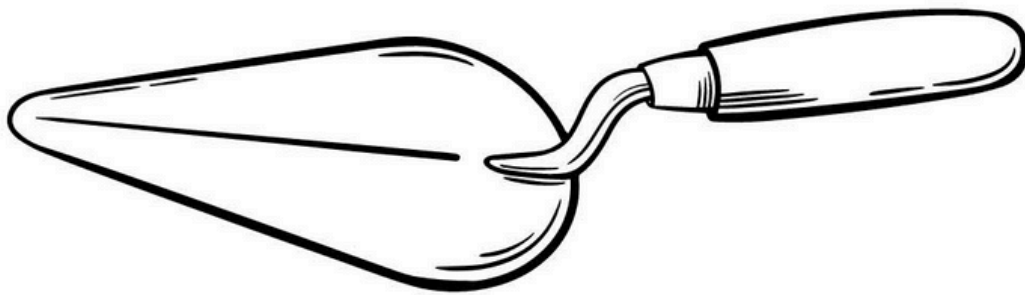




SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY

# DISCOVER ARCHAEOLOGY ACTIVITY BOOKLET

## 2024



## HOW TO USE THIS BOOKLET

In order to view and complete all the activities here, you'll need to open this document using Adobe Acrobat. It will not work properly in a web browser. You can download Adobe Acrobat Reader for free if you do not already have it on your computer. Some activities can be done digitally, but others you may need to print. If you complete any of the activities in this booklet, you can send it to the Society for American Archaeology for a small prize, either an embroidered patch from 2023 or new 2024 stickers, both pictured on the next page and available while supplies last. Please email the document to [public\\_edu@saa.org](mailto:public_edu@saa.org) (sending the digital file, a scan, or a picture).

There is no deadline for completing the activities, and stickers/patches will be sent as long as supplies last. Your sticker or patch will be mailed to you at the address you provide here:

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Sticker or Patch?**

### Credits

This booklet was created by Krista Bueno, Anna Carter, Katherine Lawrence, Bernard Means, Martie Surasky, Zoe Tolen, and Sarah Bowen for the Society for American Archaeology in 2024. For other K-12 activities and resources, visit [www.saa.org/activities](http://www.saa.org/activities). For any questions, please contact [public\\_edu@saa.org](mailto:public_edu@saa.org).

Donors to the SAA Public Education Endowment made this activity booklet, the stickers and patches possible. Thank you to our generous supporters!

**The activities towards the end of the booklet are meant for older children.**



This year's **sticker** features the state tree of Louisiana, the cypress, and the skyline of New Orleans, where the Society for American Archaeology held our 89th annual meeting.



The 2023 embroidered **patch** is based on a photo taken of a tree at Mount Hood in Oregon, with design elements added in consultation with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. The name for Mount Hood in the Upper Chinook language is Wakakhan. The image was used with permission from Portland-based photographer, Harley Cowan. Cowan's work focuses on documenting shared heritage. The Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, David Harrelson, advocates for the Indigenous artform of the Chinook peoples, on whose land the SAA gathered for our 2023 annual meeting in Portland, Oregon.

## DISCOVER SOIL STRATIGRAPHY

When archaeologists excavate a site, they pay close attention to soil stratigraphy. Stratigraphy is the study of material layers that have formed over time. These layers are called strata and can be formed from rocks and organic material such as leaves, dirt, or sand. Artifacts left behind by humans can also be in these strata layers, and that helps archaeologists determine what time period these artifacts came from.

Create your own soil stratigraphy with a jar!

