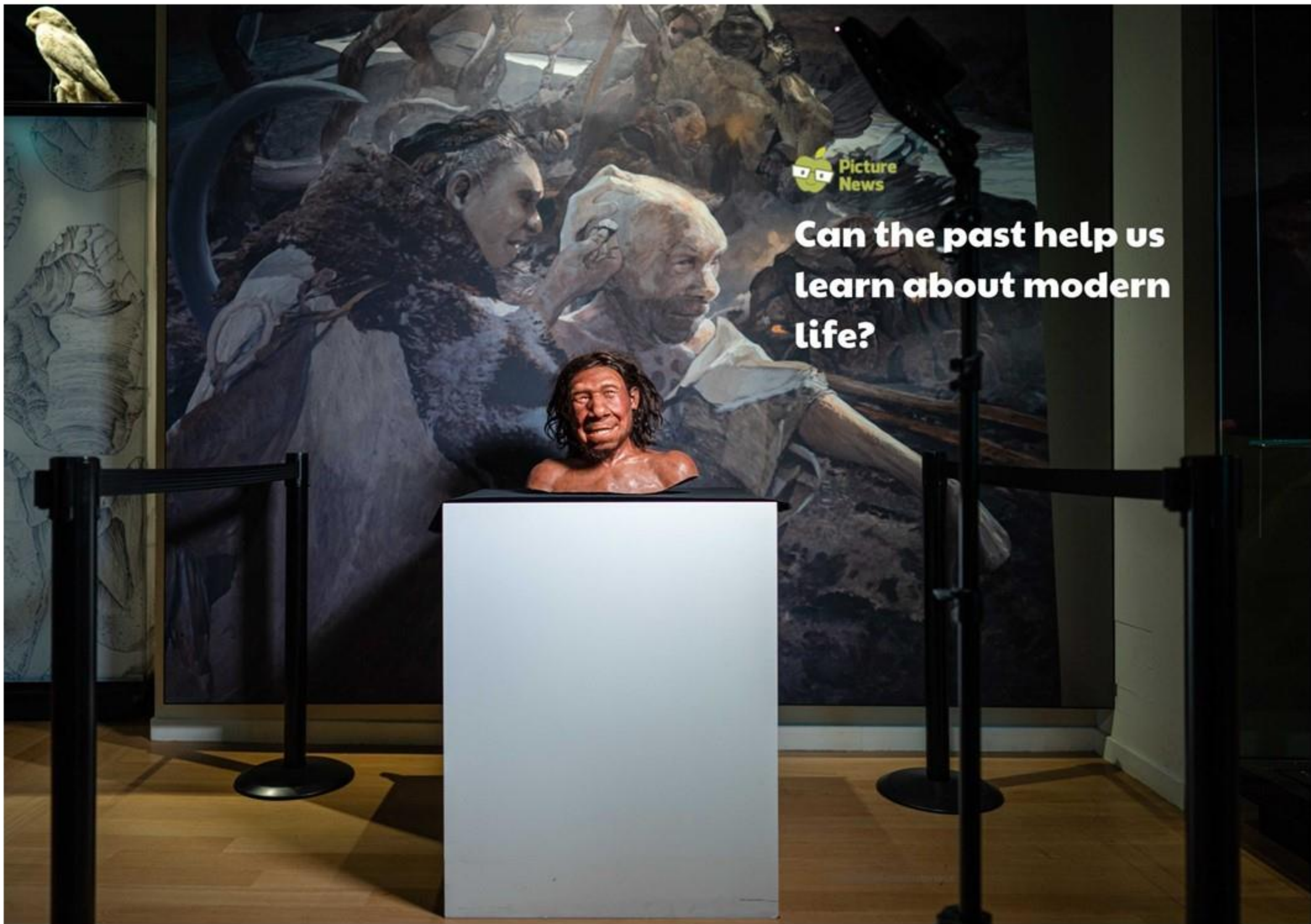


What's happening in the news this week?



Let's have a look at this week's poster!

6th - 12th May 2024



**Can the past help us
learn about modern
life?**



Let's look at this week's story

A new study from the Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory, using evidence found in northwestern Italy, has found that Neanderthals (an extinct relative of humans) organised their living areas in a similar way to people today. It was thought that Neanderthals' lives weren't as sophisticated as this or as similar to those of modern humans. The researchers looked at sites of both Neanderthals and Homo sapiens and compared how things like tools and animal bones were positioned in the living area. They found Neanderthals organised their items depending on the different tasks and activities they were doing.



