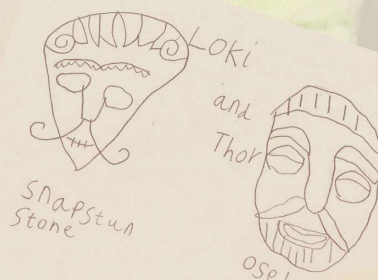




THE GREAT BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGY COMIC BOOK!



The Great British Archaeology Comic Book: Picture the past, present and future

As part of the 2020 Festival of Archaeology, organised by the Council for British Archaeology, we co-created the Great British Archaeology Comic Book with support from the Shout Out Loud project, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. We thought a comic was a great format to highlight young people's voices and creativity, whilst helping us better understand how they interpret and value 'archaeology'.

We invited young people to send us a drawing on the theme of 'what do you picture when you think of archaeology?'. We thought of digging a trench, walking the fields looking for artefacts, working in the lab and even presenting on TV! Famous sites like Hadrian's Wall or Offa's Dyke and amazing objects like the Mold Cape and Pictish carved stones. We then worked with Helen Greetham, our comic book illustrator, to incorporate everyone's drawings into a short narrative graphic story – a comic, and this is the result.....



How might archaeological artefacts feel about being archaeology, if they could?

Perhaps some would be a bit conceited because of all the attention, while others might miss the days when they were just everyday objects. Just like the artists who submitted pictures to this project, the characters in this comic are thinking about what archaeology means to them, and they all have a slightly different answer!

I'd like to thank everyone who submitted images for this project. We received an incredible variety of submissions: photographs, watercolour paintings, pencil sketches, drawings in felt tip, no two were alike! Blending all of them together into a single comic was a lot of fun, and I hope you enjoy reading it.

- Helen Greetham

I USED TO KNOW EXACTLY WHAT I WAS.
I WAS A BROOCH, SHAPED LIKE A DOG.

WHEN THE GIRL PINNED ME TO HER
TUNIC IT MADE HER SO HAPPY. SHE
CALLED ME 'MORDEO' WHICH MEANS
'I BITE', BUT IT WAS ONLY A JOKE.

I DON'T BITE. I'M A *GOOD DOG*.

- THEN ONE DAY I FELL
OFF HER CLOAK, INTO THE MUD.

A LONG TIME PASSED UNTIL I WAS FOUND
AGAIN. NOT BY THE GIRL, THESE WERE
DIFFERENT HUMANS.

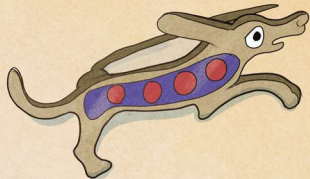
THEY GENTLY CLEANED ALL THE MUD
OFF ME. I THOUGHT THEY MIGHT WEAR
ME LIKE SHE HAD...

BUT THEN THEY PUT ME IN A GLASS CASE WITH LOTS OF OTHER OBJECTS.
THEY WOULD STARE AT ME, AND NEVER WEAR ME AT ALL.

HOOOOWL!!!

EXCUSE ME MORDEO, MAY I ASK
WHY YOU ARE MAKING THAT RACKET?
IT ISN'T VERY DIGNIFIED.

I D-DON'T THINK I'M A GOOD DOG ANY
MORE. IN FACT, I THINK I MIGHT BE A
BAD DOG! WHY ELSE WOULD THEY
PUT ME IN HERE?



MINOR MISTAKE
WAS MADE
IN THE
MUSEUM

THE COIN
WAS
FOUND
IN THE
MUSEUM

THE COIN'S NAME WAS CYNETHRYTH.
AND SHE INSISTED SHE WAS A QUEEN.
SHE'D BEEN IN THE GLASS CASE MUCH
LONGER THAN ME.

YOU'RE NOT
A BAD DOG,
DEAR. YOU'RE
AN ARTEFACT.

YOU'RE
ARCHAEOLOGY.



ARCHY-WHAT?

I SUPPOSE I CAN TRY TO
EXPLAIN, IF YOU PROMISE
TO STOP HOWLING LIKE THAT.



I'LL TRY MY BEST! IT JUST
HAPPENS SOMETIMES IF I GET
SAD...