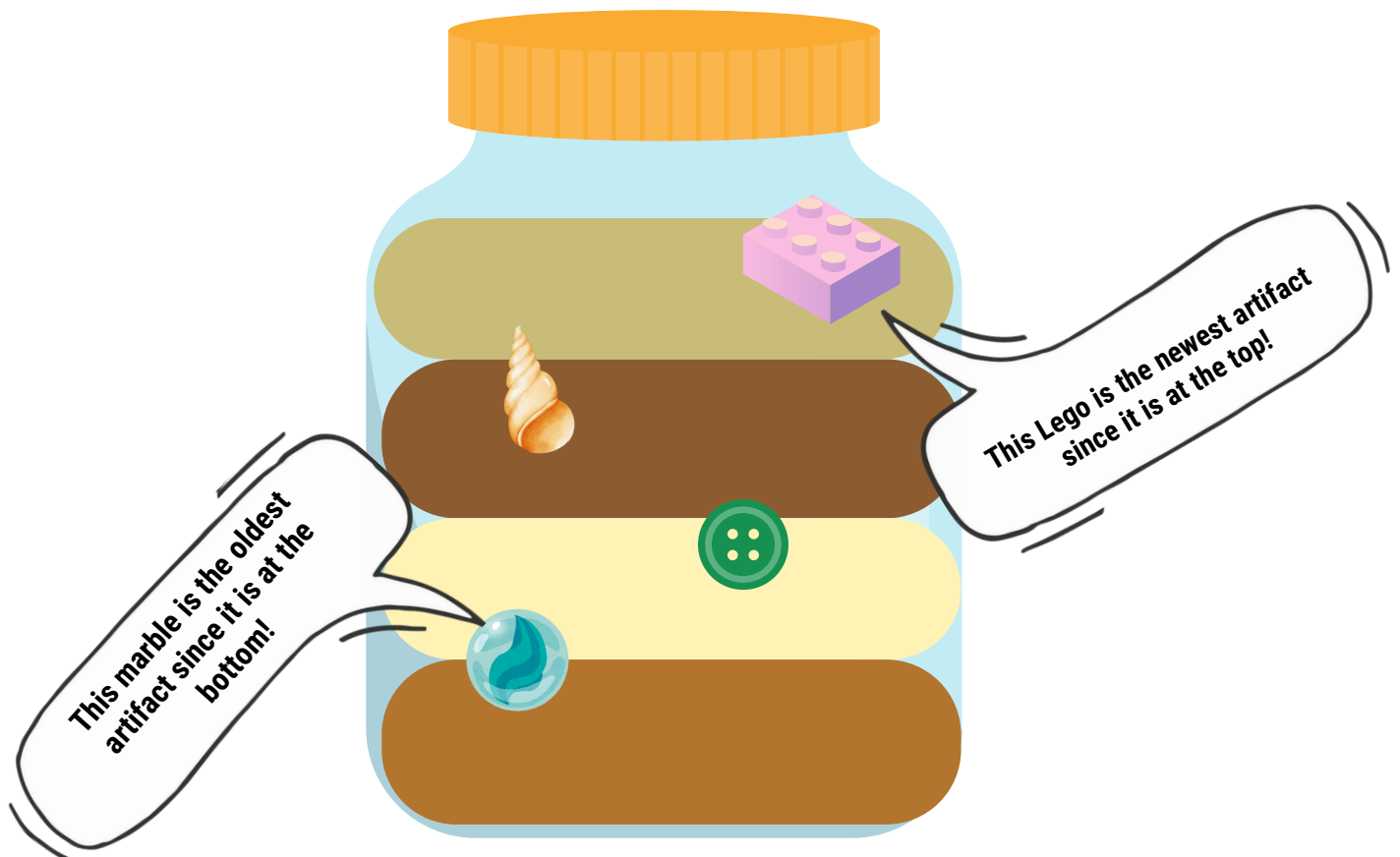
Step 1: Get a glass jar or any clear container.

Step 2: Gather different materials such as dirt, sand, rice, pebbles, or flour to make your strata.

Step 3. Gather things that could be artifacts such as buttons, beads, marbles, seashells, or little toy pieces (Barbie shoes, Legos, etc.).

Step 4. Place 1 layer of your strata on the bottom of your container, then place a couple artifacts close to the sides of the jar. Repeat this step until the jar is full.

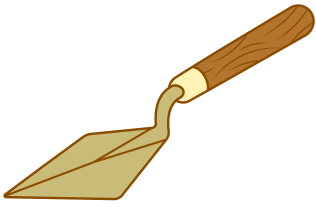
Step 5. Look to see if you can see your artifacts among the different layers. If your Lego is toward the bottom of the jar, this tells you that it is older than a button in a different layer toward the top of your jar.



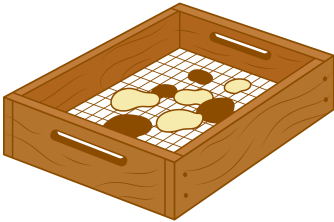
# DISCOVER ARCHAEOLOGY TOOLS

Ages  
5+

Archaeologists use many tools to dig and record while they are excavating archaeology sites. Match the tools to their name by drawing a line.



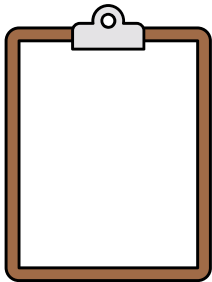
**CLIPBOARD**



**TROWEL**



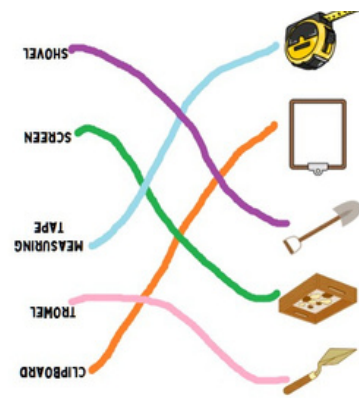
**MEASURING  
TAPE**



**SCREEN**



**SHOVEL**





# DISCOVER ARTIFACT ILLUSTRATION

Ages  
5+

Archaeologists often draw the artifacts they find; this helps them to interpret and identify the artifact.

## Draw a Colombian Figurine Head!

Across ancient cultures there have been many sculptures and carvings of people. Some were made as art, religious figures, and as history!

