

Exploring the Kingdom of Benin: An Artist's View

Learning objective: To identify and illustrate key features of the historical Kingdom of Benin.

Follow the drawing steps below to create your own scene of the ancient Kingdom of Benin. Use the word bank to add labels to your picture.

Draw: Draw a historical scene of the Kingdom of Benin. Include a large palace building in the middle, a high city wall surrounding the area, and a craftsman working on a bronze plaque. Use bright colours for the clothing and rich brown or gold colours for the bronze art.



Label words: Oba · Bronze Plaque · City Wall · Palace · Craftsman

Steps:

1. Step 1: Draw a large building in the centre to be the Oba's palace. How did the palace look? (Hint: Use tall shapes)
2. Step 2: Draw a tall wall around the city to keep it safe. Label this 'City Wall'.
3. Step 3: Draw a person standing near the palace. This is a craftsman. What is he holding?
4. Step 4: Draw a small square on the wall to show a bronze plaque. Label it 'Bronze Plaque'.