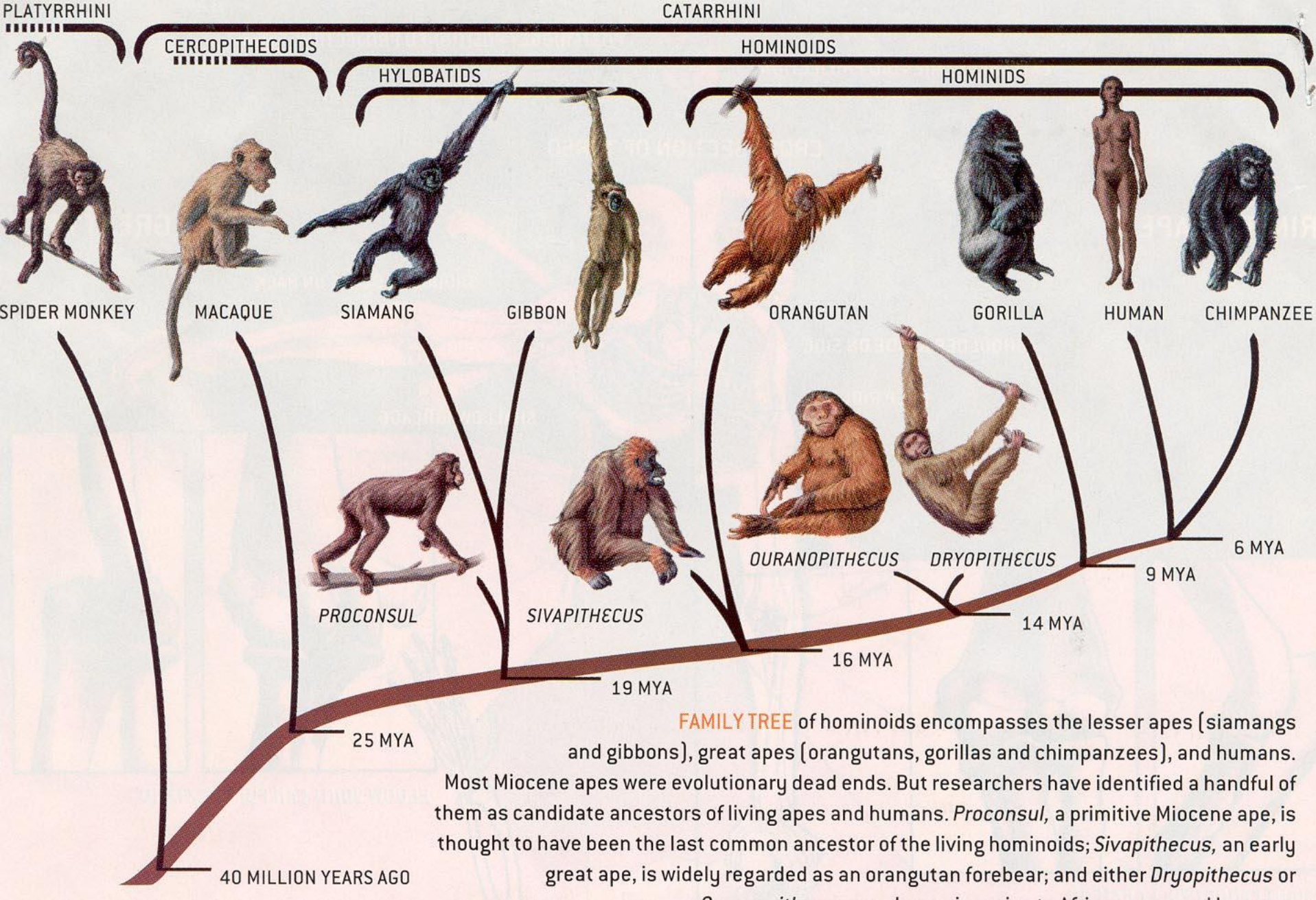




DNA 96-99%

an Family Tree

4k Tweet 141 2.8K

Rollover a species image or group name to learn more.
Click a species image to go to its summary page.