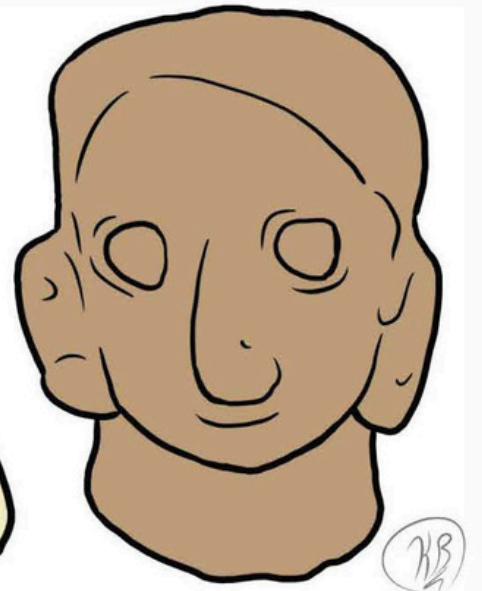
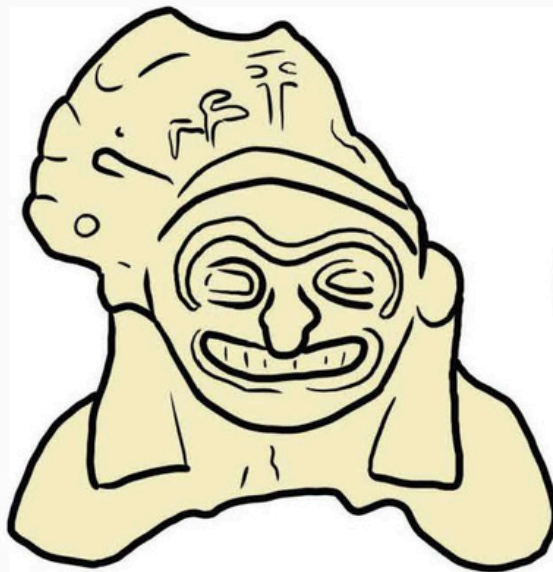
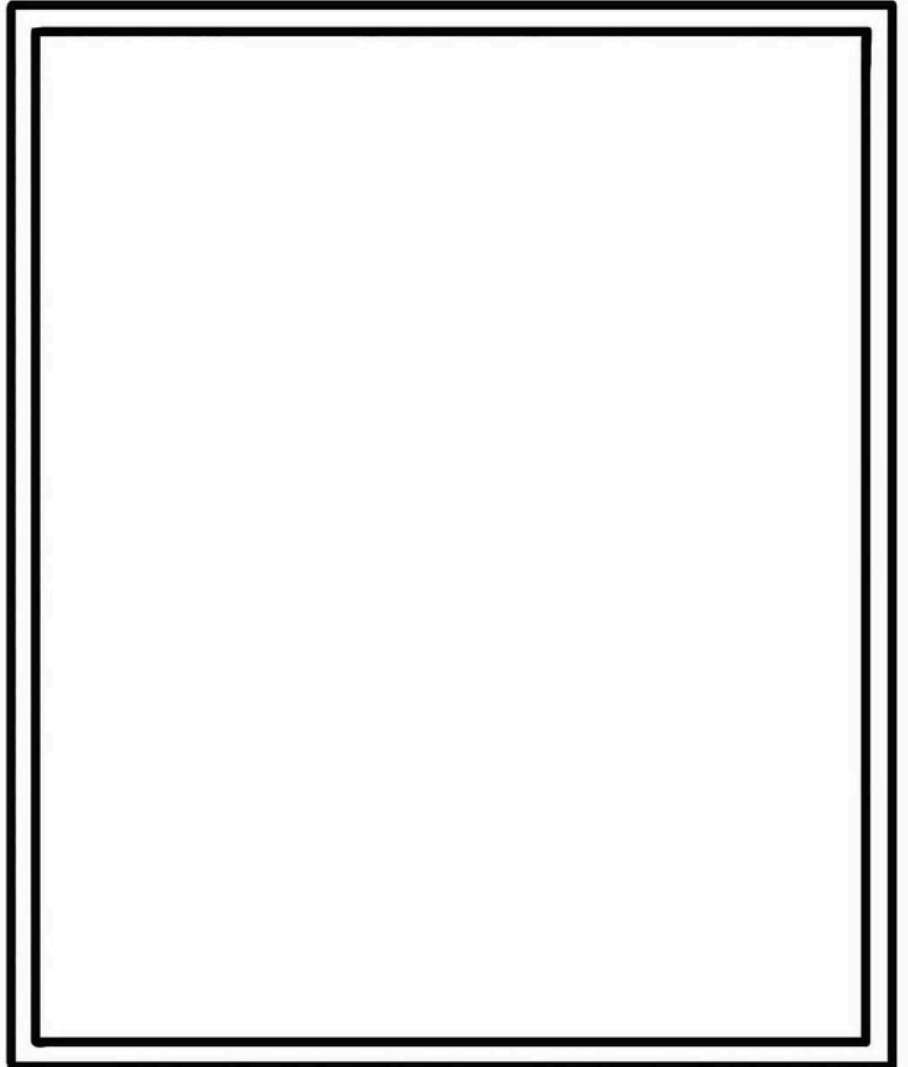
Below are 3 examples of figurine heads from Colombia. You can look at them for ideas as you draw your own figurine head!