...OR EXCITED

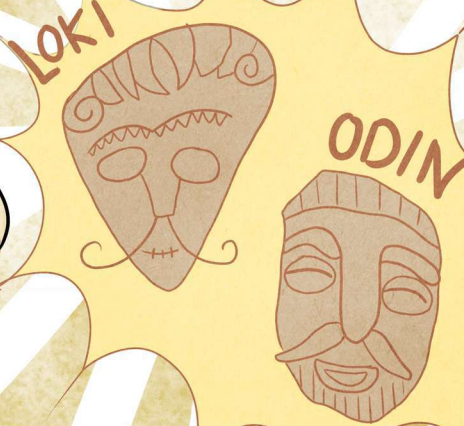
... OR IF I SEE
A SQUIRREL.



ARCHAEOLOGY IS A WAY THAT HUMANS FIND OUT ABOUT HOW PEOPLE IN THE PAST LIVED BY LOOKING AT THE THINGS THAT THEY LEFT BEHIND.

WHAT KINDS OF THINGS?

WELL, BEAUTIFUL AND IMPRESSIVE THINGS LIKE ME, I SUPPOSE. PICTURES OF KINGS AND QUEENS AND GODS!



EXCUSE ME, 'YOUR MAJESTY' BUT THAT'S NOT RIGHT!



IT WAS GREG, A SHERD OF POTTERY WHO LIVED ON THE SHELF ABOVE US.