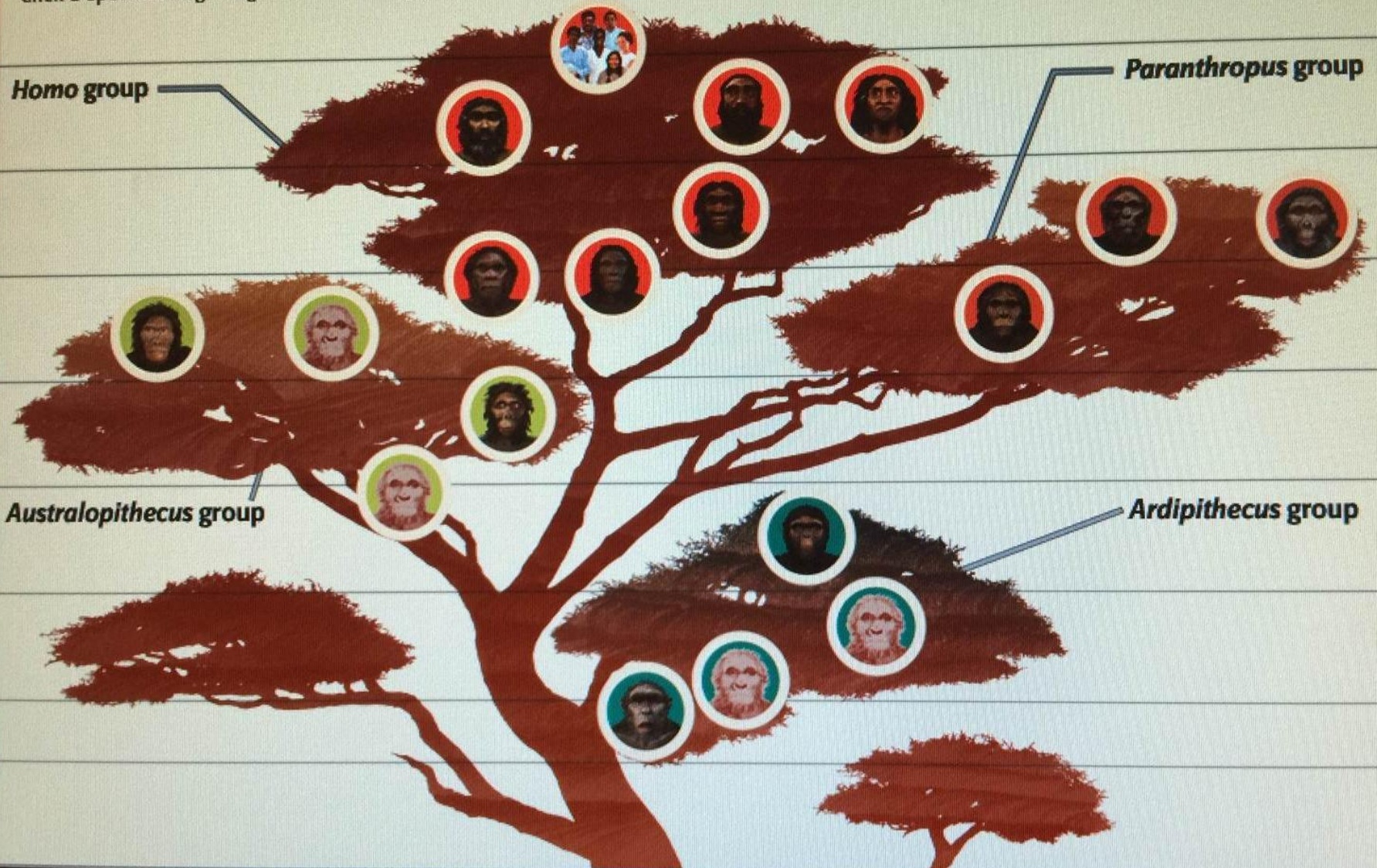
You are here.