Step 1: Draw a head in the box to the right

Step 2: Draw the eyes, nose, and

Step 3: Draw the ears

Step 4: Does your figurine have hair? Earrings? Eyebrows? A hat? Draw those!



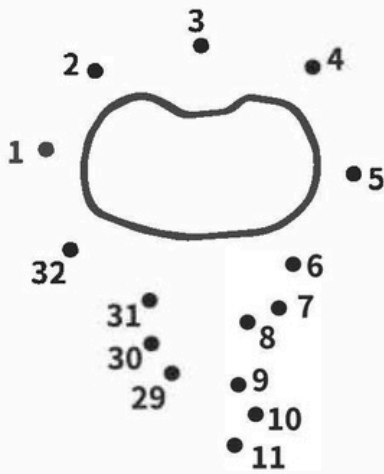
# DISCOVER ARTIFACT ILLUSTRATION

Ages  
6+

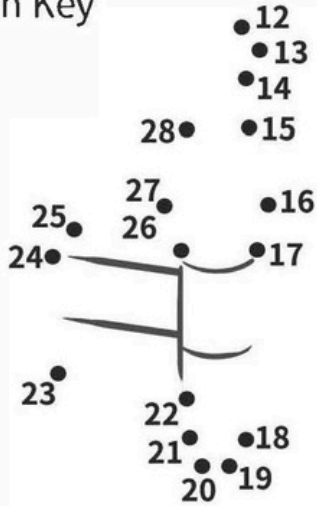
These keys were found during excavations at Fort Germanna in Locust Grove, Virginia, in the 1930s and 1970s.

## Germanna Keys Connect-The-Dots

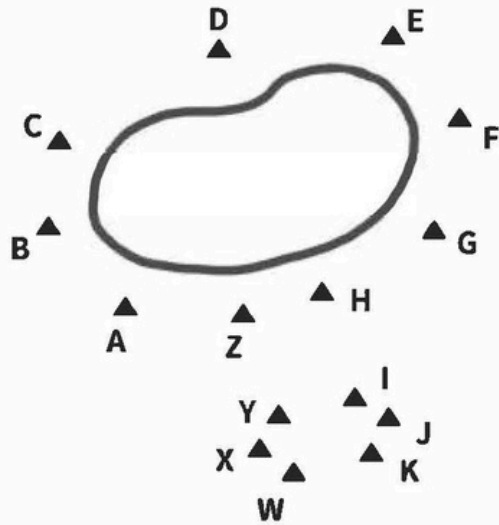
Connect the dots in order to find 3 keys!  
Hint: only connect dots to each other that are the same shape!



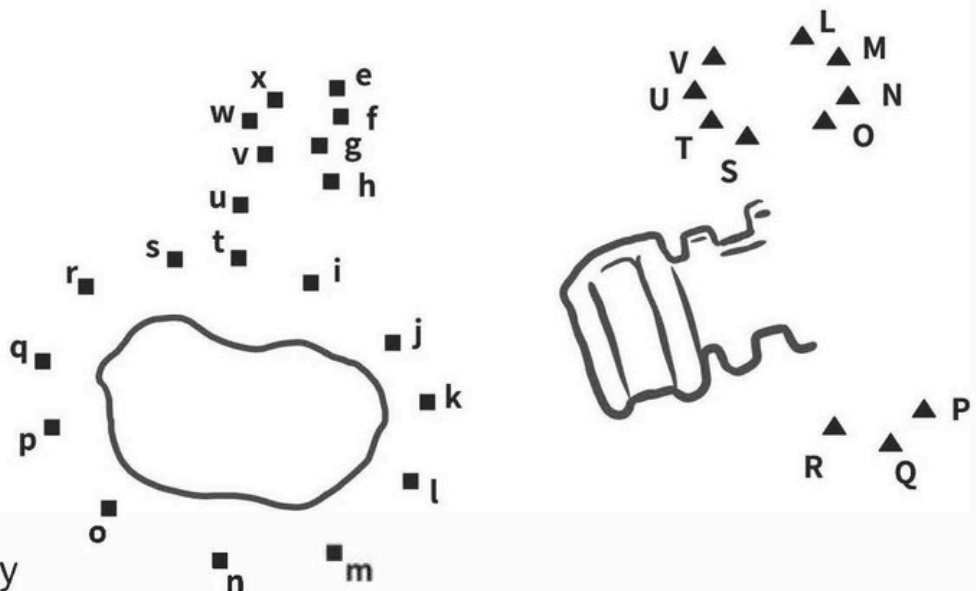
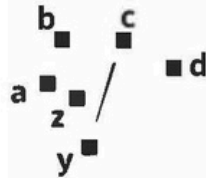
Iron Key