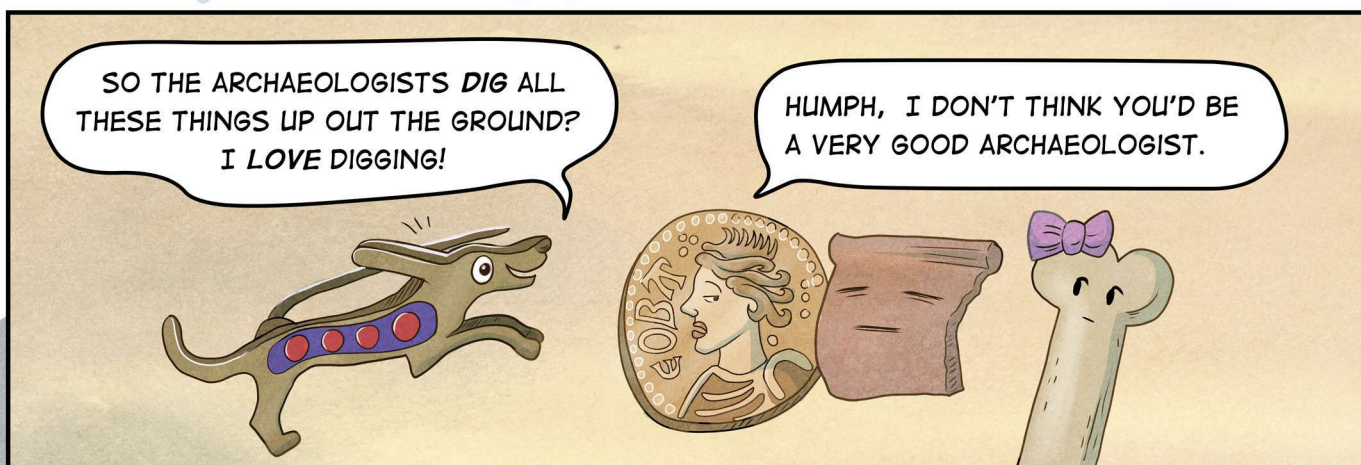


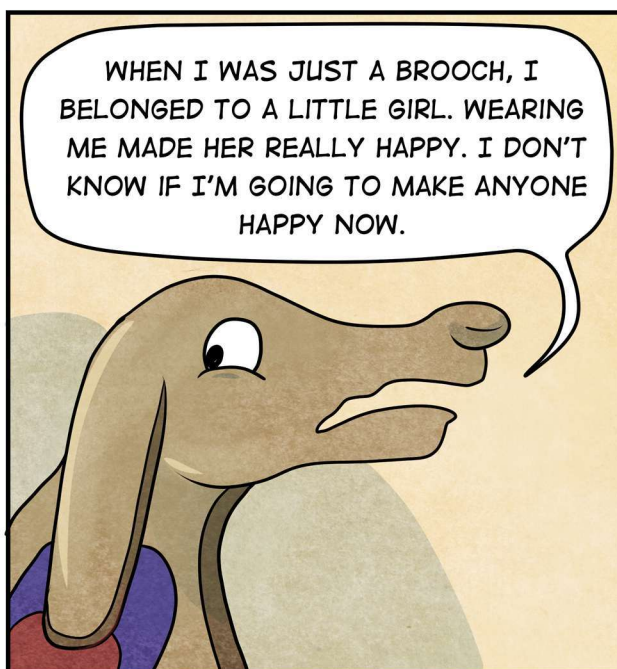
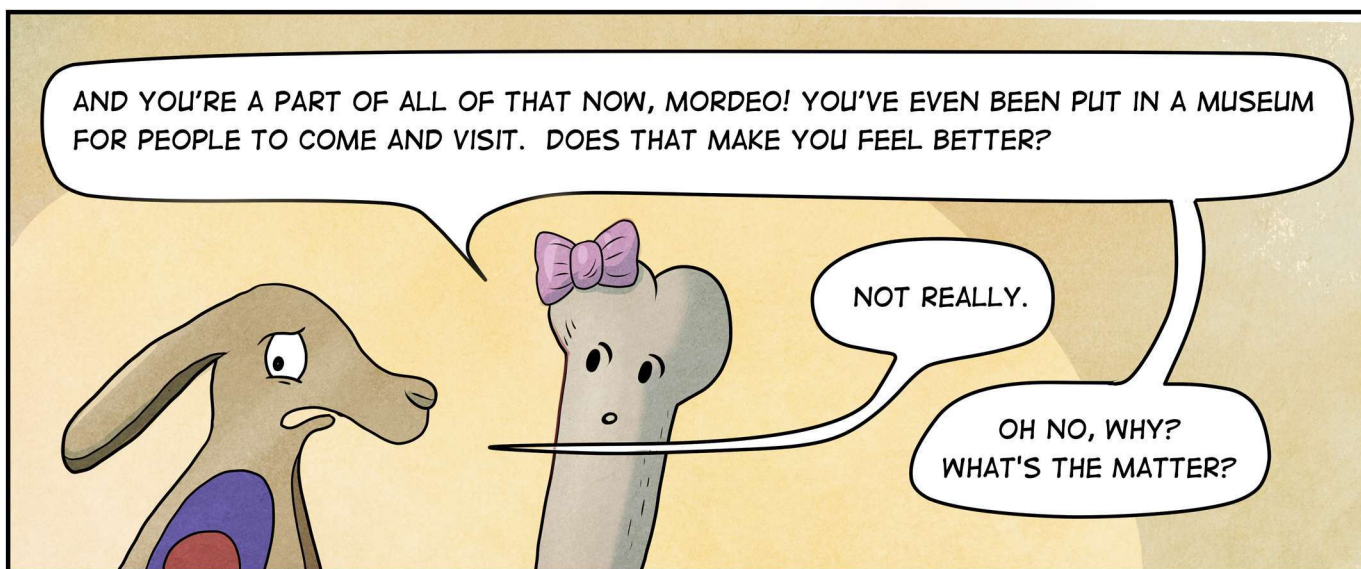
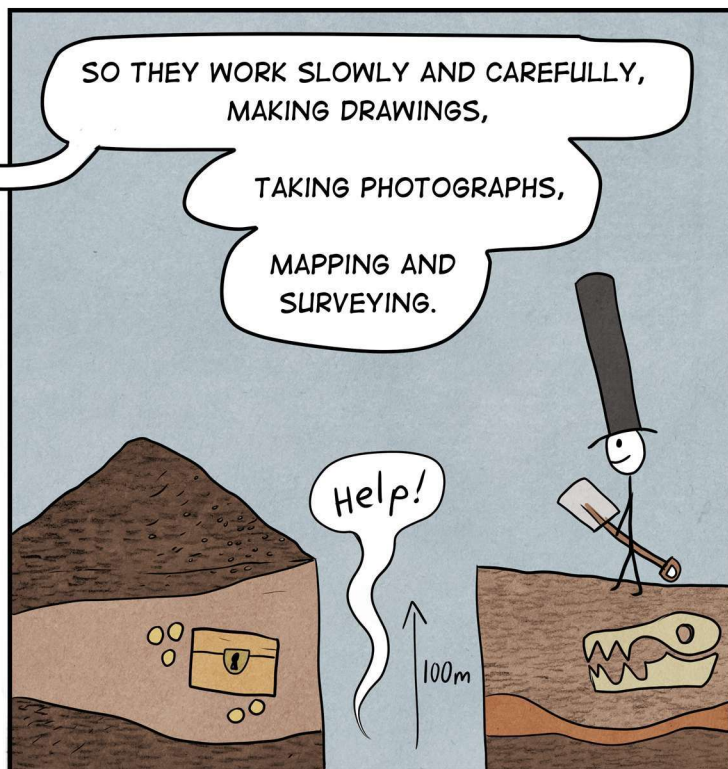
ORDINARY THINGS ARE IMPORTANT TOO. A PIECE OF POTTERY LIKE ME CAN TELL ARCHAEOLOGISTS WHAT KINDS OF FOODS PEOPLE ATE OR WHO THEY TRADED WITH.

