



Theme: Archaeology (Grades K-2)

Post-Visit Activity #1

What We Leave Behind

Overview:

After visiting the Springs Preserve, students will have discovered the importance of artifacts and the role of archaeologists in telling the story of those who came before us. Putting this knowledge to use, students will select an item that they believe would accurately represent themselves to archaeologists in the future.

Objectives:

- Students will listen to a story about discovering the past.
- Students will learn about archaeologists.
- Students will create their own story about themselves.
- Students will understand how objects from the past tell a story.

Materials:

- *Right Here on This Spot* by Sharon Hart Addy

Activity:

1. Read *Right Here on This Spot* by Sharon Hart Addy to the class.
2. Ask the students to recall key elements of the story.
3. Explain how the objects (artifacts) that are left behind tell a story of the people that once used them.
4. Focus on the three major artifacts left behind in the story: the bone, arrowheads, and the blue button.
5. Explain to the students that they will bring in an object that represents them (and a story to go along with the "artifact" unless you choose to have the class make up a story). The "artifact" should be able to tell a story about the student to an archeologist 100 years from now. For example a student could bring in a photo, a book, or they may choose to draw something that represents who they are or what they like.
6. Remind students that they are to bring their "artifact" into class and they might be leaving it in class for a time capsule so they may choose to bring in a drawing of their "artifact."
7. Have the students present their "artifact" (either brought in or drawn) with a story or have the "young archaeologists" (the class) in the classroom create a story about the artifact.

8. The teacher may choose to create a time capsule that can be re-visited at the end of the year. Place the "artifacts" and pictures into a shoebox or plastic bin to be opened at the end of the school year.

Discussion:

What did you learn about the artifacts in this story? Why did you choose the object you chose to represent who you are? Do you think archaeologists in the future will be able to tell a story about you based on your "artifact"?

Suggested Reading:

1. ***And It Is Still That Way, Legends Told by Arizona Indian Children*** by Byrd Baylor. A collection of traditional tales from the Indians of Arizona, arranged in the categories "Why Animals Are the Way They Are," "Why Our World Is Like It Is," "Great Troubles and Great Heroes," "People Can Turn Into Anything," "Brother Coyote," and "There Is Magic All Around Us."
2. ***Dancing Teepees; Some Poems of American Indian Youth*** by Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve. Illustrated by Stephen Gammell. A collection of Sneve's verses, tribal songs and prayers and contemporary poets' works. Includes many tribes, such as Sioux, Dakota, Zuni, Navajo and others.
3. ***Ma'ii and Cousin Horned Toad; A Traditional Navajo Story*** by Shonto Begay. Illus. by Shoto Begay. A lazy, conniving coyote habitually takes advantage of his animal cousins until his cousin, Horned Toad, teaches him a lesson.
4. ***Motel of Mysteries*** by David Macaulay. Archeologists in the year 4022 dig up an old hotel and have their own interpretation about simple objects of our everyday life: toilets, toilet seats, etc.
5. ***Pima Indian Legends*** by Anna Moore Shaw. A collection of twenty-four stories which the author gathered from her relatives in the 1930's. Includes Pima, Yuma, and Apache. Good read aloud tales for children.
6. ***Right Here on This Spot*** by Sharon Hart Addy. Illus. by John Clapp. A boy takes a look back at what happened at his grandfather's farm from the Native Americans, Early Settlers, and the Civil War.
7. ***Singing America; Poems that Define a Nation*** by Philip Neal. Ill. by Michael McCurdy. Collection of poems with spirituals, anthems, and songs of the Pueblo and Sioux Indians.
8. ***That Tricky Coyote!*** by Gretchen Mayo. Tales from various tribes including Apache, Zuni, and Ute.
9. ***The Magic of Spider Woman*** by Lois Duncan. Illus. by Shonto Begay. Tells the Navajo tale of how a stubborn girl learns from the Spider Woman how to keep life in balance by respecting its boundaries.
10. ***The People; Indians of the American Southwest*** by Stephen Trimble. Interviews with people in fifty reservation communities and cities in the Southwest.