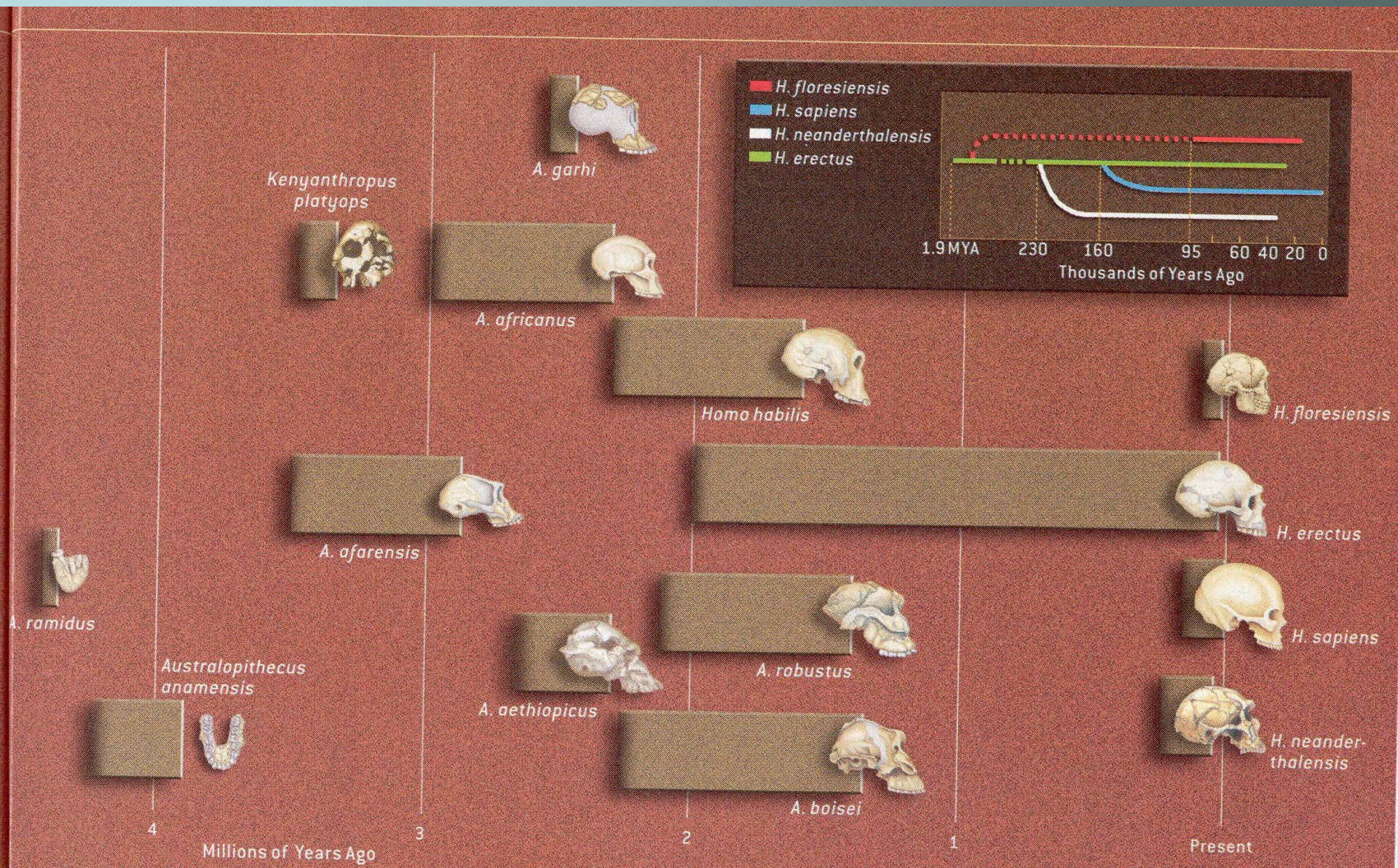
Homo group

Paranthropus group

Australopithecus group

Ardipithecus group





Homo Erectus, c. 1.6 mybp

Tools and use of fire

Expand out of Africa

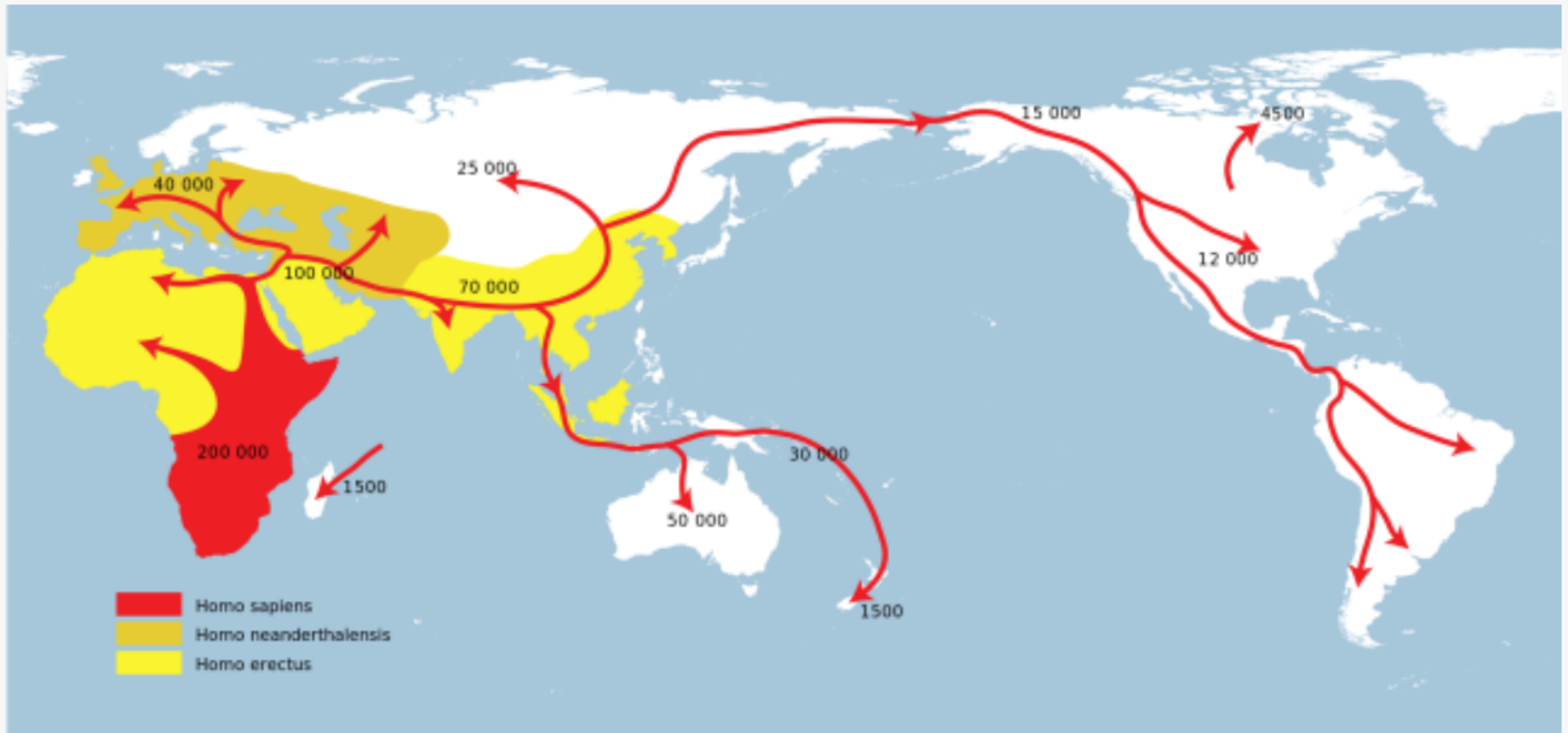


“Homo Sapiens-The Birth of Humanity,”
Nova (first 20 minutes)



The human migration out of Africa left its mark in mutations

by John Timmer



(credit: [Wikimedia Commons](#))

Questions to ponder

- 1. What are the disadvantages and the advantages of walking upright (bipedalism)
- 2. Why the loss of hair? Why are we the “naked” ape? What of head & pubic hair?
- 3. What is the advantage of an opposable thumb? Binocular vision? Foot arch?
- 4. What is the advantage of fire?
- 5. Are we the only animal that knows we are going to die, and if so, how do we deal with that?

- Upper Paleolithic -c. 50,000 – 10,000 BC

Three important discoveries/inventions:

fire making, tools, dog domesticated
= beginning of altering/controlling nature

Plus **symbolic cognitive** reasoning.

