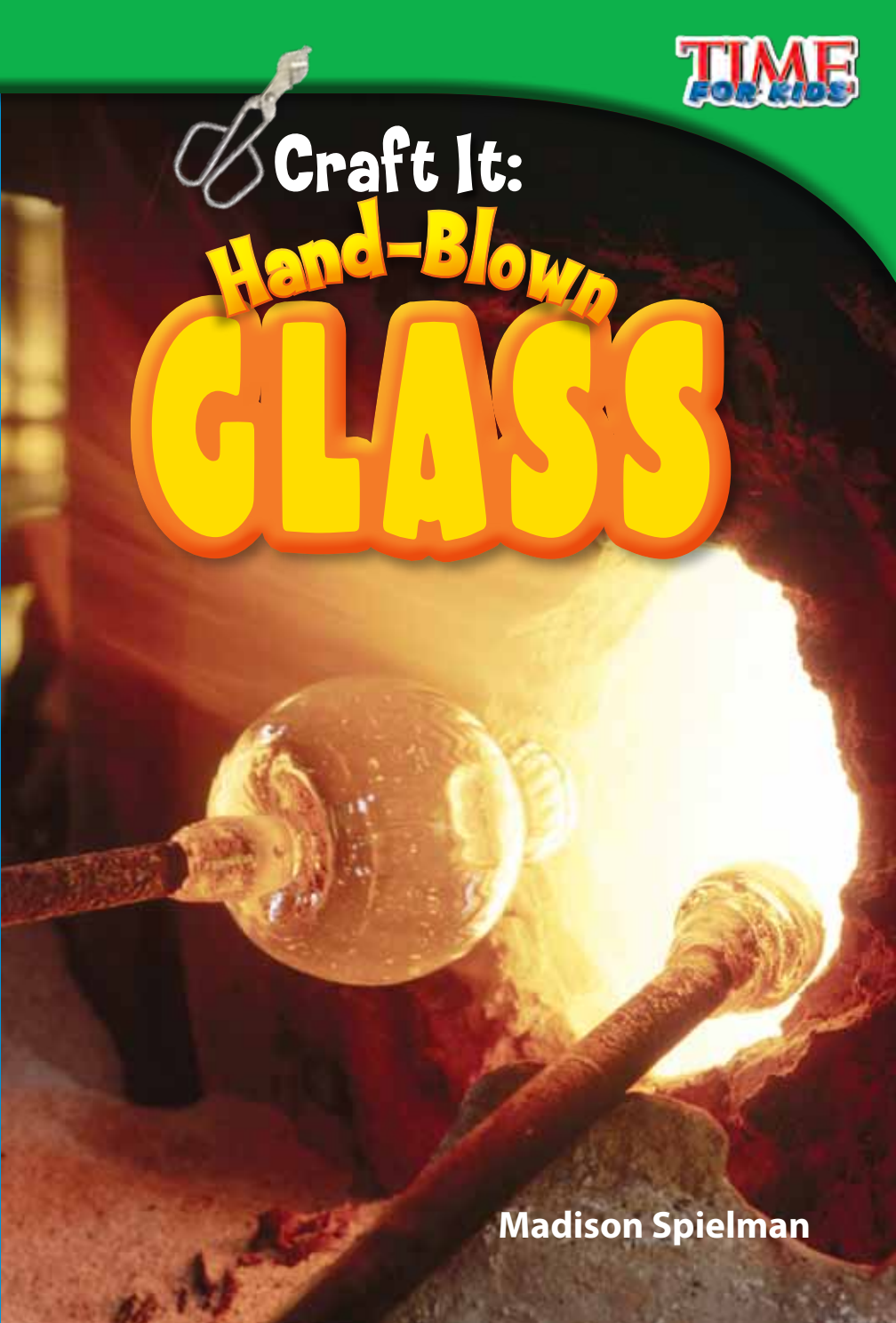

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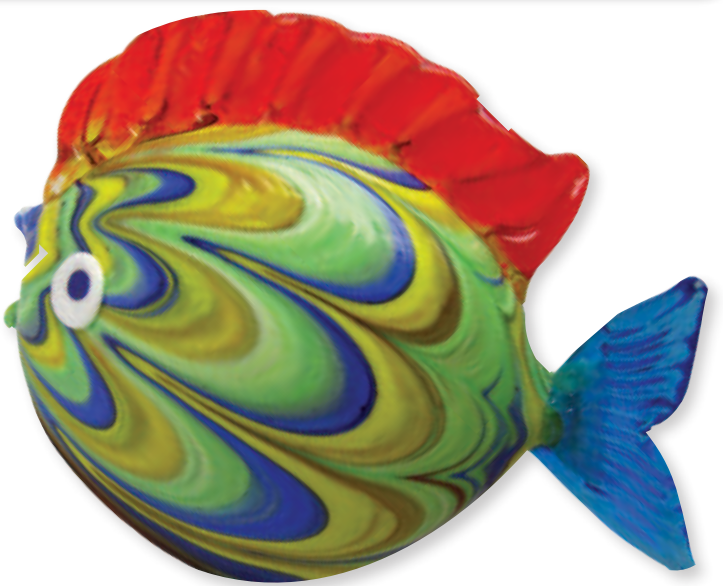
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