**African masks.**

African masks should be seen as part of a ceremonial  costume. They are used in religious and social events to  represent the spirits of ancestors or to control the  good and evil forces in the community. They come to  life, possessed by their spirit in the performance of the  dance, and are enhanced by both the music and  atmosphere of the occasion. Some combine human and  animal features to unite man with his natural  environment. This bond with nature is of great  importance to the African and through the ages masks have always been used to express this relationship.

Watch this clip to learn more: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0114c6w>

Have a go at designing and drawing your own African mask.

Examples of African masks:





