

HANDOUT

Western Europe: CONNECT THE DOTS



Follow the instructions to track the possible migration route of early humans out of Africa and into Europe. Draw symbols from the map's legend along your route to represent different types of movement or features of the environment. Add symbols if you need to.

NOTE

The abbreviation 'c.,' for 'circa,' means *approximately*.

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| A | c. 200,000 years ago | What may be the earliest fossils of modern <i>Homo sapiens</i> were found at Omo Kibish in Ethiopia. Mark this spot. |
| B | c. 50,000–100,000 years ago | Some scientists think a very small group of your ancestors—maybe fewer than 1,000—migrated from Africa by crossing the area that is today the Red Sea. The waters of the Red Sea between Africa (at the Horn of Africa) and the Arabian Peninsula were much shallower then, and your ancestors might have used simple rafts to cross from present-day Djibouti into Yemen. They then may have continued along the Arabian coast to what is today Iraq and Jordan, where they became some of the world's earliest farmers. Track their route. |
| C | c. 60,000–80,000 years ago | Your ancestors may have met <i>Neanderthals</i> (a now-extinct early human species) and interbred with them. This offshoot may have followed big prey, migrating into Central Asia—today's China and Mongolia—and then through southern Russia. Track their route. |
| D | c. 40,000–50,000 years ago | Your ancestors are believed to have arrived in Europe more than 40,000 years ago. In the Bajondillo Cave, in today's Málaga, Spain, stone tools were found dating to about 44,000 years ago. In Chauvet Cave, in what is today southeastern France, cave paintings of lions and rhinos were found that are about 30,000 years old. Mammoth-ivory figurines found in Germany date back to the same period. Mark these areas. |
| E | c. 40,000–50,000 years ago | Jaw fragments and teeth from your ancestors dating back to 40,000 years ago were discovered in Kent's Cavern, in what is today Devon, England. Mark this spot. |
| F | c. 20,000–40,000 years ago | The Paglicci Grotto is a cave located northeast of Naples, Italy. Scientists have found thousands of pieces of evidence that your ancestors were there, including human bones, stone tools, handprints, wall paintings and a 32,000-year-old pestle (grinding stone) that might have been used in oat harvesting—one of the earliest examples of food processing in Europe. Mark this spot. |