Upper Paleolithic, c 50,000 to 10,000 BC

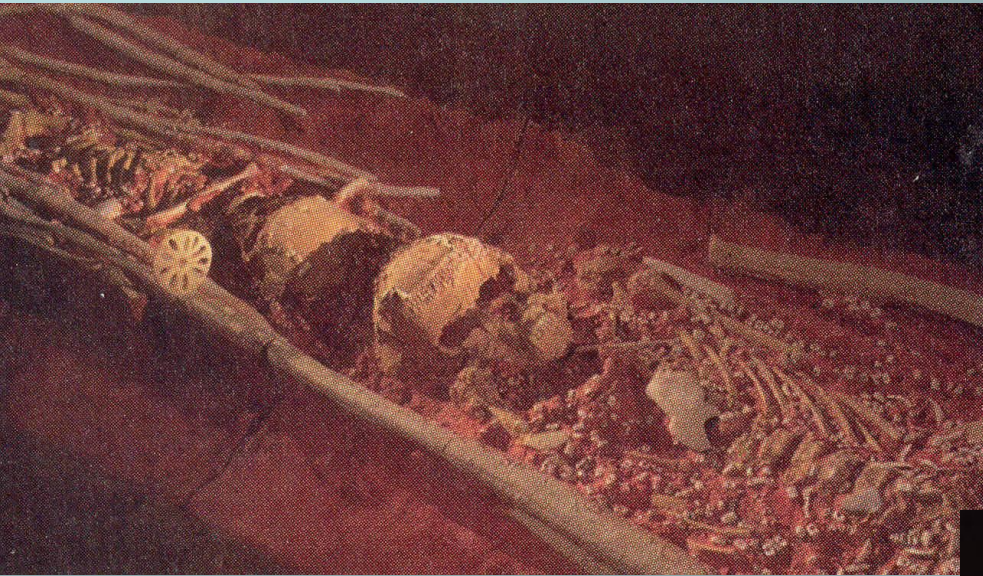
Huge advance in symbolic cognitive processes.

- *ART=sculpture and painting
- * musical instruments
- *burials=understanding that we die



Oldest Cave art
C, 35, 0000 BC
Chauvet Cave, France

Burial, c. 28,000 BC, 2 children and 1000s of beads Sungir, Russia



Most burials on side,
In fetal position
Facing east or west





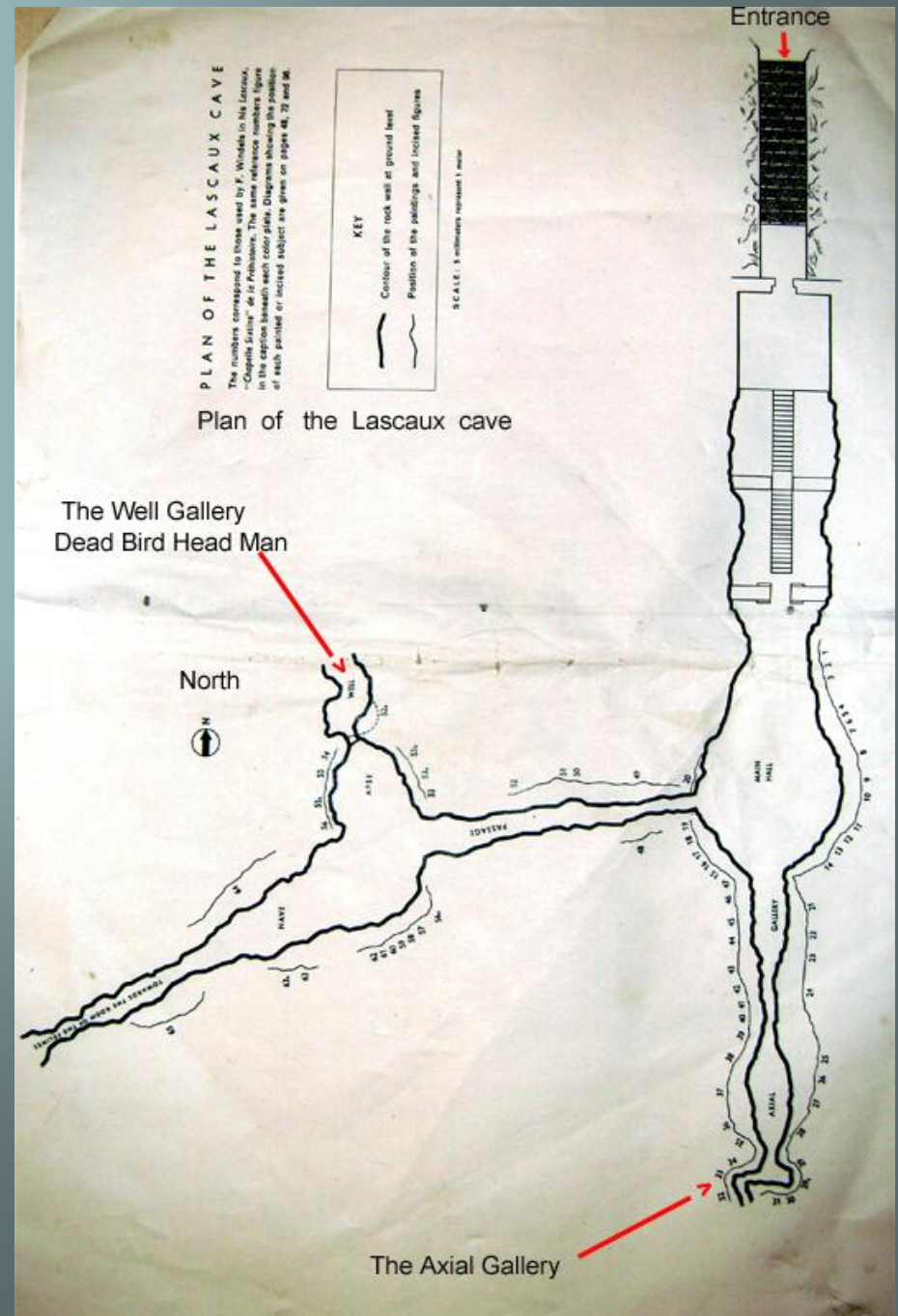
First sculpture, ivory horse, c. 32, 000 BC, from Germany

