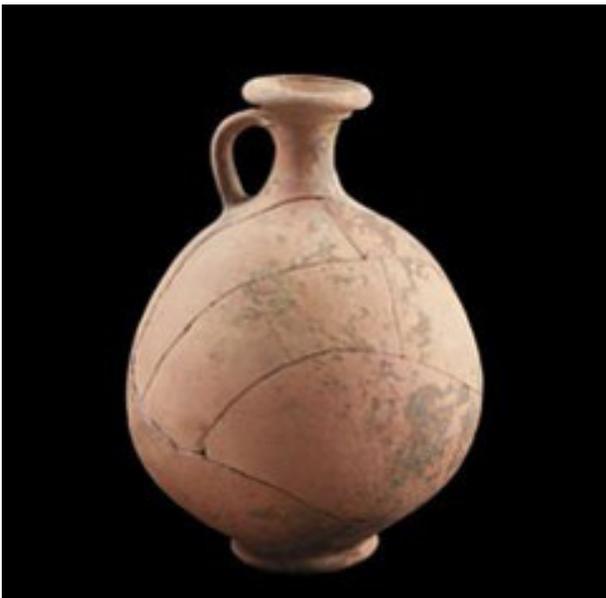


Decorate your own Roman pot

Broken pieces of pottery are one of the most common finds on archaeological excavations of Roman sites. Unless the pots are complete, however, most of this pottery will never be seen in a museum display and will be kept as 'bulk finds' hidden away in the stores. In fact, the pottery can provide more information about the site than most of the pretty objects on display.

Roman pottery was used for many different things, so there were many different shapes and sizes of pots.



Flagons were used for serving liquids such as water wine or beer.



Beakers were used for drinking and could come in lots of different sizes.



A mortarium was used for grinding up food such as herbs.



Some pots were used for boiling water or cooking over an open fire.

Roman pottery could also be decorated in many different ways.

Look at these four different styles of decoration.

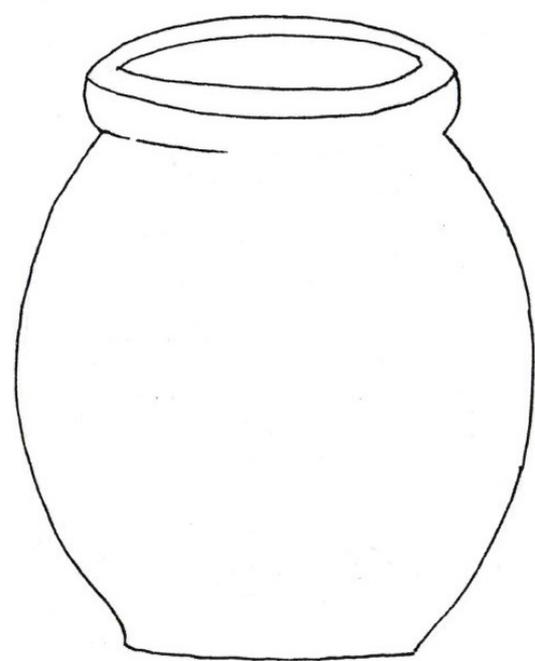
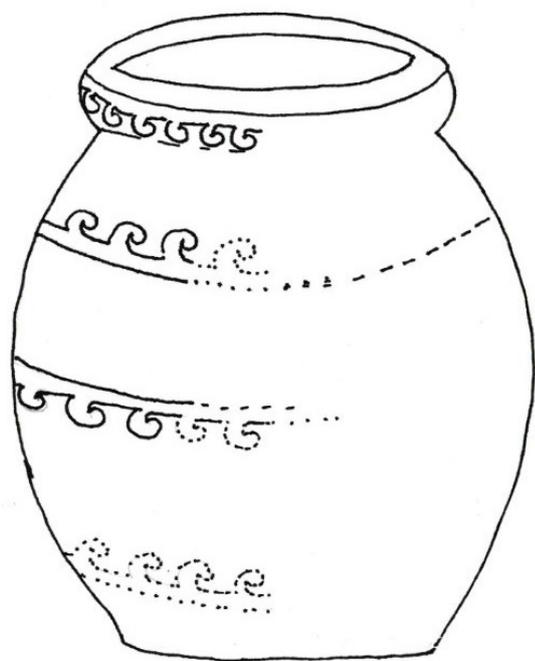
You can print the pots template out, or try copying the shape and then add the patterns!