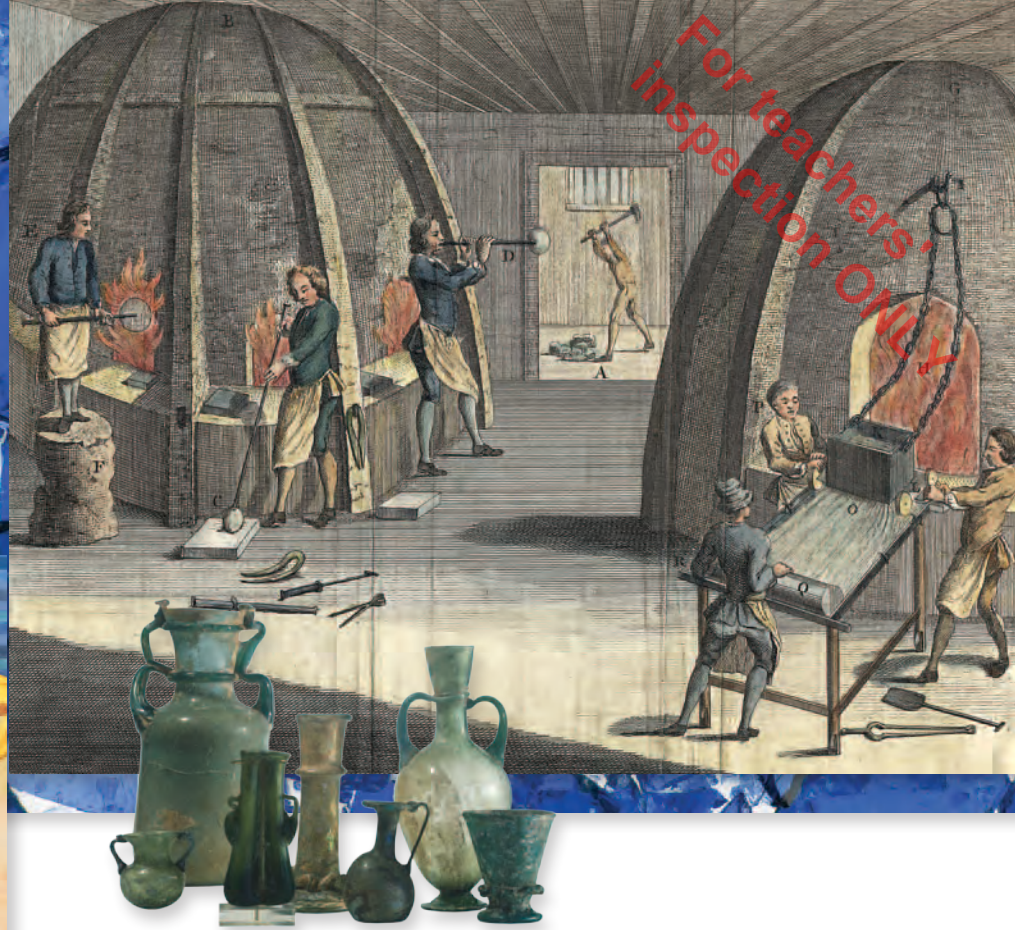


History of Glassblowing

Glassblowing is a very old art. It began about four thousand years ago in Mesopotamia (mehs-uh-puh-TAY-mee-uh).