YEAH! YOU TELL HER, GREG!



BONNY, A SHEEP BONE. SHE'S NICE, BUT EVERY TIME I SEE HER I HAVE A STRANGE URGE TO YELL "WOOF WOOF" AND TRY TO BURY HER







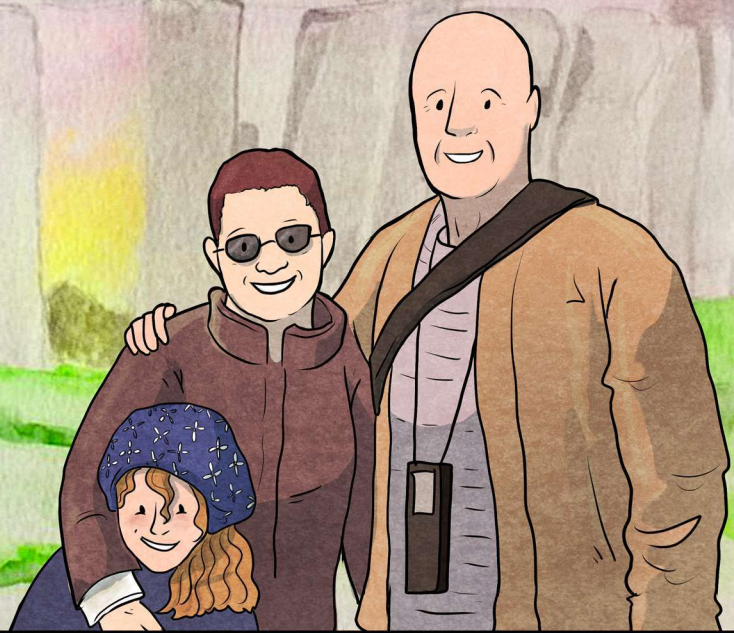
FINDING OUT WHAT HAPPENED IN THE PAST CAN BE REALLY EXCITING, AND YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT BIG DISCOVERY IS GOING TO PROVIDE A NEW CLUE ABOUT THE PAST!