Learn more about this week's story [here](#).
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).



How does it make me feel?



sad

despondent
disconsolate
dismal
doleful
downhearted
forlorn
gloomy
melancholic
miserable
woeful
wretched

angry

aggrieved
annoyed
discontented
disgruntled
distressed
exasperated
frustrated
indignant
offended
outraged
resentful
vexed

happy

beaming
buoyant
cheery
contented
delighted
enraptured
gleeful
glowing
joyful

confused

addled
baffled
bemused
bewildered
disorientated
indistinct
muddled
mystified
perplexed
puzzled

excited

animated
elevated
enlivened
enthusiastic
exhilarated
exuberant
thrilled

worried

agitated
anxious
apprehensive
concerned
disquieted
distraught
distressed
disturbed
fretful
perturbed
troubled
uneasy

overwhelmed

engulfed
inundated
overburdened
overloaded
saturated
submerged
swamped

afraid

alarmed
apprehensive
daunted
fearful
frantic
horrified
petrified
terrified

guilty

ashamed
compunctious
contrite
culpable
penitent
responsible
rueful

jealous

bitter
covetous
desirous
envious
envying
resentful
wary

thankful

appreciative
grateful
gratified
indebted
obliged
relieved

shocked

astonished
astounded
disconcerted
distressed
dumbfounded
horrified
staggered
startled
stunned
surprised

disgusted

affronted
appalled
horrified
repelled
repulsed
revolted
sickened

inspired

activated
encouraged
exhilarated
galvanised
influenced
motivated

embarrassed

ashamed
awkward
chagrined
demeaned
discomposd
humiliated
self-conscious
uncomfortable
uneasy
unsettled

interested

absorbed
captivated
curious
engaged
enthralled
fascinated
gripped
intrigued
riveted

This week's story looks at events related to ...





Read the information below about the new Neanderthal research and its findings.

How did the research take place?

To learn more about where and how Neanderthals lived, researchers visited a former site where Neanderthal fossils had been found in northern Italy (pictured right).

They mapped out where the stone tools, animal bones and shells were, which meant that they could use them to identify patterns and make predictions about what the Neanderthals were doing and how they lived their lives.



What did the research find out?

- Neanderthals had a place for a heat source, usually a fireplace, in the middle of the living area and a place or area for storing waste and other rubbish.
- It's thought that they organised their living areas depending on things like how many people lived there, what activities they wanted to do and how long they were going to stay.
- Neanderthals were thought to not have a single 'home' as they moved around, living in different places.



Picture: The researchers conducting their excavations in a former Neanderthal living area in northern Italy.

