

What is Archaeology?

ARCHAEOLOGY is the study of people in the past through the objects that they made and left behind.

Sometimes archaeologists study animal remains, but only if they are related to human activity.

Many people confuse
archaeology with paleontology.

PALEONTOLOGY is the study of the history of life on Earth as based on plant and animal fossils, including those of dinosaurs. Paleontologists do NOT study people.



Archaeologists don't dig dinosaurs!

Archaeologists love dinosaurs as much as you do, but we don't study them.

(psst...that's paleontology)



Word Search

Can you find these archaeological words in the puzzle?

ARCHAEOLOGY: The study of past peoples and cultures through their sites and artifacts

ARTIFACT: An object made or used by people

EXCAVATION: The scientific removal of artifacts from an archaeological site

LOOTING: The illegal destruction of archaeological sites through the non-scientific removal of artifacts

MIDDEN: Trash pile from the past

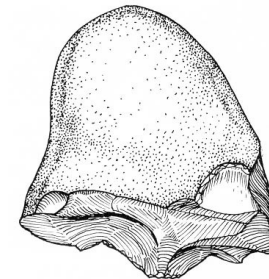
PROJECTILE POINT: The scientific name for “arrowhead”

SDAC: San Diego Archaeological Center where artifacts are preserved

SHERD: A small piece of pottery

STRATIGRAPHY: The study of different layers of soil used to determine how old an artifact is

TROWEL: Special shovel used by archaeologists while excavating



FIELD TRIPS & CLASSROOM OUTREACH

KIDS DIG ARCHAEOLOGY

SAN DIEGO ARCHAEOLOGICAL CENTER



For more information, contact Stephanie Sandoval, Public Archaeology Director
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WHAT TEACHERS HAVE TO SAY:

Simply excellent! ~ Melissa Demidov

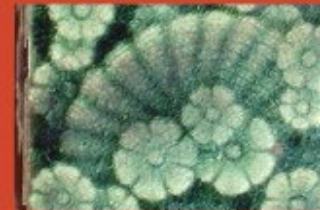
*This was one of the BEST field trip I've taken students on
in 28 years of teaching.* ~ Cheryle Redelings

*Our kids learned a great deal in a short amount of time
and had so much fun in the process!* ~ Julie Ludlum



PROTECT the PAST

Leave artifacts where you find them.



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