Crambeck parchment ware

This is a piece of a beaker jar. Crambeck ware is a Romano-British type of pottery which was made in North Yorkshire mainly in the 4th Century AD. It is the latest pottery we can date from Segedunum. It is usually painted with a red clay 'slip' decoration. A slip is a thin layer of fine clay particles.



Can you complete the pattern on this pot?

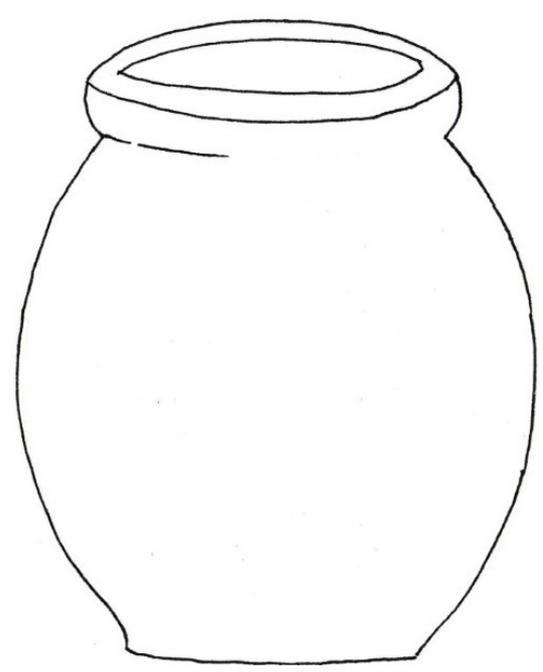
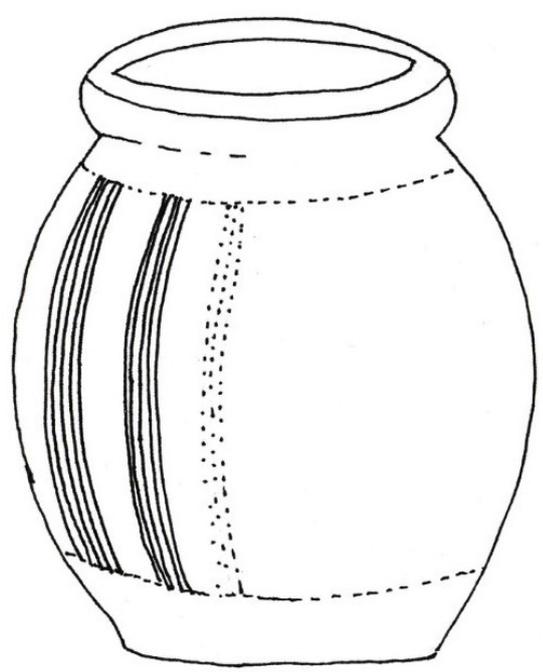


Horningsea pottery

This is a piece of a storage jar from Horningsea in Cambridgeshire. It was decorated by running a comb through the wet clay before it was put in the kiln.



Can you complete the pattern on this pot?