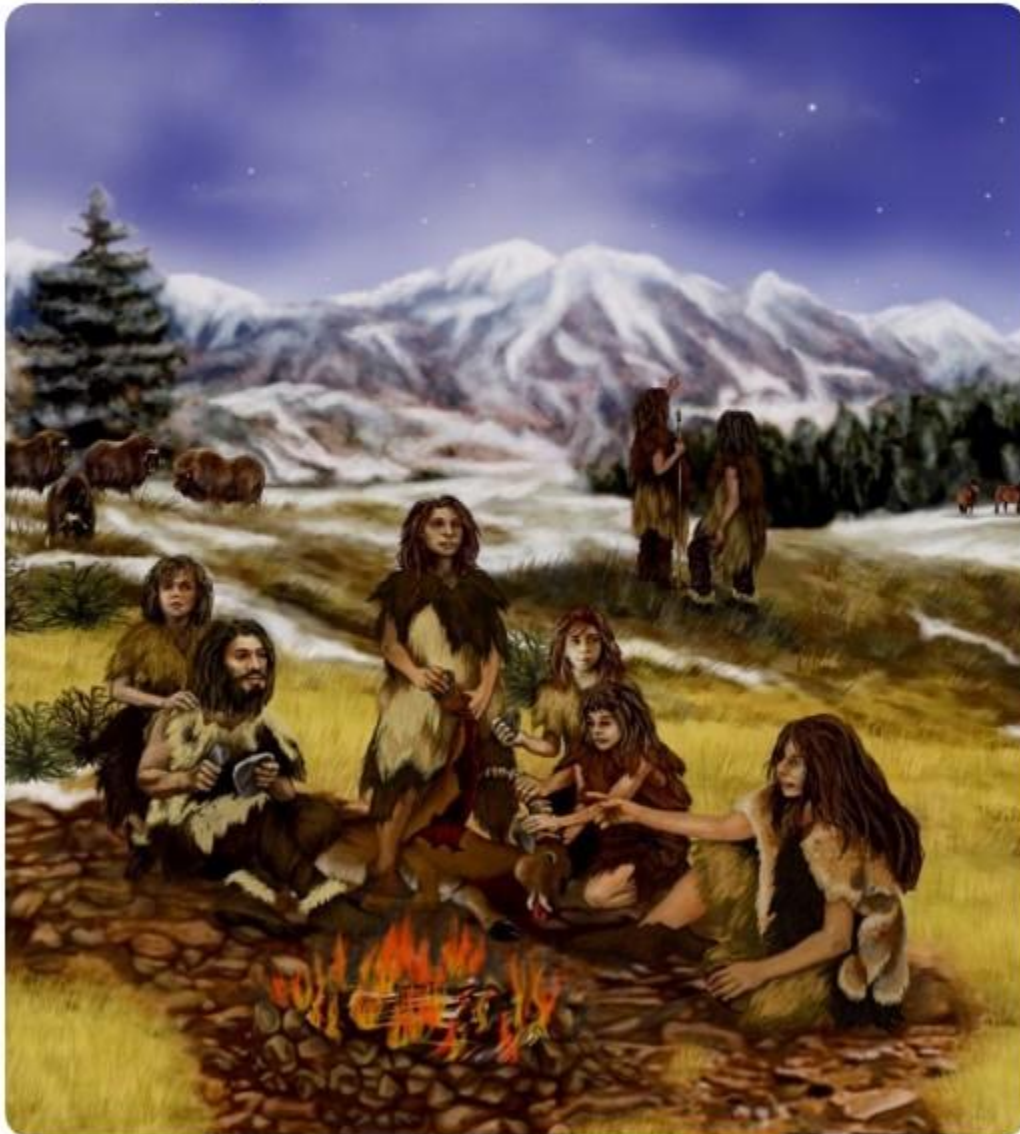
Source: The University of Montreal, Canada.



What do you think life would have been like for Neanderthals?



Look at the resource below, which shares some information about Neanderthals (*Homo neanderthalensis*).



Neanderthal Fact File



Species:	Homo neanderthalensis
Lived:	from about 400,000 to 40,000 years ago
Where:	across Europe and parts of Asia
Appearance:	large nose, strong double-arched brow ridge, relatively short and stocky bodies
Height:	about 1.50-1.75m
Weight:	about 64-82kg
Diet:	meat, plants and fungi, shellfish when available
Name meaning:	'human from the Neander Valley'

Key Vocabulary



Evolution	the process by which living things, including humans, are believed to have developed from earlier forms.
Extinct	a group of plants or animals that no longer exists.
Homo sapien	the species that all modern humans belong to.
Neanderthal	an extinct group of human beings.
Species	a group of plants or animals that share lots of similarities and can reproduce.



Look at the resource below, which shares some information about Neanderthal life.

Scientists have been able to piece together what life may have looked like for a Neanderthal. Neanderthals lived from about 400,000 – 40,000 years ago across Europe and parts of Asia.

Neanderthals lived in small groups and communities, often with family members. They found shelter in caves or forests but moved around, setting up new encampments. It is thought they communicated with one another through sounds and physical movements.



Within their day, Neanderthals may have found time to use their artistic creativity. There is evidence of art in the caves where communities lived.



