



ARCHAEOLOGY

Discover how people of the past lived in the Desert Southwest long before cars, phones and stores. Learn about the techniques, tools and skills that archaeologists use to discover how ancient peoples lived, worked and played. Travel back in time and take an in-depth look at one or more ancient cultures!

ACTIVITIES

Complete at least one activity per step.

Although you can learn about ancient cultures from books and the Internet, the best way to experience how they lived is by visiting one or more of the preserved sites in our area. Plan to take a half day or more to visit and learn, you'll come away with a fascination of how people worked together to not only survive but to thrive in our sometimes harsh environment.

1. Research archaeology sites and organizations in the State of Arizona.
 - a. Visit your local library to see what resources they have on archaeology in Arizona. You may want to look at books, maps, and displays.
 - b. Discover archaeological organizations and businesses in our state by doing some online research. Make a list of upcoming events and nearby sites.
 - c. Ask an Archaeologist or Historian to visit your troop to help you narrow your focus on what you want to learn.
2. Learn about the proper etiquette when visiting sites to help preserve our cultural heritage.
 - a. Ask a Docent, Archaeologist, or Interpreter to go over the proper etiquette.
 - b. Make a poster or brochure to share with your troop about how to behave at an historic or prehistoric site. Include at least five tips or rules.
 - c. Put on a skit for your parents or younger troop about what to do and not do when visiting prehistoric sites. Make it fun by demonstrating the right and wrong way to do things!
3. Discover the culture of one or more ancient people of our state by visiting a Prehistoric site or museum.
 - a. Take a guided tour at an actual prehistoric site and learn about the people's houses, food, ceremonies, dress, jobs, and tools.
 - b. Make a model of an ancient dwelling or village. Include small samples of tools, foods, and clothing.
 - c. Make a powerpoint, scrapbook, video, or play about an ancient culture in Arizona.



4. Learn about the ancient technologies used in the past and the technologies we use now to preserve them.
 - a. Technology isn't just computers and phones! Make a list of tools that prehistoric cultures used to survive in their environment. Include techniques for gathering water, storing food, building shelter, and making clothes.
 - b. Recreate a past utensil, craft, tool, or leisure pastime of the people who lived at the site you visited.
 - c. Learn what artifacts are and how to preserve them. Learn how to clean an artifact. How are artifacts displayed and stored to preserve them?
5. Explore the various careers that help to preserve, interpret, and recreate our past.
 - a. Interview an Archaeologist and find out what education she/he needs and what type of work she/he does.
 - b. Ask a Park Ranger or Docent what type of training they need to perform their job. What do they like most about their career? What is the best way to get started?
 - c. Research career paths for archaeologists at the Society of American Archaeology, National Park Service, and The American Cultural Resources Association.

MORE TO EXPLORE

Here are a few additional activities for those of you who are really interested in this topic.

1. Take part in the activities of Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Month in March each year.
2. Earn a Junior Ranger badge or patch at one or more of our State or National Parks.
3. Take part in an ongoing archaeological dig in your area. Help to preserve the site or artifacts.

NOW THAT I'VE EARNED THIS PATCH

1. I can volunteer at one of our National or State Parks to help preserve and educate the public.
2. I can design an app, game, video, or brochure to teach people about proper etiquette at historic sites.