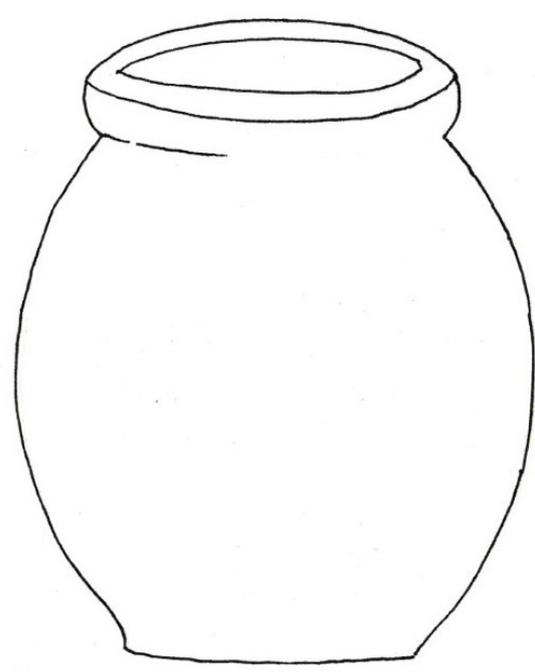


Hunt scene with Barbotine decoration

This piece of pottery has been decorated with a hunting scene. The pattern has been made by piping soft clay onto the pot. This is called Barbotine decoration. It is just like icing a cake!



Can you complete the pattern on this pot?

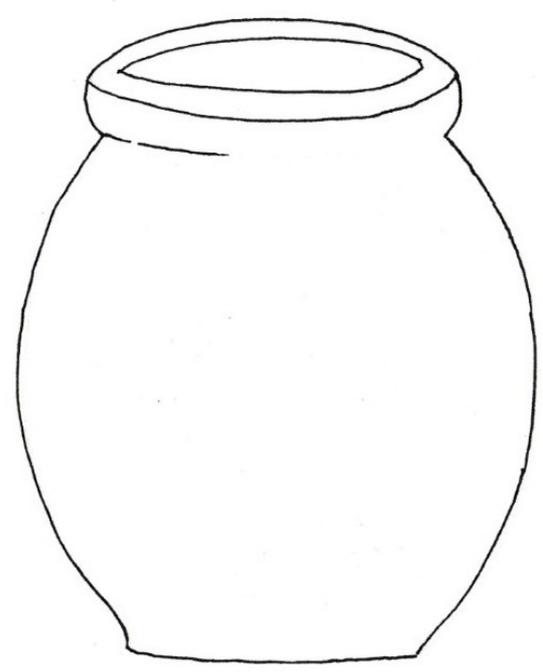
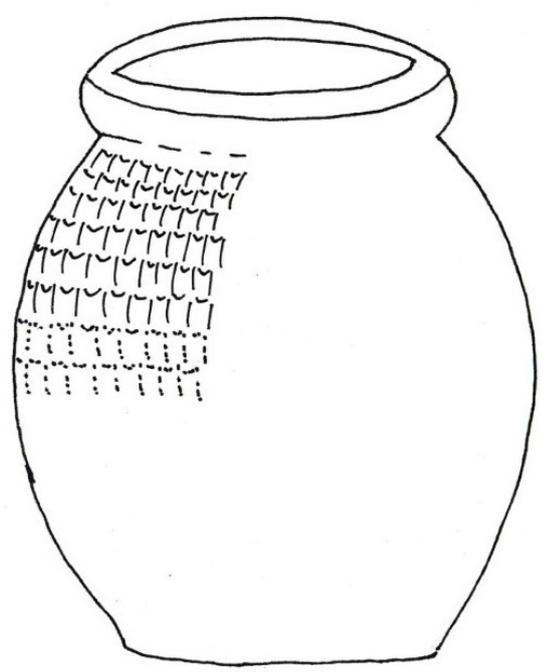


Nene Valley Ware

This is a piece of Nene Valley ware. It was decorated by pressing a stick or tool into the clay before the pot was put into the kiln. This makes a stamped pattern.



Can you complete the pattern on this pot?



Challenge

Can you design and make your own pot inspired by these Roman patterns?

Draw your design on the pot template.

You could use:

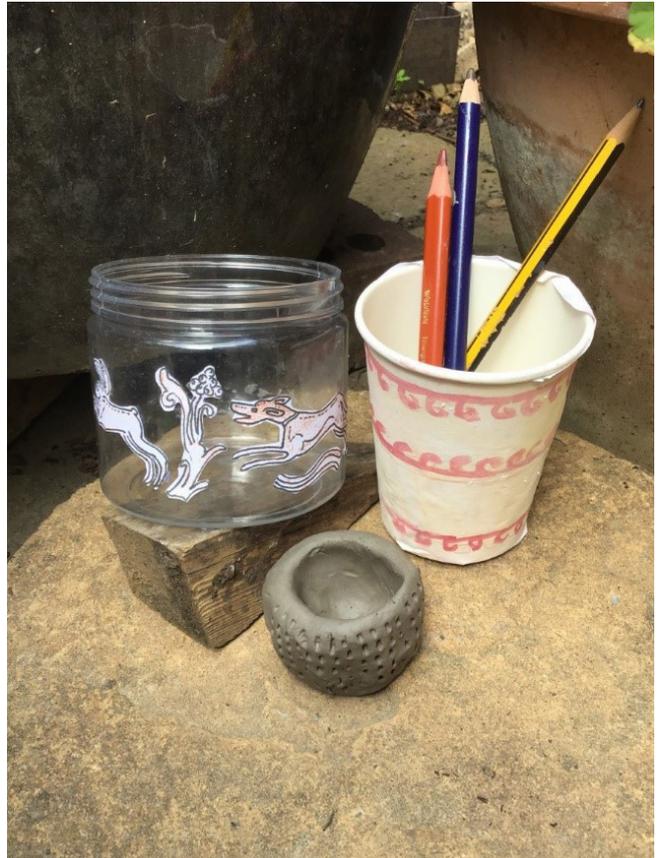
Modelling clay or play doh