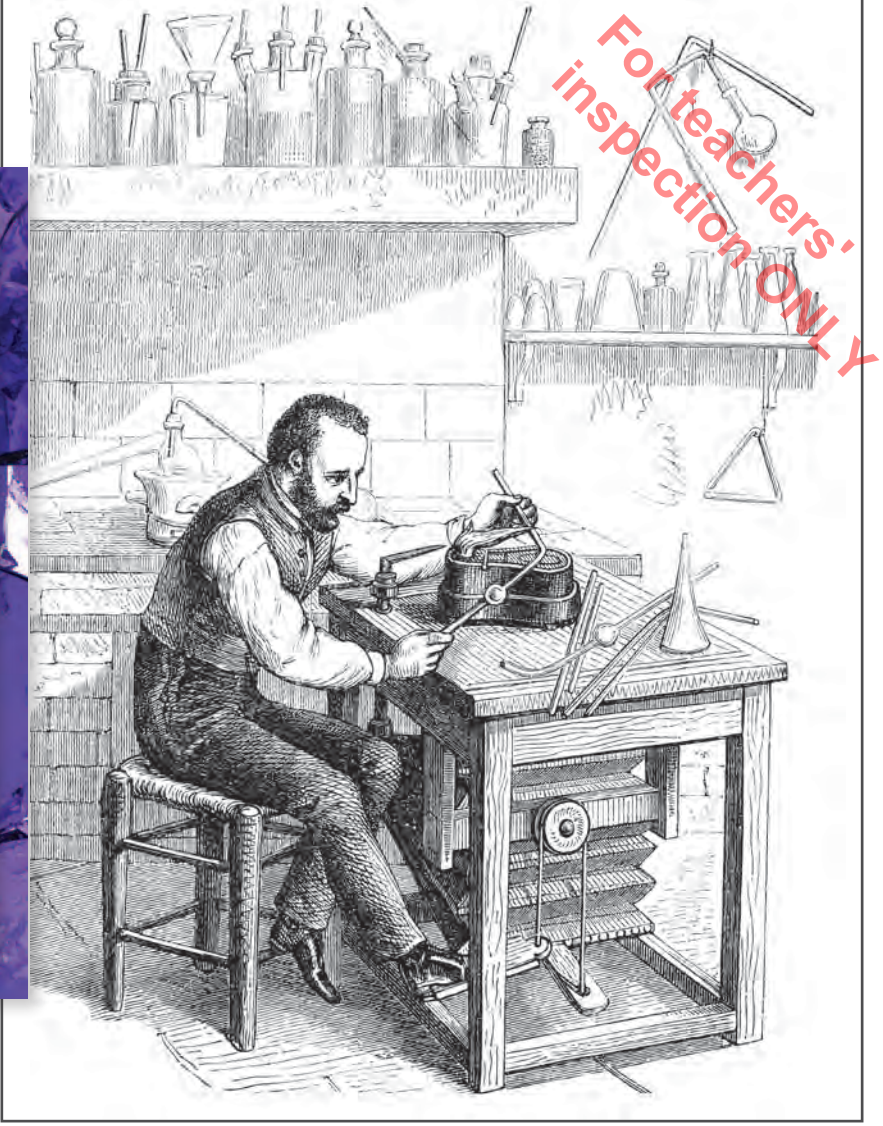
Glassblowing is blowing air into liquid glass to shape it.



The first popular use of glass was in ancient Rome. This is because the first metal pipe for blowing glass was invented in Rome. The Romans were able to make glass easily and skillfully.

A New World of Glass





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Glassblowing was one of the first businesses in the New World. Captain John Smith brought **gaffers** from Europe.

Gaffers are glassblowers. They built their factory near the sandy shores of Jamestown.

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glassblowing—long ago



glassblowing—today

More people knew how to blow glass in the past than people know how to do so today.

But modern gaffers still blow glass in much of the same way gaffers did long ago.