Skeleton Key

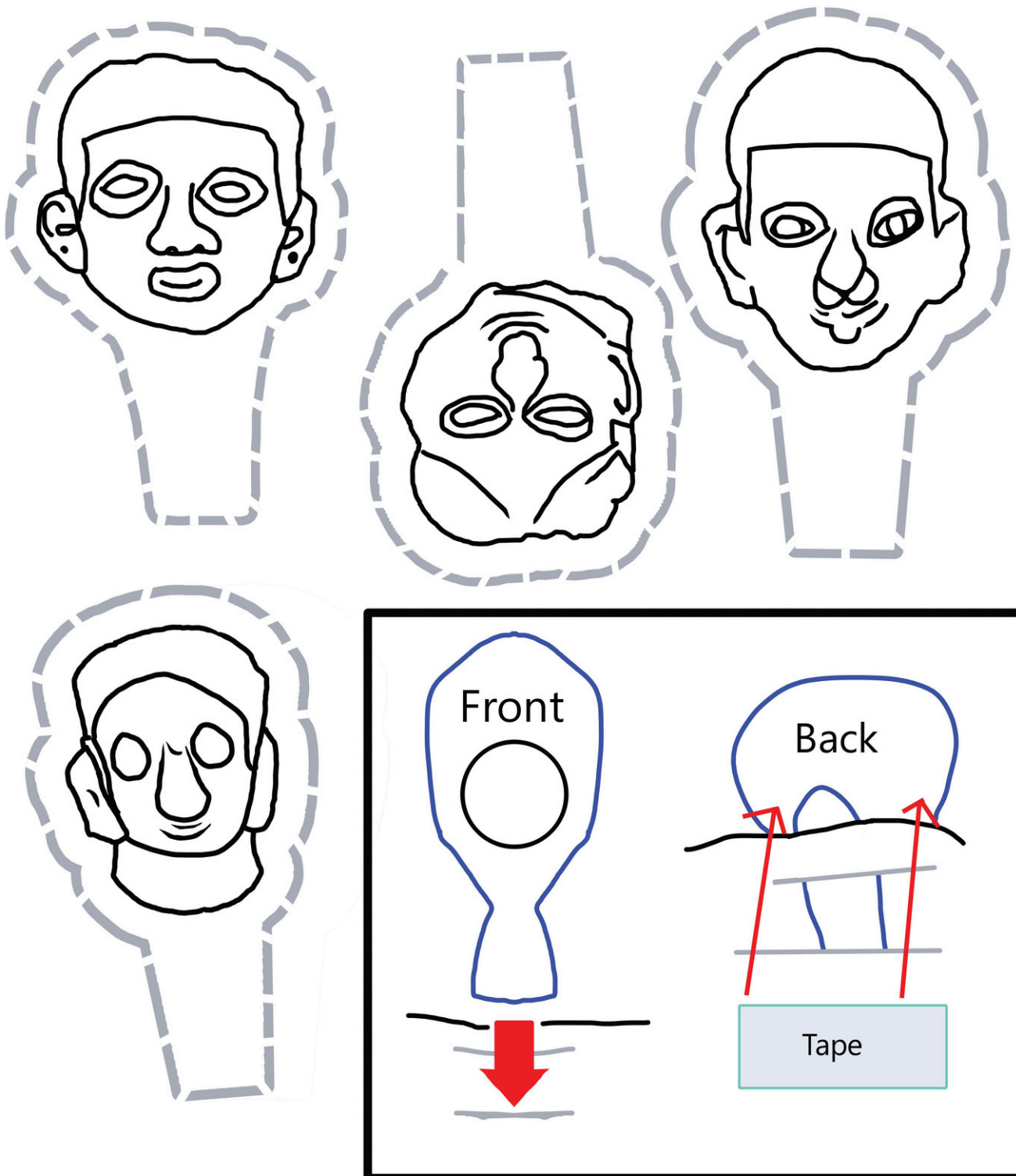


Salubria Key



## Colombian statue dolls

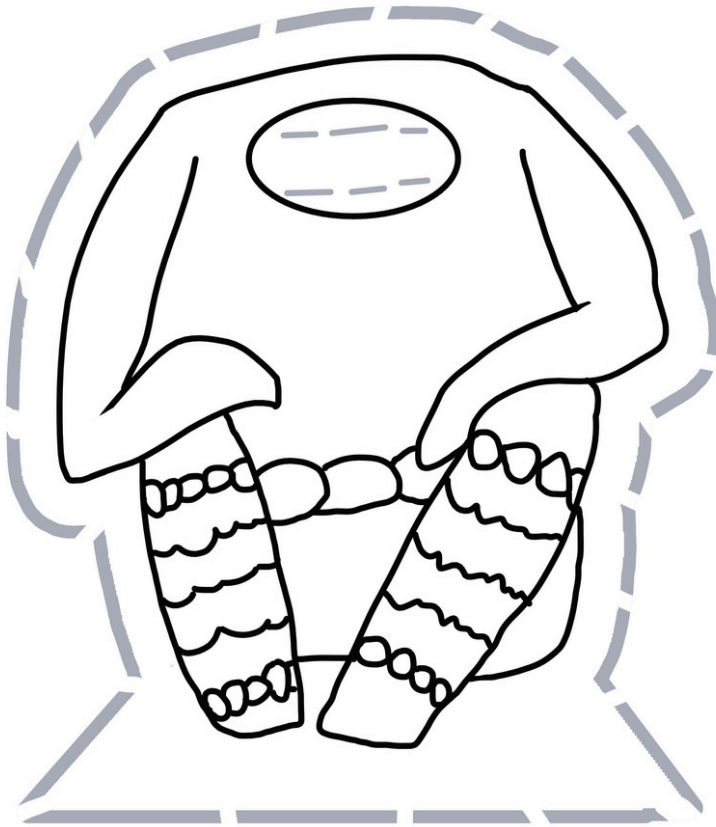
Make your own dolls by coloring in each piece, cutting out the dotted lines (get an adult to help!) and then put head on a body by tucking the tab inside slots (use tape or glue to stick it on for a long time!)