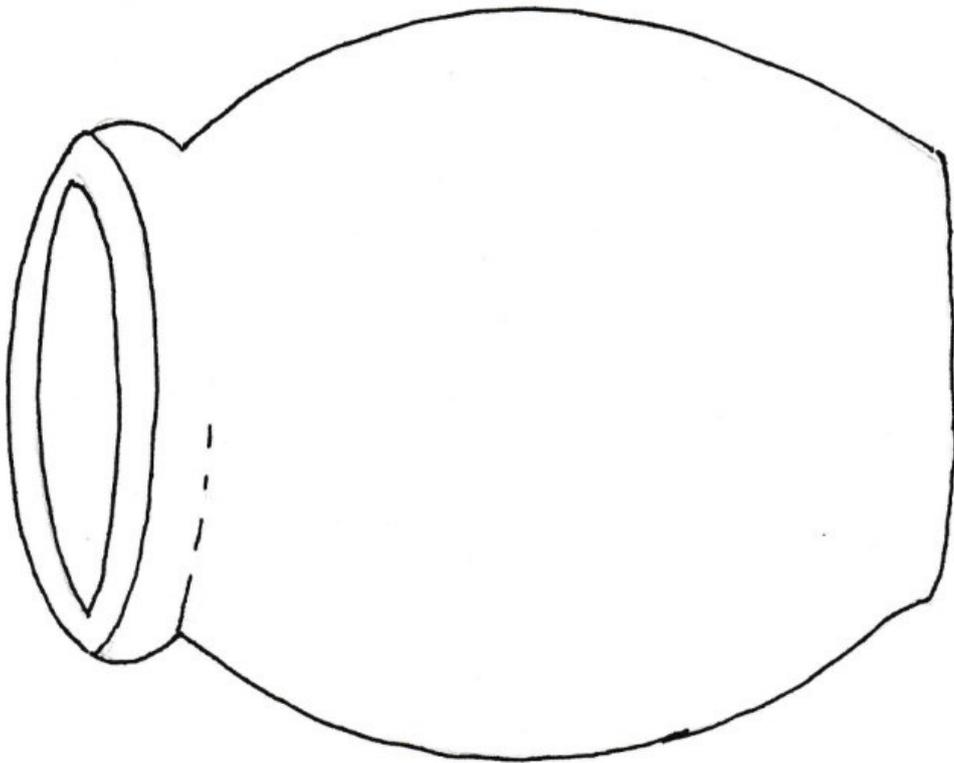
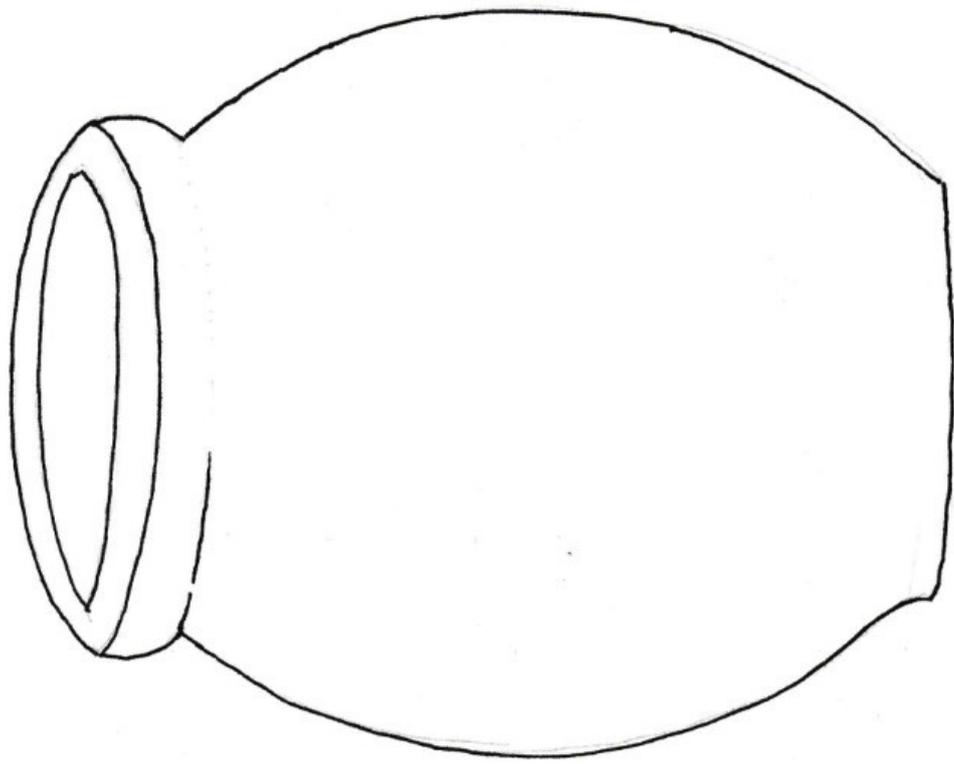
An old tub or jar