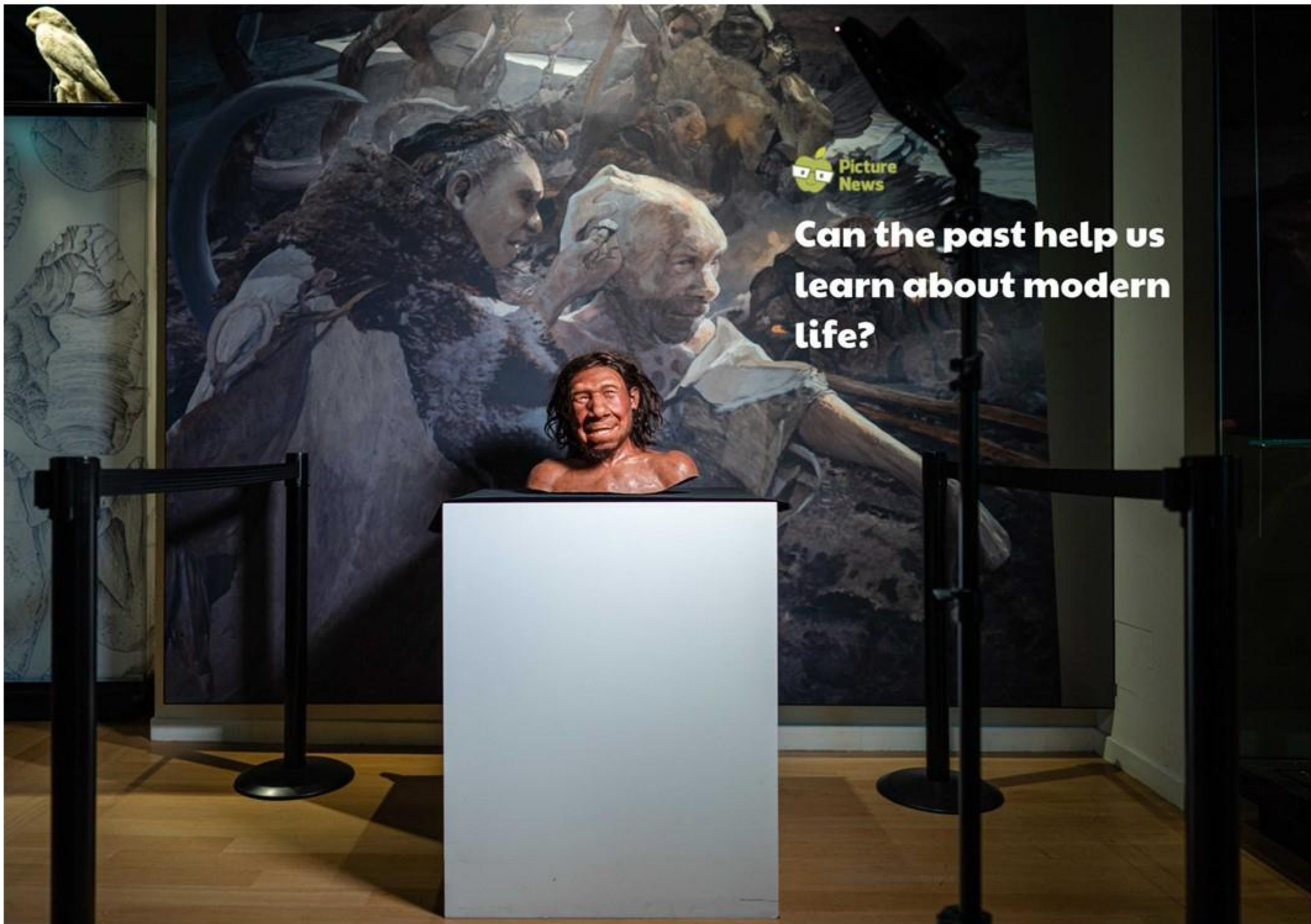
Daily tasks included hunting and gathering food and creating basic tools, weapons and clothing.

Some Neanderthal communities were more likely to forage for berries and plants; others were more likely to hunt for animals such as deer and foxes. This was dependent on where they lived. They ate raw food.

Tools and weapons were made from sharpened stones, sticks, animal hides or bones.



Does any of the information surprise you? What questions do you have?



**Can the past help us
learn about modern
life?**

Reflection



From the past, we can learn from mistakes, the consequences of actions and how they impacted the world. We can be inspired by positive outcomes and help change the course of the future.





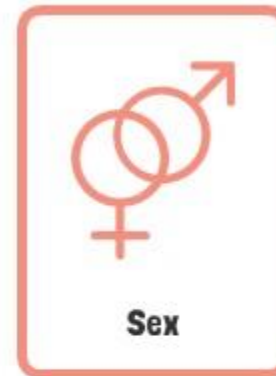
Individual Liberty

We have the freedom to make our own choices. We can pursue areas of learning that interest us and we can share our knowledge and understanding with others.