Bone flute, c 32,000 BC, from France

Note notations



Lascaux



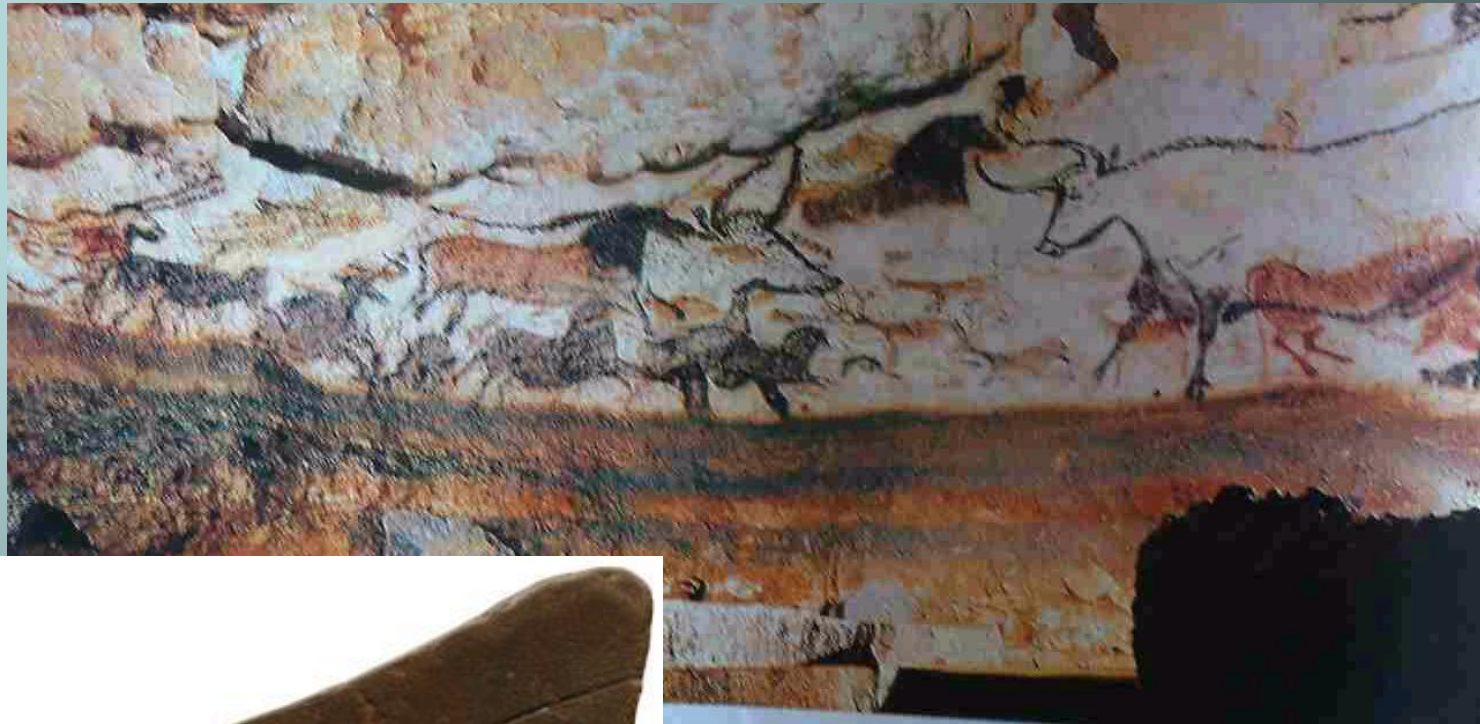


Photograph by Sisse Brimberg

 NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC

Lascaux, Hall of Bulls

Lascaux Hall of Bulls





HALL of BULLS

No narrative

No landscape