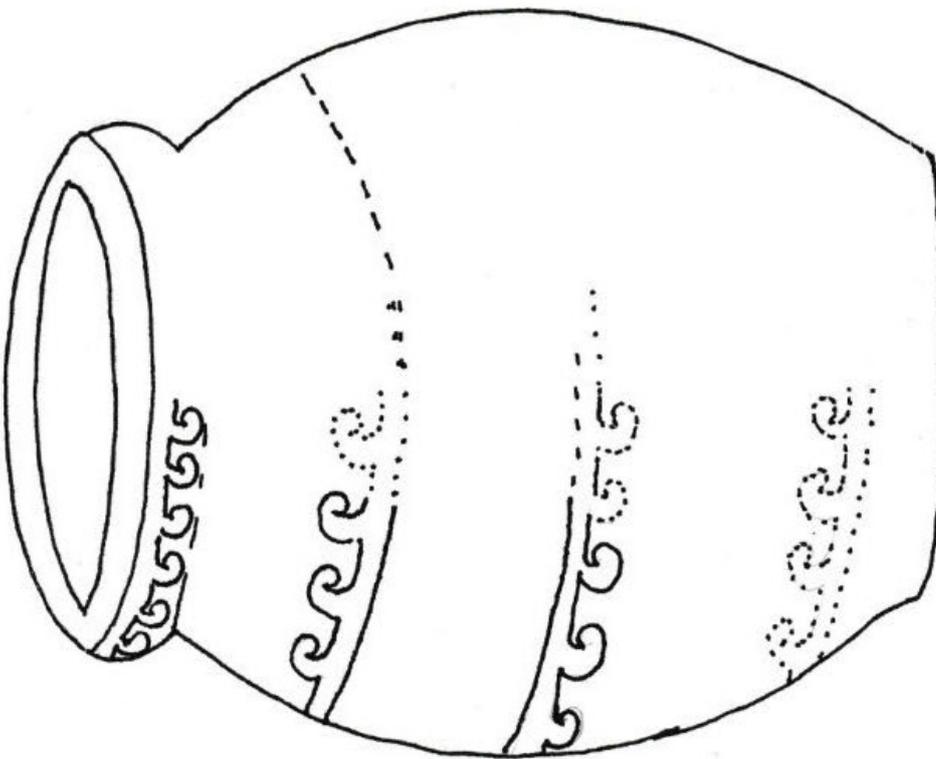
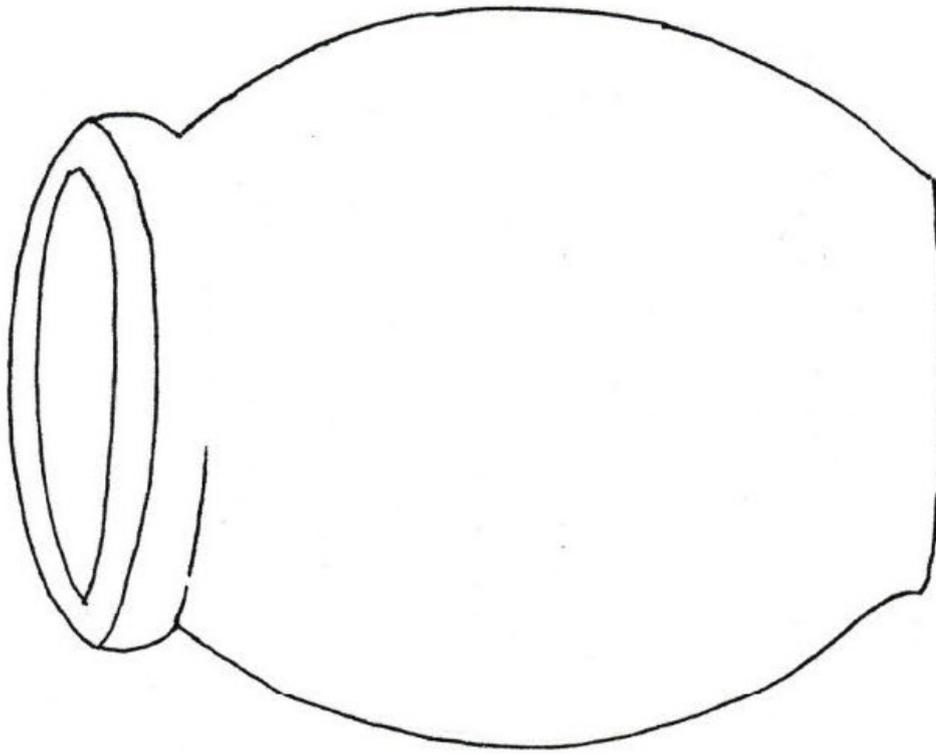
A paper cup

