



Cueva de las Manos Counting

Cueva de las Manos (Spanish for “Cave of the Hands”) is a cave in southern Argentina named for over 800 overlapping painted hands on one of its walls. Some sections of this cave art date back 13,000 years. When these ancient artists created the paintings, they placed one hand on the wall and blew powdered minerals through a hollowed bone to make an outline, much like using a stencil. Most of the hand paintings in Cueva de las Manos are outlines of left hands. Archaeologists believe it was more common for the painters to hold the spraying tube in their right hands. Think like an archaeologist and note the details in the illustration below.

How many right hands?

6

How many left hands?

45

How many outlines are red?

15

How many outlines are black?

12

How many total fingers and thumbs?

261

Bonus:
Find and circle the hand with six fingers.