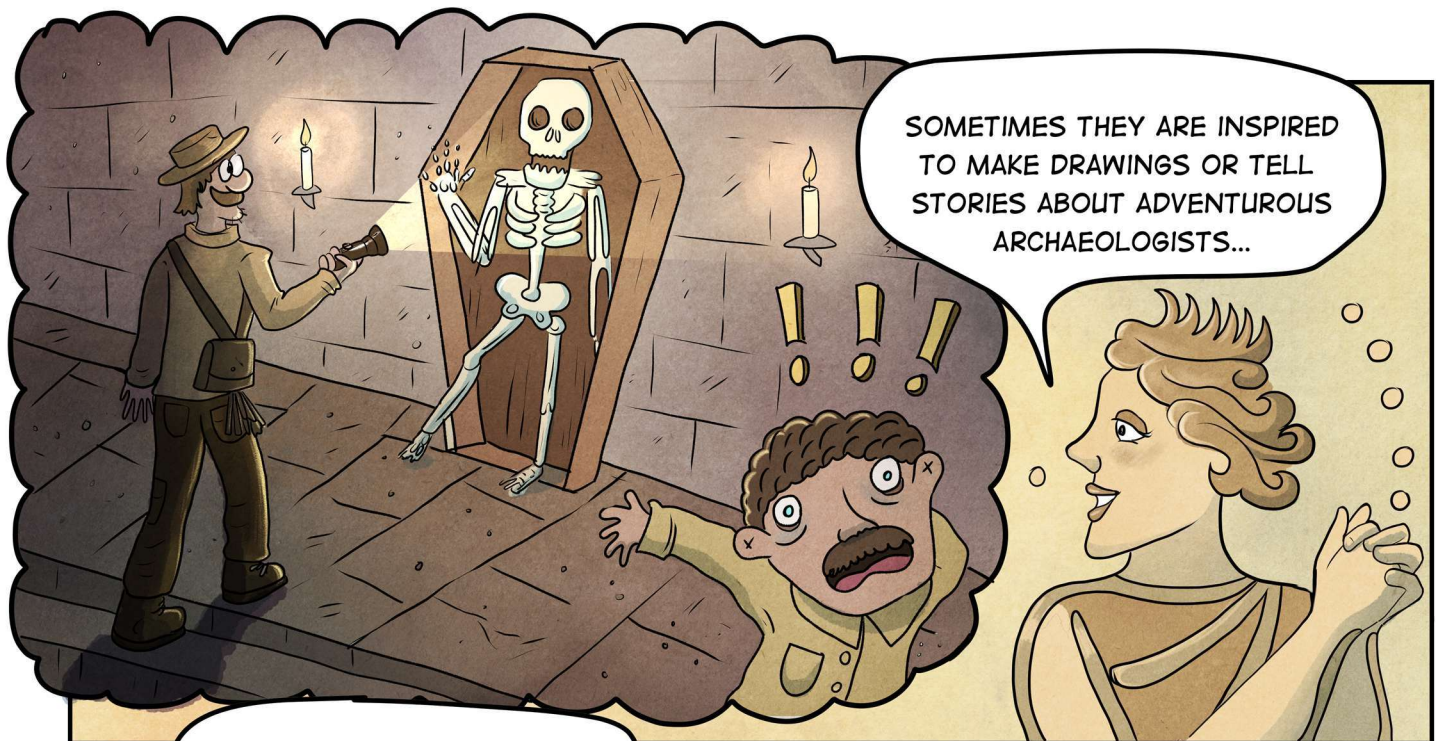


HERE AT THE MUSEUM WE GET TO SEE LOTS OF PEOPLE HAVING EXCITING DAYS OUT WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS, EXPLORING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES TOGETHER.