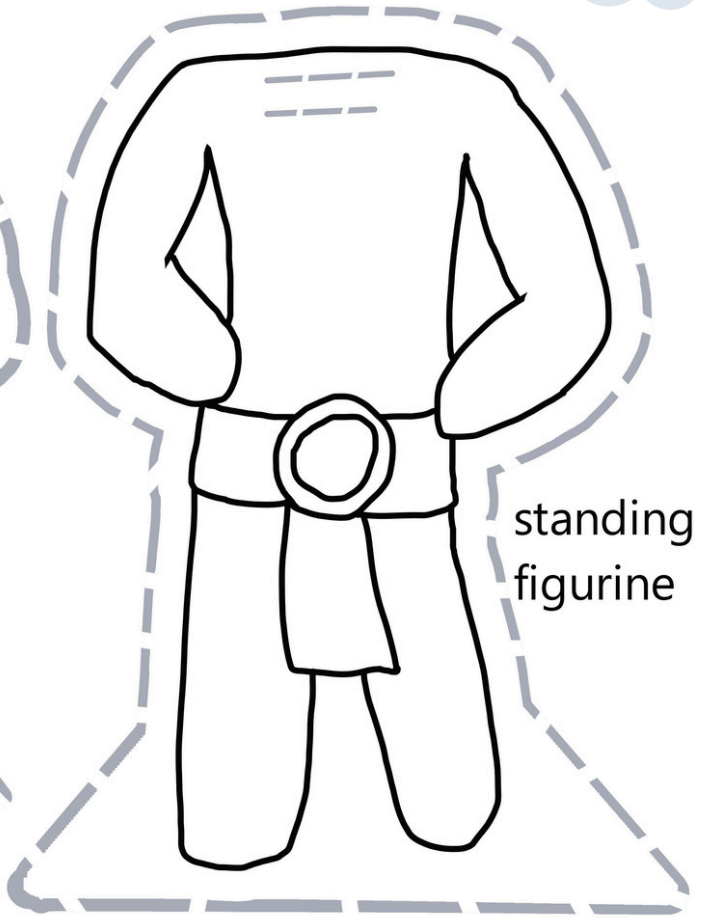


# DISCOVER YOUR OWN ARTIFACT MODEL

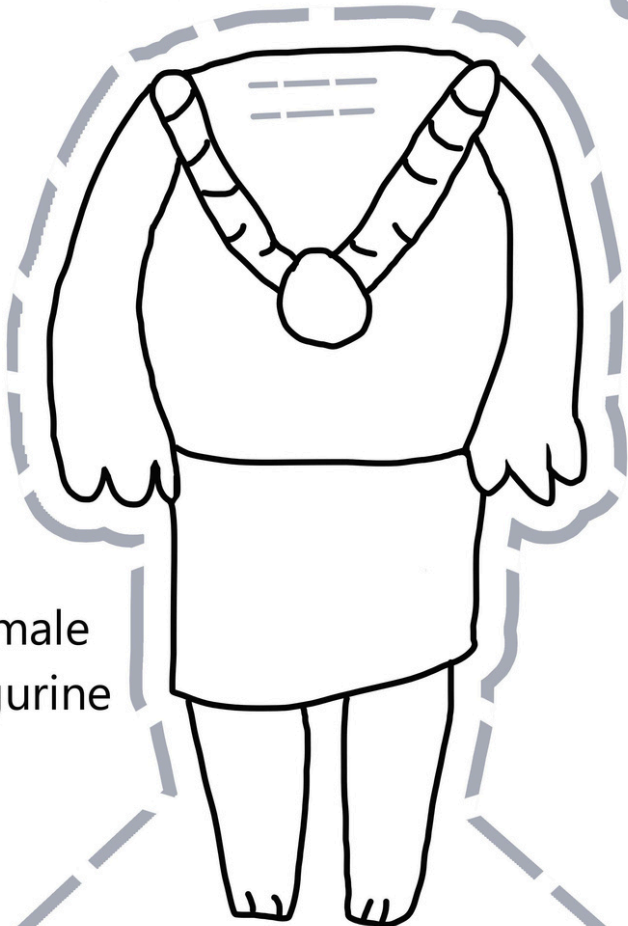
Ages  
7+



sitting figure



standing  
figurine



female  
figurine



vessel figurine

# DISCOVER ZOOARCHAEOLOGY

Ages  
7+

Zooarchaeologists study animal remains at dig sites. Bones from different species of animals can look similar at first. Archaeologists use collections of bones to help them compare and identify the species. Comparative collections are like libraries of bones that have already been identified. Animal remains give us information, like what people hunted and ate. Their bones can give us clues about the culture and human relationships with animals.

**Match the bones to the correct animal!**



# DISCOVER ARCHAEOLOGY CAREERS

Archaeologists work in a variety of different settings, and many do more than just “dig.” Most archaeologists work in Cultural Resource Management (CRM), but some work for government agencies, colleges, or museums. Search for the names of different types of places archaeologists may work. Words may be backward or diagonal.

