. They might frame our view, or direct our attention to specific features. There are lots of outdoor sculptures by other artists on display in Norfolk. How many have you seen? How do you think the artists' work relates to its location? How do you connect with the landscape around you?



This learning resource, and many of the images, were created by Norfolk-based artist **Ian Brownlie** in collaboration with the Sainsbury Centre Learning Team, August 2020.