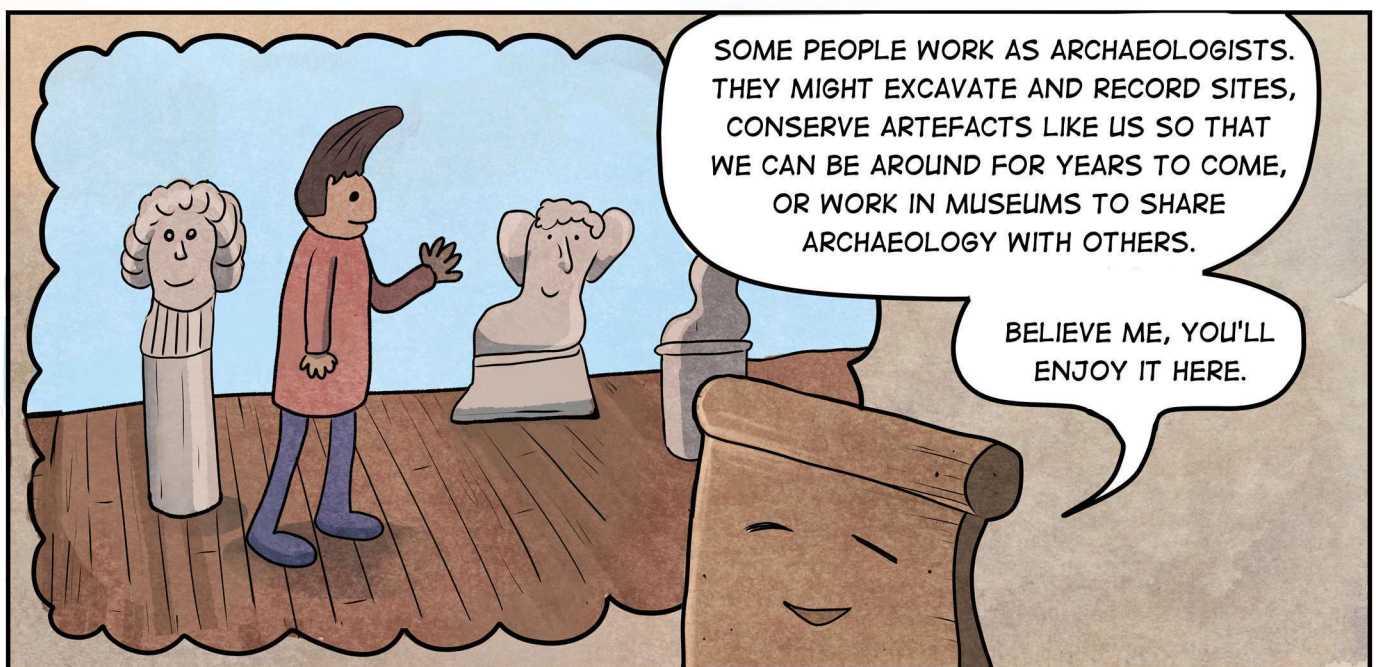
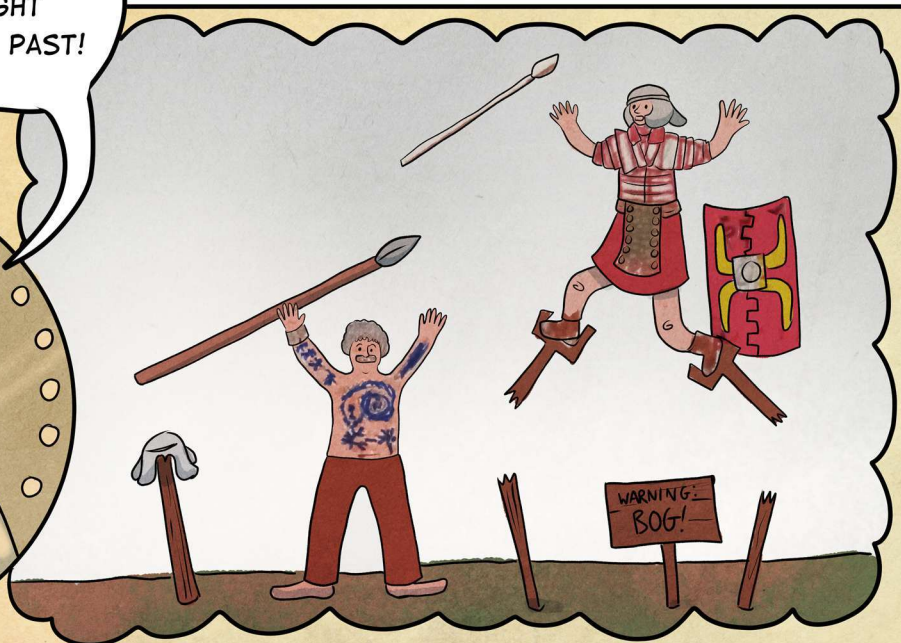


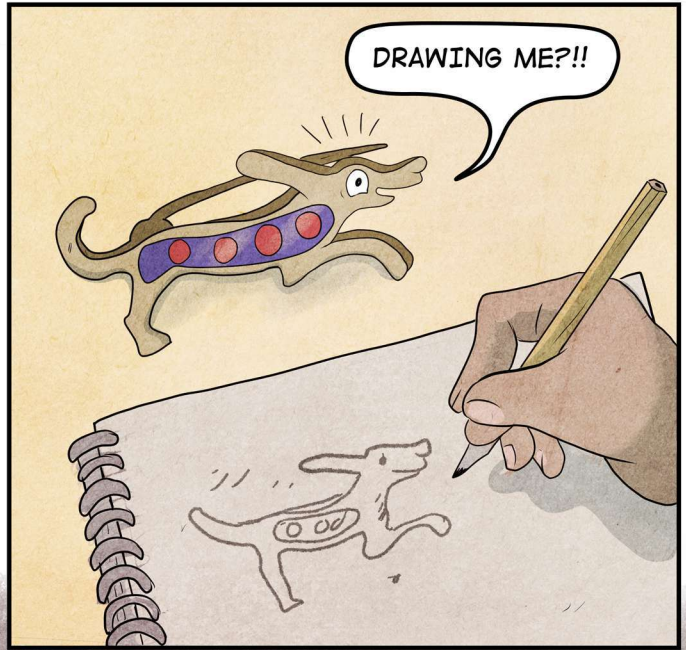
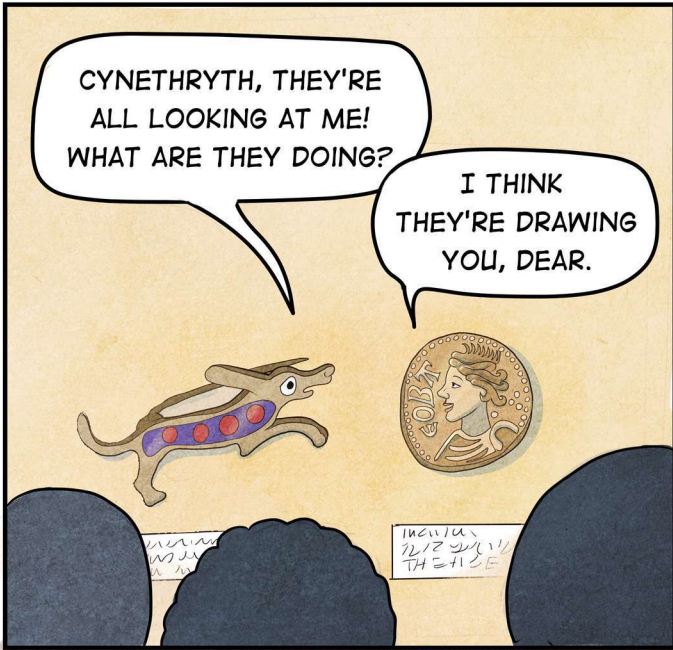
SOMETIMES THEY JOIN LOCAL GROUPS IN THEIR COMMUNITY TO TAKE PART IN ARCHAEOLOGY THEMSELVES.!