## Archaeology Careers

U I P N N S T C M I R E S A I C B H  
 A L I U N A C F E S I O L M R N L I  
 S S R C R L T L S B F M N E E I R S  
 O E C S I R F I C S O C N D C I T T  
 N I N K P S L I O I N R S S S K F O  
 S C D L S U S O U N T E C N C I I R  
 T N M I E O R P N K A O S K K C I I  
 U E I N I C A S E G E L L O C U N C  
 N G C S C K A S I M P E P E S I T S  
 I A I I N S T L S S A A G A L R S I  
 V L T B E N S C A K G C L A R E C T  
 E A S R G U M O C E I G R I N K R E  
 R R R V A G U U R I L R N U S S S S  
 S E E A L I S E M T S A O T E N T I  
 I D E C A E E I F B E U S G H A R A  
 T E G N B I U A I T S D I E S L E O  
 I F E E I H M S R S H R N N S B I U  
 E A N R R E S S M E O I G F E N V I  
 S N C A T M R E S S U L E M N R S O  
 N R E R R B R I S T S R I E S G N E

CRM Firms  
Tribal Agencies

Museums  
Historic Sites

National Parks  
Federal Agencies

Colleges  
Universities

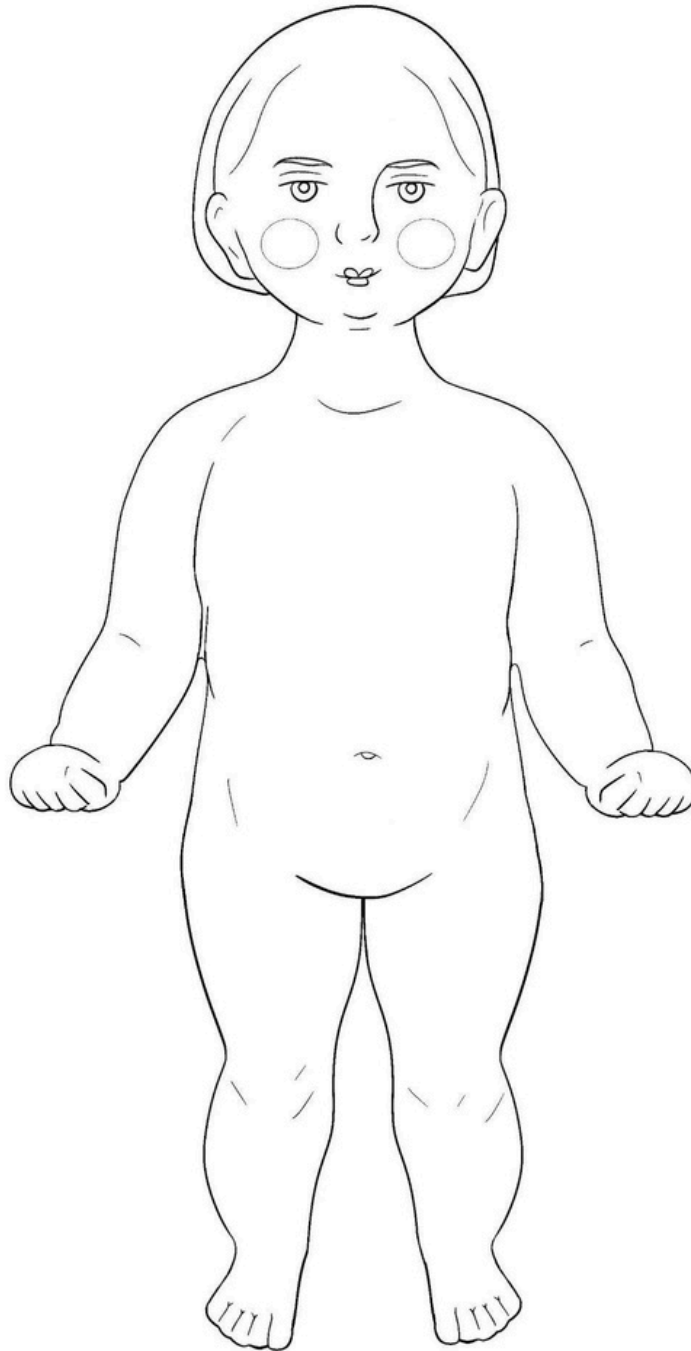
# DISCOVER PORCELAIN DOLLS: COLORING

Ages  
11-15

\* Younger children may find the details from the comic on the next page disturbing.

