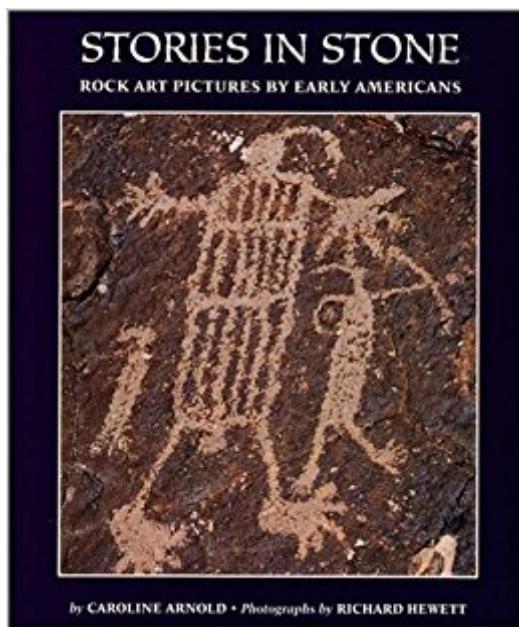


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# Stories In Stone: Rock Art Pictures By Early Americans



## **Synopsis**

A book about the rock art found on the canyon walls of the Coso Range, about 150 miles northeast of Los Angeles, California. The art is more than 3,000 years old and was made by Native Americans who lived and hunted in the area at the time.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 1110L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 48 pages

Publisher: Clarion Books; Complete Numbers Starting with 1, 1st Ed edition (October 18, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0395720923

ISBN-13: 978-0395720929

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.1 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,523,052 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in Books > Teens > Art, Music & Photography > Music > Rock #38 in Books > Teens > Art, Music & Photography > Art > History #350 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art > History

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## **Customer Reviews**

Gr. 4^6. From the author and photographer who count The Ancient Cliff Dwellers of Mesa Verde (1992) among their successful collaborations comes another book about ancient Native Americans. Here they focus on the rock art found in the Coso Range of eastern California, which, with more than 100,000 examples, "is the richest concentration of rock art in the Western Hemisphere," and some of the drawings are at least 6,000 years old. Explaining that the term rock art refers to drawings that are carved or engraved into stone or are painted on rock surfaces, Arnold describes the various methods that were used to create the designs. She also discusses climatic changes in the area, beginning with the last Ice Age, and surmises what life might have been like for those ancient people. Unfortunately, her citations consist of "archaeologists call" or "experts agree," and she provides no sources of further information. Hewitt's wonderful full-color photographs show the landscape as well as a profusion of the ancient images and may inspire a sense of wonder in kids when they see the images and consider their age. The photos will draw browsers; their curiosity will

lead them into the text. Glossary. Sally Estes

Arnold (Fox, p. 894, etc.) visits the Mojave Desert's Coso Range for a look at some of the US's oldest, most durable--and most enigmatic--art. It's a good choice of location, with over 100,000 examples discovered: depictions of sheep, deer, coyotes, lizards, hunting tools and scenes, human figures both plain and adorned with feathers or other regalia, and more abstract images. Arnold describes the clever methods researchers use to date the petroglyphs and deduce who made them, and why; Hewitt's large, sharp full-color photographs capture the variety of the art and communicate a sense of their arid, remote setting. More cogent--and better illustrated--than Jennifer Owings Dewey's impressionistic *Stories On Stone* (p. 294), this offers an intriguing glimpse into an ancient mystery. (glossary, index) (Nonfiction. 9-11) -- Copyright ©1996, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.

The text is a little too advanced for most of my 6th graders, but the photos are astounding.

Good buy!

We think we are so smart...this book shows how far we are from the truth. Pre history man..in the u.s.a. had an ability we have forgotten. This book was a plus for my library..made many sketches of the imagery pounded in/ on stone.

This is a basic orientation for American students to understand and appreciate the pictures crafted in rock by early Americans. The simple text and large colorful pictures illustrate the stories of their early life. It is true that a picture worth a thousand words! The rock art on p.5 may be decoded that early Americans came a long way of waves (with long curve lines) in long boats with four sets of three sails. Below was a large figure in cross pattern outfit side by side with the boat. It might mean many died along the voyage. The rock art picture on p.42 is circles inside circles with a dozen lines radiating out each with a big end (a bird head?). Does it refer to the sun with rays?This may motivate readers to make field trips to see the master pieces to study more who, when, what and why.

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