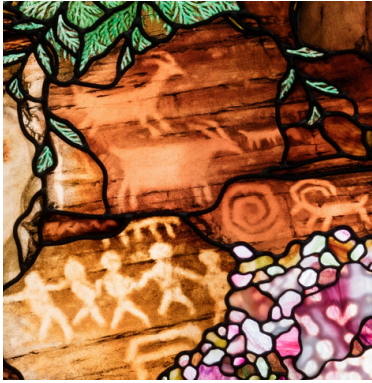




SCAVENGER HUNT *Philosophy*



1. Valley of Fire Petroglyphs

The Valley of Fire petroglyphs, created by Ancestral Puebloans in southern Nevada, reflect Indigenous philosophies of interconnectedness, movement, and balance. Like oral traditions, these symbols preserve knowledge through stories and spiritual insights, representing migration, celestial cycles, and our connection with our ancestors.



2. Zoroastrianism

Zoroastrianism, founded by Zoroaster (Zarathustra) around the sixth century BCE, is one of the oldest monotheistic religions. It teaches about an afterlife and the defeat of evil at the end of time. As Zoroastrianism spread through Persian empires, it influenced the development of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.



3. Buddha Statue

Buddhism, founded by Siddhartha Gautama (the Buddha or “the awakened one”) between the sixth and fourth centuries BCE, teaches asceticism, the Four Noble Truths, and the Eightfold Path. Tradition holds that Buddha attained enlightenment through meditation under the Bodhi Tree, a sacred fig tree.



4. Bhagavad Gita

The Bhagavad Gita (“Song of God”) is a 700-verse section of the Sanskrit epic *Mahabharata*, featuring dialogues between two key Hindu figures. It explores *dharma*, the moral codes humans should follow. The excerpt states: “Persistence in knowing the self, seeing what knowledge of reality means—all this is called knowledge, the opposite is ignorance.”



5. Izapa Stela 5

Izapa Stela 5, carved between 300 and 50 BCE, depicts a “world tree” connecting the underworld, earth, and paradise. Although the Izapa were a transitional culture distinct from both the Maya and Aztec, the stela embodies the typical Mesoamerican worldview: interconnectedness, transformation, and harmony with the cosmos.



6. Roger Bacon

Roger Bacon (1219–1292) was a Franciscan friar and philosopher who promoted empiricism and the scientific method. He believed science, particularly mathematics and astronomy, should benefit everyday life and predicted inventions like the magnifying glass, submarine, and aircraft.



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7. Dai Zhen

Dai Zhen (1724–1777), a self-educated scholar from the Qing dynasty, challenged Neo-Confucianism by advocating a return to original Confucian texts and emphasizing emotions and desires in moral decisions. He critiqued the Song and Ming dynasties' interpretations of separating morality from feelings and incorporated sympathetic concern (*shu*) into Confucian thought.



8. Mary Wollstonecraft

Mary Wollstonecraft (1759–1797), a British historian and proto-feminist, advocated for women's rights. In *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (1792), she argued for equal educational and human rights for women, stating, "Strengthen the female mind by enlarging it, and there will be an end to blind obedience."



9. Madame Roland

Jeanne-Marie Manon Roland, or Madame Roland (1754–1793) was a key figure in the French Revolution, using her political intellect and salons to influence the Girondist party. She championed a constitutional republic and liberty, while condemning the Reign of Terror's violence. Her ideals led to her execution, symbolizing the revolution's betrayal of its own principles.



10. Ibn Yunus

Ibn Yunus, a tenth-century Egyptian astronomer, believed in finding truth through observation of the universe. He viewed scientific inquiry as a means to strengthen faith by recognizing divine signs in nature. During his lifetime, he refined the astrolabe, enhancing its use for calculating the sun's position and predicting eclipses.



11. Fredrick Douglass

Frederick Douglass (1817–1895), born into slavery and escaping as a young man, dedicated his life to fighting for justice and equality, becoming a leading voice in the abolitionist movement. He argued that slavery violated inherent human rights, referencing the US Constitution and Declaration of Independence to advocate for full inclusion of Black Americans into society.



12. Bishop Desmond Tutu

Desmond Tutu (1931–2021), a South African Anglican bishop and human rights activist, was influenced by the philosophy of Bantu, particularly the concept of *ubuntu*—emphasizing collective well-being over individualism. His advocacy for human rights and anti-apartheid activism reflected a belief in a force that connects all life, promoting unity and peace.