

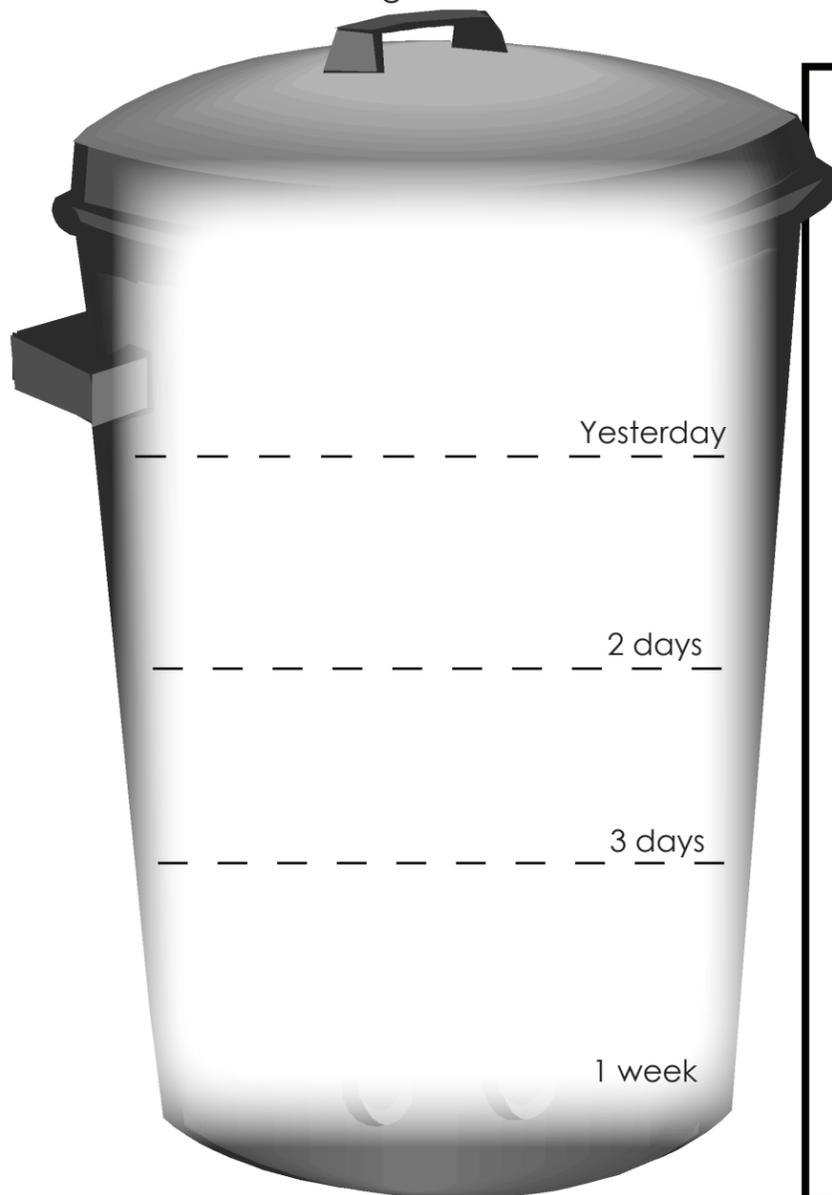
CULTURAL CONNECTIONS



Imagine a time when Alaska had no planes, cars, motorboats, or snowmobiles. Alaska Indians and Eskimos were the first people here. They have lived in Alaska for thousands of years, without many of the things we have today.

We are fortunate to know how people lived because many elders still remember the days without the modern things we have, and they can share that information with us. All over Alaska, people called archeologists study human cultures through the recovery and collection of artifacts that people once left behind.

The activity below will train you to be an archeologist. On the next page you will have an archeological site to look at, and test your skills.



Name: _____

1. Fill in the trash can. Start at the bottom drawing in 1-2 things you have thrown away in the past week, and work your way up.

2. Now, looking at your trash can, answer the questions below.

What did this person eat?

What did this person do for fun?

How long has this trash existed?

One of the many things archeologists study are middens. Middens are like ancient trash piles. The type of trash people had thousands of years ago was very different from the kind we have now, but just like your trash, the midden's tell us a lot about how Alaska's first people lived. Study the archeological site below. Use your skills to answer six questions. Watch for helpful clues!

1. What did these people eat?

2. How did people get and eat their food?

3. What did these people do for fun?

4. How did their lives change over time?

5. If the spearhead deep in the soil is 3000 years old, how long do you think people lived here?

6. Is there anything else you learned about the people who lived here? Share it with a friend or adult!