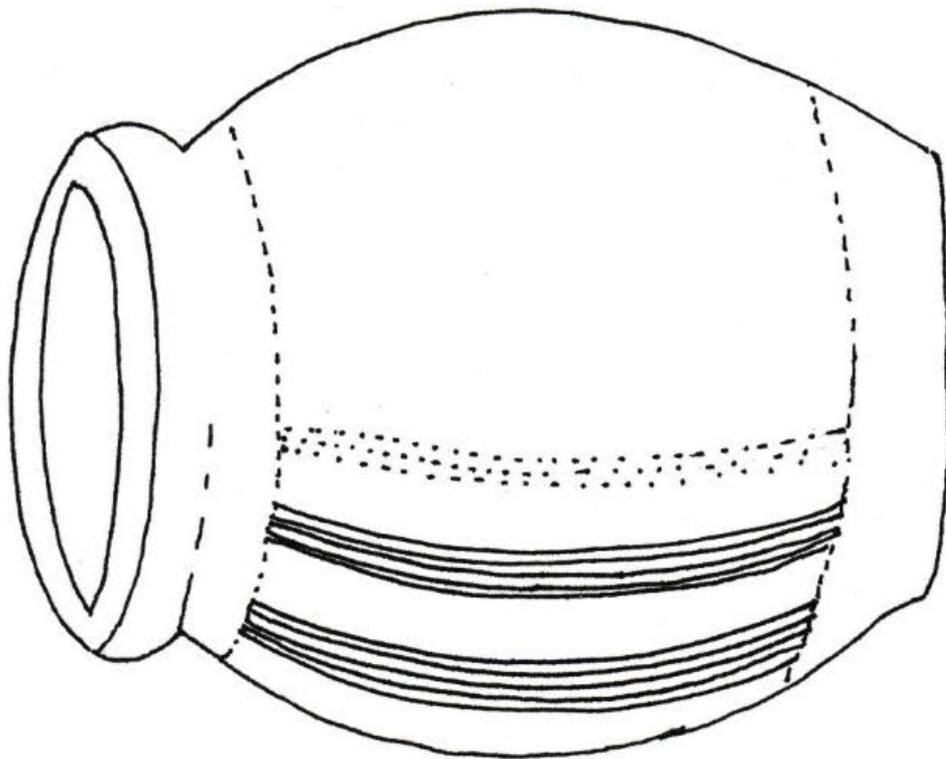
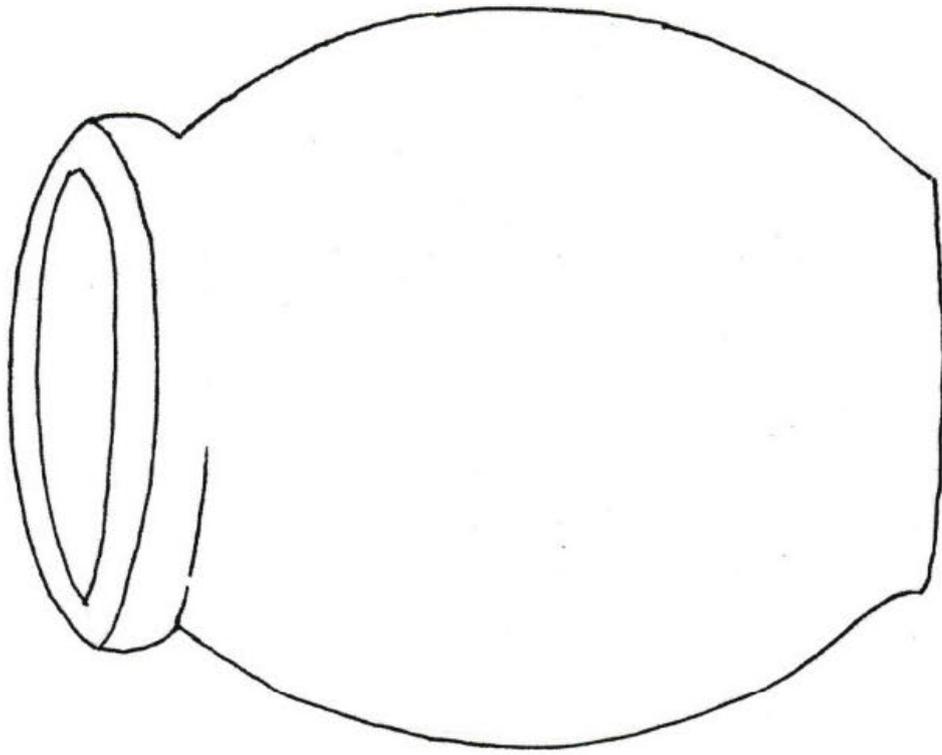
Pens, crayons, paint

