

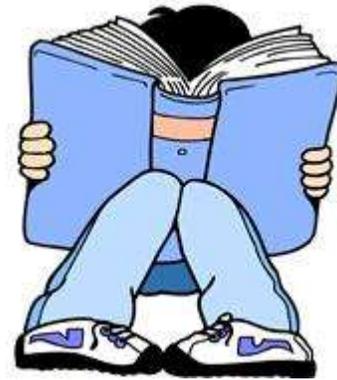
IF I BECOME AN ARCHAEOLOGIST, WILL I REALLY DIG MY JOB?



For starters, the title of this worksheet makes it seem that all Archaeologists dig in the dirt but they don't. There are different fields, or types of work in Archaeology. You probably know that "dig" is a slang word for "like" or "enjoy." If you match up your interests, talents and personality with your career choice, chances are you will really dig your job. So first, let's think about why you might want to become an Archaeologist. Then, let's think about the different fields in Archaeology.

1. You might want to be an archaeologist if you:
 - a. Like the idea of learning about the past
 - b. Like doing scientific experiments
 - c. Like the idea of preserving the past for future generations to learn about and enjoy
 - d. Want to help others understand different cultures

2. Archaeology may be an excellent career for you if you:
 - a. Enjoy reading, studying and looking up information
 - b. Enjoy writing reports, stories, articles, or writing in a journal or a diary
 - c. Enjoy figuring out relationships between people, places and things
 - d. Enjoy history, math and science



ONLINE RESOURCES FOR MORE INFORMATION:



Online Archaeology magazine for children:

<http://www.digonsite.com>

For more information on careers in Archaeology:

<http://www.careerkids.com/careers/archaeologist.html>

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/careers/archaeologist.html>

<http://www.nps.gov/archeology/public/kids/>

<http://www.digonsite.com/drdig/archaeologists/31.html>

Now let's go back to the title of this worksheet. Archaeologists who dig underground are called "Excavators." But there are several other types of work that Archaeologists perform. Listed in the first column are other fields of Archaeology. Listed in the second column are descriptions of the work in these fields. Draw a line to match the field with its description.



Archaeology Field

Description

EXAMPLE: Excavators

a) Study how landforms may have changed over time and how people used them

Historical Archaeologists

b) Talk to people to learn about their culture, how they lived and how artifacts were used

Underwater Archaeologists

→ Archaeologists who dig underground

Environmental Archaeologists

c) Specifically study animal remains

Zoo-archaeologists

d) Study shipwrecks plus submerged buildings and artifacts

Geo-archaeologists

e) Study records and documents and then compare them to artifacts

Oral Historians

f) Study plant and animal remains and how they relate to the inhabitants of a certain area

Curators

g) Take care of and explain the artifacts and other items that are found in museums, laboratories, libraries and other institutions

Hopefully this worksheet has captured your interest in pursuing archaeology as a career. If not, there are a boatload of other careers that are related to preserving of historic people, places and things. Many of these careers have an appeal to artistic and creative types, as well as analytical types. For more information on historic preservation careers, please visit:

http://degreedirectory.org/articles/Jobs_in_Historic_Preservation_Career_and_Salary_FAQs.html

ANSWER KEY: Historical Archaeologists-e; Underwater Archaeologists-d; Environmental Archaeologists-f; Zoo-archaeologists-g; Geo-archaeologists-c; Oral Historians-b; Curators-g