Not much interior modeling

Side View

Repeated visits have animals overlap



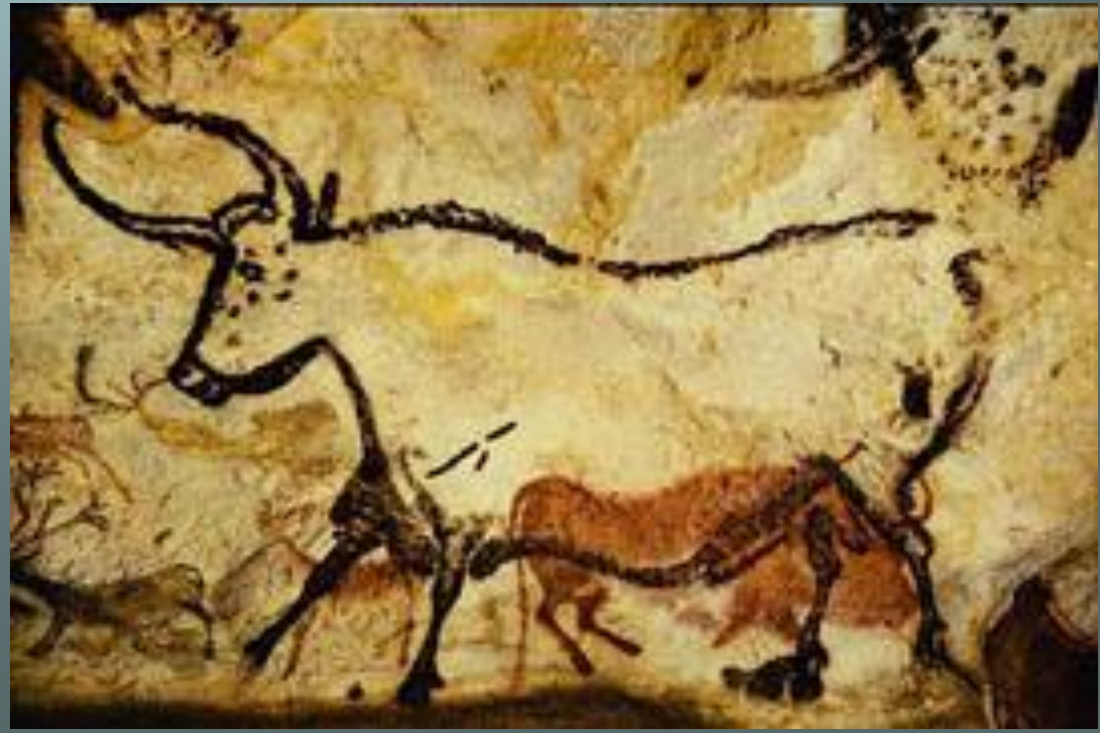


Animals

Note symbols

Lascaux Horse

Lascaux Bull





Lascaux tableau: Rhino, Man, Bison, and Standard?
Maybe narrative.

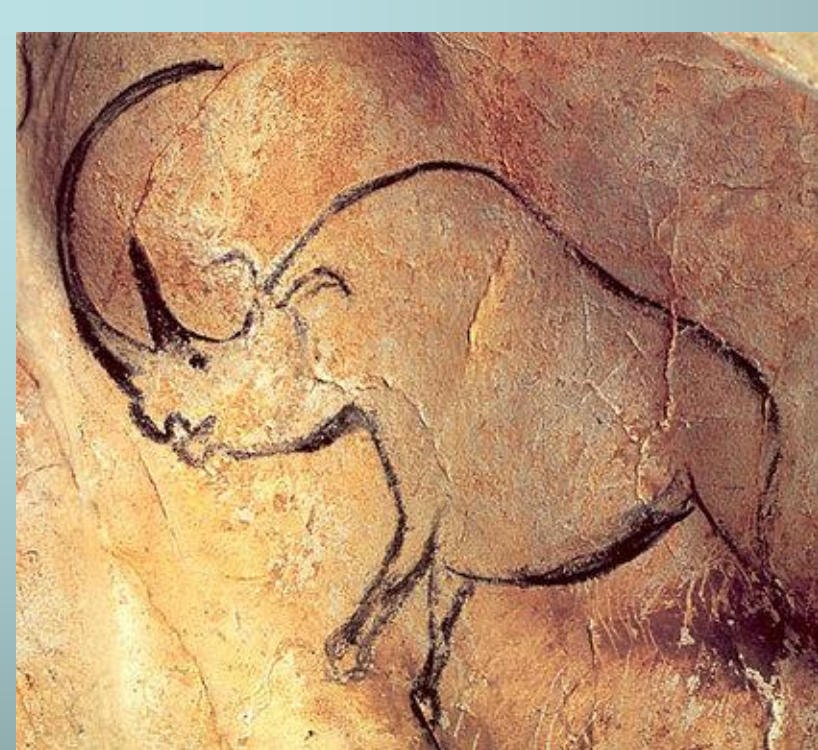
Are these shaman?