Protected Characteristics



We are all different and therefore we may hold different beliefs about the origins of ourselves and our world. It is important to listen to and respect the beliefs of others.



Sex



Sexual Orientation



Age



Disability



Gender Reassignment



Marriage and Civil Partnership



Pregnancy and Maternity



Race



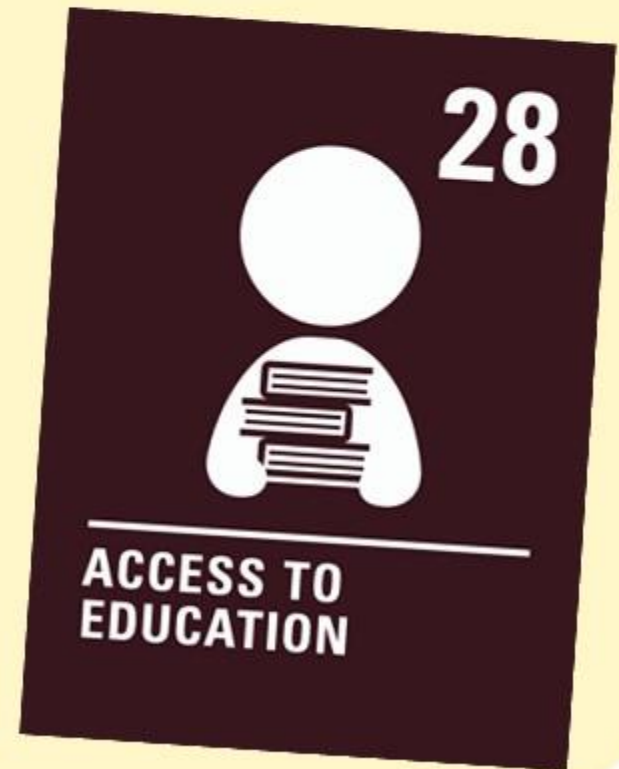
Religion or Belief



UN Rights of a Child



We all have the right to an education that helps us to learn about the world around us and its rich history. Governments must ensure that education is available for every child.



Useful vocabulary



Conduct

To organise and carry out.

The researchers **conducting** their excavations in a former Neanderthal living area in northern Italy.

Sophisticated

Complex or advanced.

It was thought that Neanderthals' lives weren't as **sophisticated** as this or as similar to those of modern humans.

Homo sapien

The species that all modern humans belong to.

The researchers looked at sites of both Neanderthals and **Homo sapiens**.

Journal

A serious newspaper or magazine that deals with a specialised subject.

A new study from the **Journal** of Archaeological Method and Theory, using evidence found in northwestern Italy, has found that Neanderthals (an extinct relative of humans) organised their living areas in a similar way to people today.

Reconstruction

A model, impression, or re-enactment of something from the past.

It shows a **reconstruction** of the first Dutch Neanderthal, nicknamed Krijn.

Findings

Information discovered as part of research or an investigation.

Read the information ... about the new Neanderthal research and its **findings**.

Can you use them in your writing this week?

Picture News



Can the past help us learn about modern life?

A new study from the *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory*, using evidence found in northwestern Italy, has found that Neanderthals (an extinct relative of humans) organised their living areas in a similar way to people today. It was thought that Neanderthals' lives weren't as sophisticated as this or as similar to those of modern humans. The researchers looked at sites of both Neanderthals and *Homo sapiens* and compared how things like tools and animal bones were positioned in the living area. They found Neanderthals organised their items depending on the different tasks and activities they were doing.



- Look at this week's poster. What do you think it shows and from which time period? It shows a reconstruction of the first Dutch Neanderthal, nicknamed Krijn, which is on display in the National Museum of Antiquities in Leiden, the Netherlands. Why do you think people are so interested in learning about what life was like then?
- Read the information found on the assembly resource about the new Neanderthal research and its findings. What do you think life would have been like for Neanderthals?
- Watch this week's useful video, which shows what the researchers have discovered about the caves that Neanderthals lived in. Talk about what you think it might have been like to live there.
- Research has shown that Neanderthals organised their living spaces. Talk about your own living spaces and rooms at home. How are they organised? Do you consider yourself organised?

Reflection

From the past, we can learn from mistakes, the consequences of actions and how they impacted the world. We can be inspired by positive outcomes and help change the course of the future.

Picture News



KS1 focus

What was a Neanderthal?



- Look at the painting on resource 1. What do you notice? How do the people look? What are they wearing? Where do you think they are?
- Explain that the painting is a depiction of a group of Neanderthals. Neanderthals are an old group of humans that are now extinct. They lived in Europe and Asia between 400,000 and 40,000 years ago.
- We are modern humans, and we belong to the species *Homo sapiens*. Modern humans were also alive at the time of Neanderthals, but we lived and evolved mainly in Africa. Can you find Europe, Asia and Africa on a world map?
- Can you see any ways in which life in the painting is similar to or different from life today?
- Explore the key vocabulary on resource 1. Do you know any of these words already? Where have you heard them before, and in what context? Read through each definition, linking the words to the painting in resource 1 or the children's own experiences.
- Look at the Neanderthal fact file on resource 1. Does any of this information surprise you? Do you notice any differences or similarities between Neanderthals and ourselves (*Homo sapiens*)?
- As a class, can you fill out a similar fact file for *Homo sapiens*?

Reflection

Neanderthals are an ancient relative of modern humans. Even though they are now extinct, it is still possible for us to learn more about them and, by making comparisons, ourselves.

Picture News



KS2 focus

What was a typical day like for a Neanderthal?



- Neanderthals are an extinct species of human, who lived over 40,000 years ago. Do you know anything about Neanderthals? Were you aware that there were different species of humans?
- New research has provided more information about Neanderthals' lives. It has been found they are more organised than was previously thought. Do you value being organised? How important do you believe organisation is in daily life?
- Look at resource 2, which shares some information about Neanderthal life. Does any of the information surprise you? What questions do you have?
- Consider the differences between the life of a human now and the life of a Neanderthal. Think about where they live, who they live with, what they eat, their daily tasks. Are there any similarities?
- We are part of society – a community of people living together in an organised way. Over time, society has changed. Do you know anything about people living in the past such as Victorians, Vikings, Aztecs? Do you find learning about people's lives in the past interesting? What can we learn from past societies?
- Describe your typical day. What do you predict a typical day for a child will be like in ten, fifty, one hundred years?

Reflection

New discoveries and research can help us learn more about people living in the past. Society has evolved and will continue to do so.



KS2 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Think about how your classroom is organised.

- How are the tables and chairs positioned?
- What other furniture is in the room?
- Where are different resources stored? Is there a place for resources associated with different topics/subjects?
- Do you have a place to store personal items?
- Would you organise the classroom differently?

Create a bird's eye plan of how you would organise your classroom. Begin by drawing out the shape and any permanent fixtures. Next add tables, seating and where you would store resources. Perhaps some of your ideas might be useful if you re-organise your classroom in the future.

Option 2

Use Neanderthal artistic creativity to inspire your own! Begin by looking at some cave art. You could use the images below or search for some online. Think about:

- What colours, tones, lines and shapes are used?
- What animals can you see being represented?
- What tools/materials do you think were used to create the art?

Create your artwork. You could watercolour wash your paper and use paints, charcoal, pastels and/or chalks.



KS1 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Timelines can help us to understand the past more clearly. Can you make a timeline of historical events that are important to you? You will need to think about:

- How far back in time will your timeline go?
- What important dates and events will you include?
- How will you label your timeline?

Once finished, compare your timeline to a friend's. Have you included any of the same information? Did they include any events you might like to add to your own?

Option 2

Imagine, 40,000 years from now, a class of children want to find out about humans and what life was like in 2024! Work in groups to plan items to put in a time capsule. Think about:

- What do you think future children will want to know about you and your life?
- What objects would you want them to know about?
- Will you write any information down for the people who will discover the time capsule? What will you say?
- Where will you hide the time capsule?



This week's useful websites

This week's news story

www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/68798553

This week's useful video

Life for Neanderthals
www.newsweek.com/neanderthals-more-human-generally-assumed-living-space-study-1889913

This week's Virtual Picture News

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

This week's vocabulary

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Spring has Sprung!

