National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Archeology Program
Washington Support Office



Teaching with Archeology



Students learn important skills and concepts through archeology. (NPS photo)

Why Teach with Archeology?

Archeology is the study of past peoples through their material remains. Students learn about history and heritage, and the scientific methods used by archeologists to recover and interpret evidence. Archeology offers interdisciplinary practice in the arts, humanitites, and sciences that connects to broader life skills.

NPS Emphasis on Archeology Education

The NPS mission is to "[preserve] unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations."

Our charge is to make archeology accessible for public education. Through park-based and online programs, NPS strives to create engaging, useful, and relevant archeology education materials.

Archeology in Classrooms:

Teacher Portal: Park-based lesson plans and other resources. < www.nps.gov/teachers/index.htm >

Teaching with Historic Places: Placebased lesson plans using primary sources. < www.nps.gov/subjects/teachingwithhistoricplaces/ archeology-feature.htm >

Project Archaeology: A partnership between BLM and Montana State University, curricula to teach concepts and skills through archeology. < www. projectarchaeology.org >

Archeology Education Online:

Junior Ranger: Earn a patch and learn about archeology. < www.nps.gov/kids/jrrangers.cfm >

Archeology For Kids: Explore what archeology is, and what archeologists do. < www.nps.gov/Archeology/PUBLIC/kids/index.htm >

Professional Development for Educators:

Teaching with Historic Places: Templates for a place-based lesson plans < www.nps.gov/subjects/ teachingwithhistoricplaces/guide.htm > and professional development < www.nps.gov/subjects/ teachingwithhistoricplaces/professional-development. htm >

Teaching with Museum Collections: Templates and guidance for object-based lesson plans. < www.nps.gov/museum/tmc/index.htm >

Teacher-Ranger-Teacher: Work in national parks as a ranger/educator. < www.teacherrangerteacher.org >

Project Archaeology: A partnership between BLM and Montana State U, teacher institutes, workshops and biannual meetings. < www.projectarchaeology.org >