

Knowledge Organiser: Art –3D

'Do the Benin Bronzes really belong in the British Museum?'

Key Vocabulary

Benin Bronzes	Oba (king)	Benin City	brass	bronze	engraving
carving	artifact	museum	pattern	texture	analyse
plan	develop	clay	construct	guilds	sculpture

Key sketchbook moments

- Research- children research art of Benin, children replicate parts in sketchbooks, looking at the detail and techniques.
- Annotations to show reflections on their work and that of others.
- Design and make a clay tile in the style of a Benin Bronze, capturing different elements they like. (spray with bronze paint).
- Look at the artist **Romauld Hazoume** (note he is from the modern Benin). He interprets the tradition bronzes with a modern twist. He creates faces out of Jerry cans, as the trade of fuel is so prevalent in modern Benin.
- Design and make your own versions, using large milk bottle containers, as plastic is a modern issue for our culture.

"Generations of Africans have already lost incalculable history and cultural reference points because of the absence of some of the best artworks created on the continent. We shouldn't have to ask, over and over, to get back what is ours." Victor Ehikhamenor

What can we learn from the art of Benin?

<https://www.britishmuseum.org/about-us/british-museum-story/contested-objects-collection/benin-bronzes>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zpvckqt/articles/z84fvcw>

<https://www.artnews.com/feature/benin-bronzes-explained-repatriation-british-museum-humboldt-forum-1234588588/>



Benin Bronzes

1440-1897

It was first discovered in **1897** at the king's palace, when British Soldiers conquered and gained access to the palace of oba Ovoranwen. Can be dated back to 1440.



In Year 3, you learnt to:

Shape, form, model and construct (malleable and rigid materials) – Plan and develop – understanding of different adhesives and methods of construction – aesthetics

“

Benin art belongs in.... because....

My final piece represents...

I have designed... it was inspired by....

Benin art is made out of ... and

”

Key Skills

- Form and join 3D shapes to realise a design idea/use tools to decorate models
- Create texture use clay and other malleable materials and practise joining techniques.
- Plan develop and discuss ideas
- Consider what surviving works of art tell us about Benin Kingdom. They will develop their ability to analyse art work and they will learn the technical vocabulary associated with it