OR THINGS THAT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED IN THE PAST!





HOOOOWL!!!

AND THAT'S WHEN I KNEW:
I WAS STILL A GOOD DOG.

~ Artists ~

CAELAN SPEED
AGE 10

ARCHAEOLOGY
IS LIKE TIME
TRAVEL



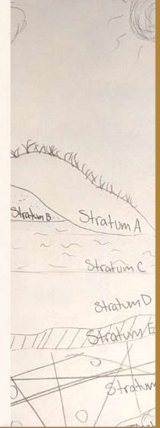
ELEANOR LEEDELL
AGE 8

WHEN I SAW
STONEHENGE,
I FELT EXCITED
BECAUSE IT IS
ONE OF THE
OLDEST ARCHAEOLOGY
SITES IN THE WORLD.



NANCY SANCHEZ
AGE 21

ARCHAEOLOGY
HELPS DISCOVER
THE PAST AND
INFLUENCE OUR
FUTURE.



KATIE HODNETT
AGE 15

THE SHOCK OF
FINDING
SOMETHING
INCREDIBLE
THAT HAS ITS
OWN HIDDEN
HISTORY.



EVIE OVERTON-SMITH
AGE 12

A DIG-SITE
WHEN A
SKELETON
& THEIR
BELONGINGS
HAVE BEEN
UNCOVERED.



KARTIKEY PATNAIK
AGE 8

LOKI ON THE
SNAPSTUN
STONE, AND THOR
AS A STATUETTE
FOUND IN THE
OSEBERG BURIAL
SHIP



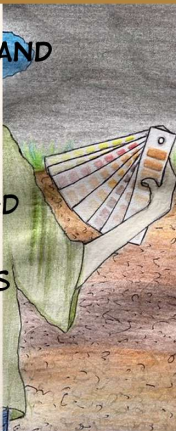
HARVEY HALL
AGE 12

WHEN THE
ROMANS TRIED
TO INVADE A
SCOTTISH PEAT
BOG, AT FIRST
THEY SANK!



ALFIE POWLESLAND
AGE 14

I'VE ALWAYS
BEEN INTERESTED
BY HOW
ARCHAEOLOGISTS
DIFFERENTIATE
BETWEEN SOIL
TYPES



ISAAC DRAKE

SOMETIMES
YOU DON'T FIND
ANYTHING.



KATE FLETCHER
AGE 14

THE ESSENTIALS
THE TYPICAL
ARCHAEOLOGIST
WOULD USE
WHEN DIGGING
COME RAIN OR
SHINE



LIAM ASTILL
AGE 16

OUR
ARCHEOLOGIST
SHINES HIS
TORCH ON A
SKELETON IN
A COFFIN...



This project is part of the Council for British Archaeology's partnership work with the Shout Out Loud project.

Shout Out Loud is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund through its #KicktheDust programme designed to encourage and involve more young people in heritage. You can find out more about our partnership project by visiting shoutoutloud.org.uk

Council
for British
Archaeology

**SHOUT
OUT
LOUD**
EXPLORE OUR PAST.
SHARE YOUR STORY.

