

EXPLORE HAIDA ART

This is a Red Cedar Wood Carving made by the Haida Tribe of British Columbia. It was likely to be part of a bentwood box. These often stored a variety of things: food, such as dried salmon, halibut, shellfish, roots and berries, and important ceremonial regalia such as masks.



Look at the design. Thinking about cultural beliefs of the Haida tribe, what do you think the design represents?

- The Haida believed people were born either as an eagle or raven.
- Designs show family crests symbolising identity.
- Images were important during ceremonies.

How many Ravens can you find?

Haida culture believes the raven is the most powerful of all mythical creatures.

His appetite includes curiosity and a desire to interfere and change things, and to play tricks on the world and its creatures.

REMEMBER The Raven is a trickster and can pretend to be there when he is not.

How would you describe this type of art?

- Are the symbols easy to find?
- Is the design symmetrical?
- Are the colours typical of Northwest Coast art?