Glue and scissors

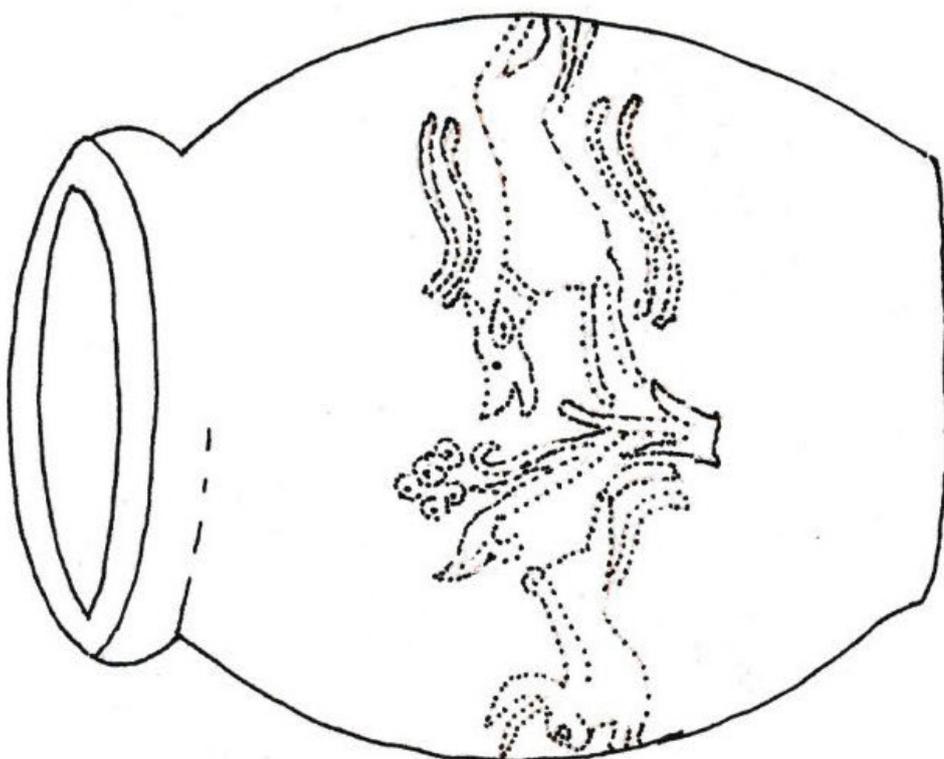
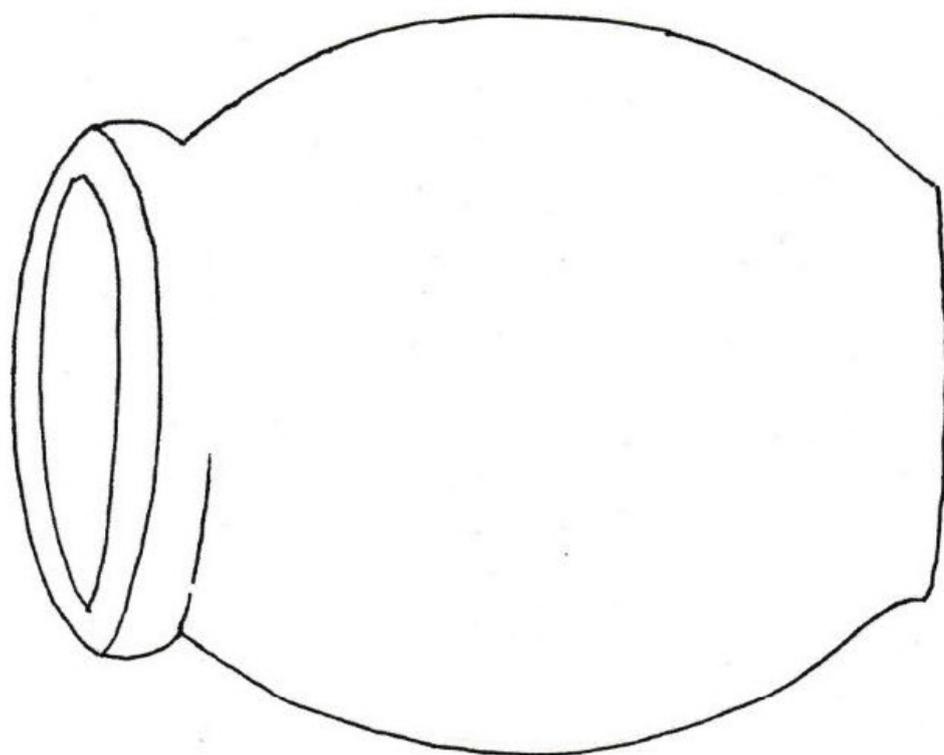








Horningsea



Barbotine