"Sorcerer" Les Trois-freres

Men







Again, mostly outline
Repeated visits





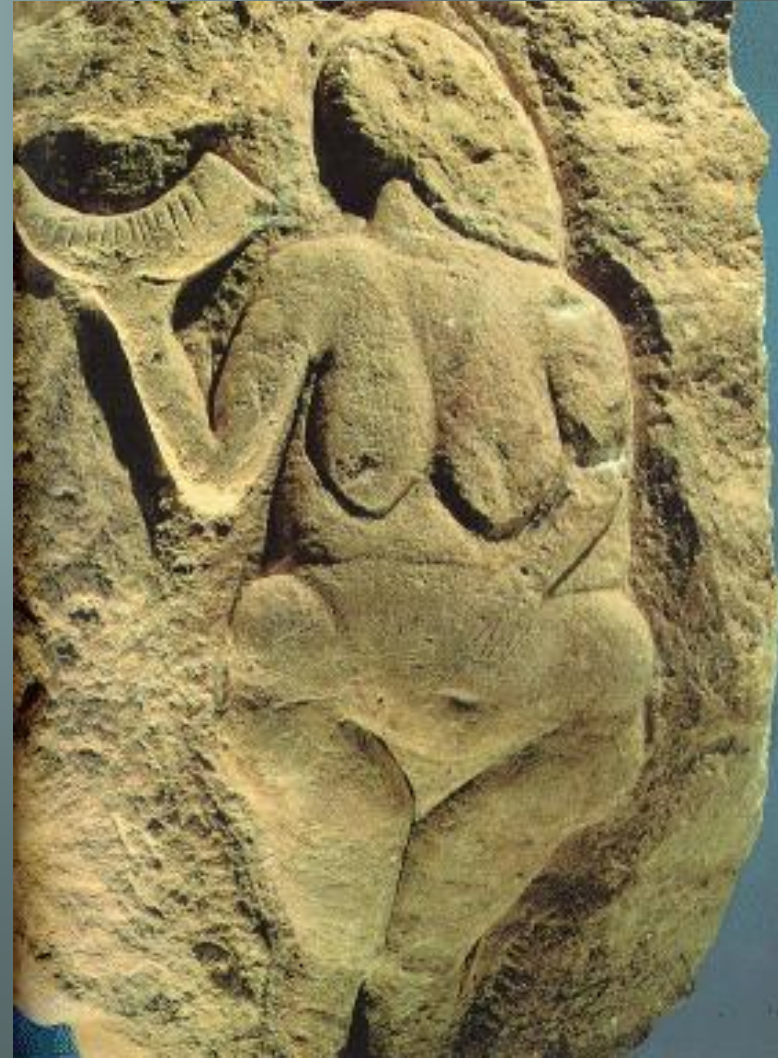
Women

There are 100es of these female forms.



Venus of Willendorf

Venus with "horn" Laussel





Recent find in Germany.
Maybe oldest art-c. 35,000BC
Note hole to wear on a necklace
=amulet?



Are the female nude statues Mother goddesses, fertility figurines, pornography

The usual interpretation is that these female figurines were goddesses or amulets to ensure the fertility. This makes sense as there were few of us then. And with a subsistence diet, fertility declines.

However, this is not the only interpretation. A recent book, *The Nature of Paleolithic Art* by R. Dale Guthrie, sees these figurines simply as erotic art.

And feminists see these figurines as made by female artists with a decidedly female View of the female body.

But note that there are no nude male statues. Only what are called “phallic batons.”