

Science of Archaeology

Grades 1-8, Available Year Round

OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

Students will explore the practices of archaeology and how they inform us about Ontario's past and peoples.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

COMPONENTS

1. Grade-specific gallery tour
2. Artifact handling and "what survives?"
3. Cookie excavation
4. Underwater archaeology
5. Context in archaeology
6. Archaeology focused scavenger hunt
7. Pottery

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

For a 4 hour - Full Day version:

Time:	Activity:
10:00	Grade-specific gallery discussion (Incorporated in all programs, this component will be tailored to the grade as well as the focus of the chosen program and introduces students to Ontario's Indigenous people as well as the plants, animals and other resources available over time).
10:30	Artifact handling and what survives? - Includes an introduction to archaeology and how it works. This workshop will teach students about what materials survive over time, and which ones do not. Students will learn about how soil type, animals, rock pressures and the placement of the artifact in the ground all affect what archaeologists find and how they find it.
11:00	Cookie excavation – Students will learn about the excavation process and will practice recording their archaeological observations.

11:30	Lunch
12:00	Underwater archaeology – The goal of this workshop is to introduce students to the practices and challenges of underwater archaeology
12:30	Context in archaeology - The goal of this workshop is to teach students how archeologists know what they know or how they read an archaeological site. Students will also learn about the importance of proper excavation vs. looting and the preservation of information.
1:00	Pottery – Students will make their very own pinch pots and will learn about First Nations pottery and patterns.
1:30 - 2:00	Archaeology focused scavenger hunt – Students will have the opportunity to explore the galley on their own while completing a scavenger hunt centered on archaeology.

(For a 2 hour - Half Day program teachers can choose 4 of the above components. If combining classes, please choose the same components).

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Grade 1: Science - Understanding life systems needs and characteristics of living things

Grade 1: Math - Geometry and spatial sense

Grade 1: Math -Patterning and algebra

Grade 2: Science - Understanding Matter and Energy

Grade 2: Math - Geometry and spatial sense

Grade 2: Math - Patterning and algebra

Grade 2: Social Studies - Heritage and Identity: changing family and community traditions

Grade 2: Social Studies - People and environments: global communities

Grade 3: Science - Understanding Earth and Space systems: soils in the environment

Grade 3: Math - Patterning and algebra

Grade 3: Social Studies - Heritage and Identity: Communities in Canada, 1780-1850

Grade 3: Social Studies - People and Environments: living and working in Ontario

Grade 4: Science - Understanding Earth and Space systems

Grade 4: Social Studies - Heritage and Identity: early societies, 3000 BCE - 1500 CE

Grade 4: Social Studies - Ways of life relationships with the environment

Grade 4: Social Studies - Characteristics of early societies

Grade 5: Social Studies - Heritage and Identity: interactions of Indigenous peoples and Europeans prior to 1713, in what would eventually become Canada

Grade 5: Social Studies - Perspectives on interactions

Grade 5: Social Studies - Understanding context: significant characteristics and interactions

Grade 5: Social Studies - Differing perspectives on social and environmental issues

Grade 6: Science - Understanding life systems: biodiversity

Grade 6: Social Studies - Diversity, inclusiveness, and Canadian identities

Grade 6: Social Studies - The perspectives of diverse communities

Grade 7: Science - Understanding life systems: interactions in the environment

Grade 7: Social Studies - From New France to British North America

Grade 8: Social Studies - CREATING CANADA, 1850–1890