

African Art

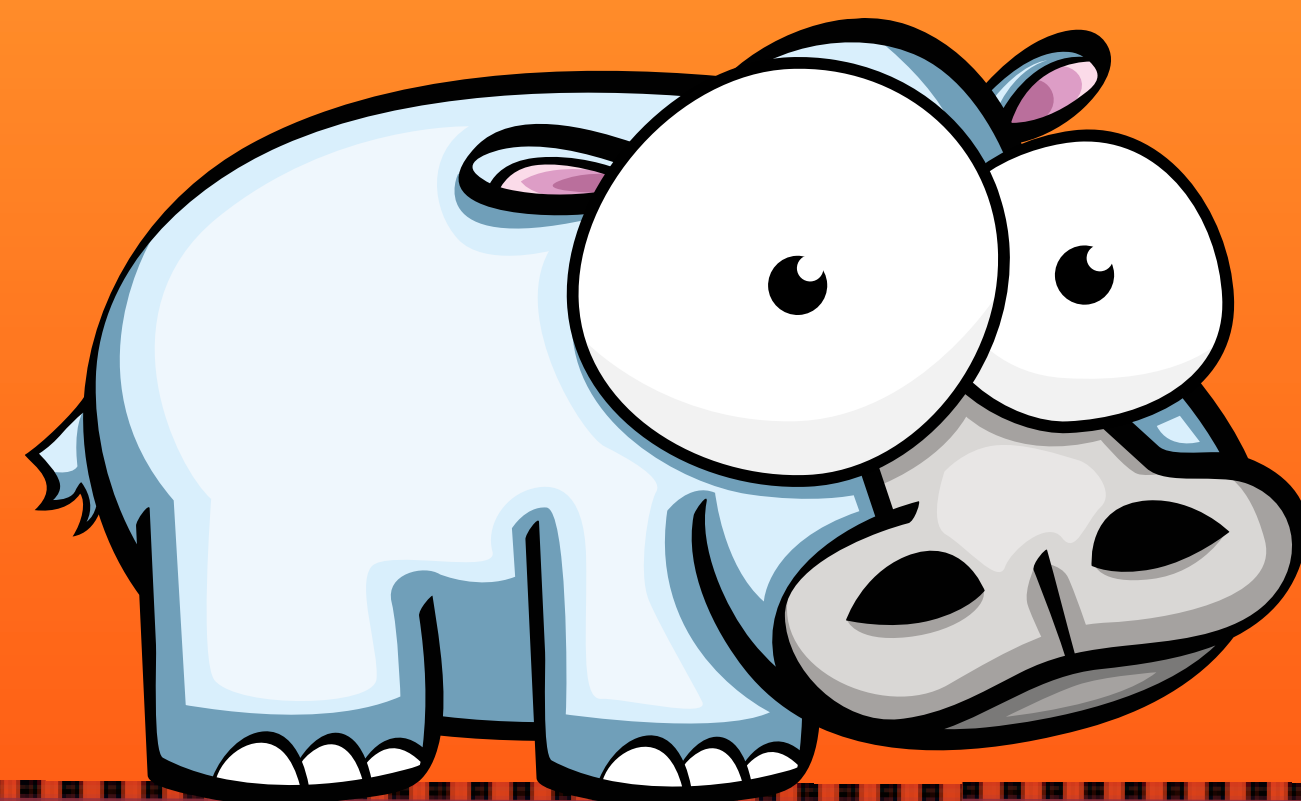
Today we will be:
Exploring and making
African masks.



**Can
you make a face
mask with your hands
and fingers?
How many different
ways can you do this?
Show a partner.**



**Did
anyone
make a mask
like these
children?
What is a
mask?**





**What are
these?
What are they used
for?**



**Have
you worn
anything like
this?**

**They
are African
tribal
masks.**



Many African societies make masks out of wood. The artist carves the wood and paints it with coloured pigments from charcoal, vegetables, trees and clay minerals. The masks are then worn by people during ritual and cultural ceremonies.

These are the three themes of African masks:



**Animal
masks**



**Female face
masks**



**Ancestor
masks**



African masks have a spiritual and religious meaning to the African people. When they wear masks during ceremonies, they take on a new identity. They become the person or animal in the mask.



Wow, how might this boy act when he puts on the mask?