Trees and hedgerows are currently adorned with colourful blossom. Plants and trees that will go on to produce fruit, grow buds at first, which flower once warmer weather arrives in the spring. This is the blossom that we are seeing now. The flowers attract bees



Picture: Cherry blossom. **Source:** Canva.

and other insects, which pollinate them by transferring pollen between different flowers. After pollination, the flowers will fall away, making space for fruit to form. Blossom trees are very special in some countries. In Japan, Hanami is a special festival held to celebrate its much-loved cherry blossom trees, known as Sakura, and the arrival of spring. Every year, around the end of March and beginning of April, crowds flock to enjoy the canopies of delicate pink blossom. In the UK, a number of common trees produce blossom at this time of year, including hawthorn, blackthorn, and apple trees. There is also a huge range of kept gardens and parks containing diverse collections of fruit trees.

Island Rescue

Three sailors have been rescued from a remote Pacific island after being stranded there for a week following an accident involving their fishing boat. The fishermen's boat was struck by a large wave, damaging the outboard motor. When the mariners attempted to make contact with coastguards, they found their radio had run out of battery. Luckily, the men managed to swim to a small, nearby island called Pikelot Atoll, where they cleverly fashioned a 'help' sign using palm fronds. The search for the sailors began in early



Picture: Desert island. **Source:** Canva.

April after they had been reported missing but rescue efforts were initially hindered due to bad weather. Guam rescuers were later joined by a US Navy team and one other coastguard crew to search an area of over 100,000 miles! Navy aircraft spotted the mariners' huge 'help' sign, and the men were rescued shortly after and returned safely to their families.

Can you learn to persevere?



I think that if you keep being positive and if you don't give up, you can learn to persevere.

Ava

World's biggest 3D printer

The Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC), at the University of Maine, in Orono, USA, has unveiled the world's biggest 3D printer! The printer is able to print entire homes and make completely recyclable neighbourhoods. Called 'Factory of the Future 1.0' (FoF 1.0), it is four times larger than the previous Guinness World Record holder, which is also located at the university. The FoF 1.0 is able to print objects up to 30 metres long, by about 10 metres wide, by 5 metres high, and has an impressive



production speed of 227 kilograms of material an hour. 'This new technology allows UMaine-ASCC to scale-up its research and production of its innovative biobased 3D printed home technology,' said MaineHousing's Development Director Mark Wiesendanger. 'This effort creates another means of producing quality affordable housing, while further driving costs down, and using abundant wood residuals from Maine's sawmills.'

Would you like to live in a home that has been created by a 3D printer?



Pictured (Right): Factory of the Future 1.0.
Pictured (Left): A home produced by the world's previous largest 3D printer.
Source: UMaine Advanced Structures and Composites Center Facebook page.

Sapphire Tower

Puya alpestris, commonly known as Sapphire Tower because of its turquoise-blue flowers, is a rare plant that only blooms once every 20 years! Horticulturists at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens, UK, have released pictures of their plant flowering. As there were no hummingbirds around, scientists at the gardens have been trying to help the plant to reproduce by carefully hand pollinating with a paint brush. Horticulturist, Alberto Trinco said, 'Each flower only lasts a few days, giving us a limited window of time to give nature a helping hand. In the absence of its natural pollinators, we will attempt some hand pollination instead. It is very slow-growing, so to witness its spectacular blooms is both exciting and rare. Hopefully pollinating the flowers with the brush to obtain seeds will allow us to secure the

presence of this amazing species in our collection for future generations to come admire.'

Did you know that some plants only flower once every 20 years?



Pictured: The *Puya alpestris* and Alberto Trinco.
Source: Birmingham Botanical Gardens Facebook page.

Can you learn to persevere?



I think persevering is really important and if you try hard, you can reach your goals.

Patrick

Let us know what you think about this week's news



picture-news.co.uk/discuss



help@picture-news.co.uk



[@HelpPicture](https://twitter.com/HelpPicture)

TAKEHOME



Can the past help us learn about modern life?

In the news this week

A new study from the Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory, using evidence found in northwestern Italy, has found that Neanderthals (an extinct relative of humans) organised their living areas in a similar way to people today. It was thought that Neanderthals' lives weren't as sophisticated as this or as similar to those of modern humans. The researchers looked at sites of both Neanderthals and Homo sapiens and compared how things like tools and animal bones were positioned in the living area. They found Neanderthals organised their items depending on the different tasks and activities they were doing.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Share your response to the new research findings about Neanderthals' lives.
- > How is your home organised? Do you have different areas for different activities?
- > Think about how organised or tidy people at your home or school are. Is everyone the same?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