## Color the "Frozen Charlotte" Doll

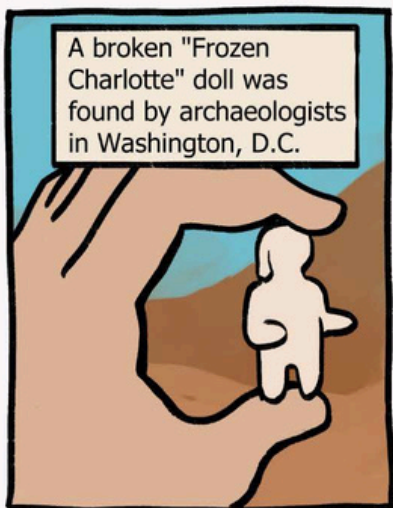
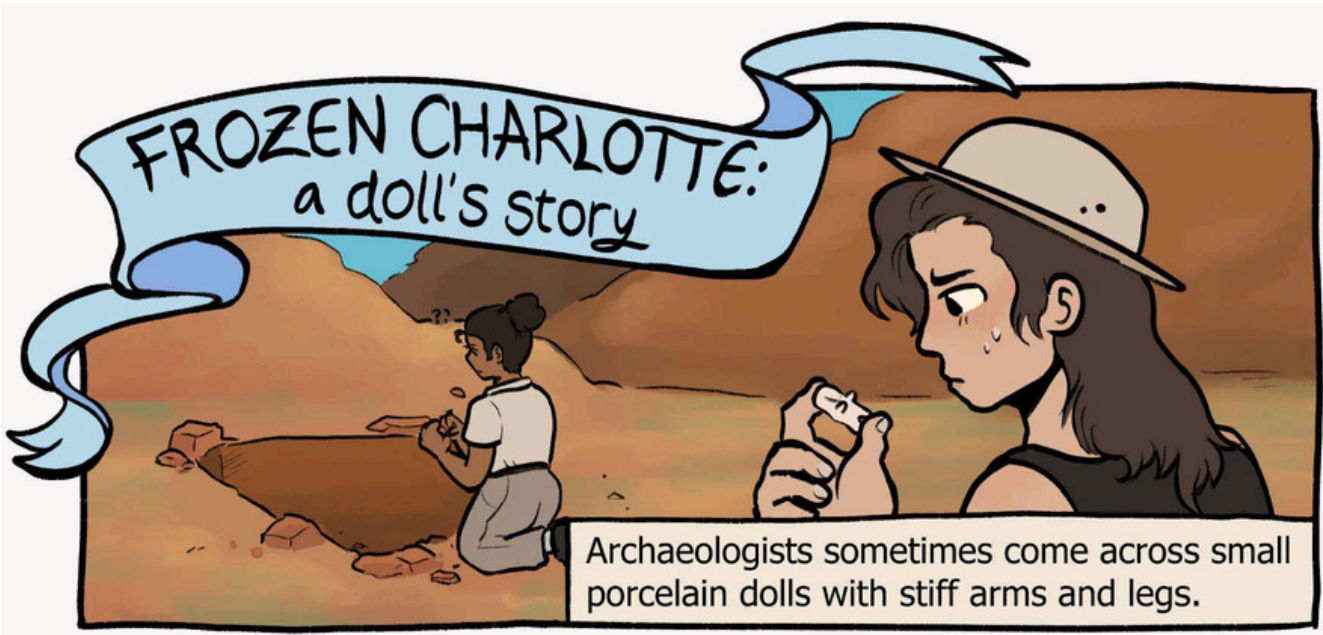
Similar to one found archaeologically in Washington, D.C.  
See Comic on the Next Page



Anna Carter



**\* Younger children may find details from the comic disturbing.**



MS2024



# DISCOVER ARCHAEOLOGY CAREERS

Ages  
11-15

Visit [saa.org](http://saa.org) and answer the questions below to learn about what archaeologists do and what kind of education you need to become an archaeologist.

**DO ALL ARCHAEOLOGISTS TRAVEL?**

**WHERE DO ARCHAEOLOGISTS PUBLISH THEIR RESEARCH?**

**HOW MANY YEARS OF EDUCATION DO ARCHAEOLOGISTS NEED?**

**WHAT ARE THE FOUR SUBFIELDS OF ANTHROPOLOGY?**

**TRUE OR FALSE: YOU NEED TO COMPLETE A FIELD SCHOOL TO BE EMPLOYED AS AN ARCHAEOLOGIST?**

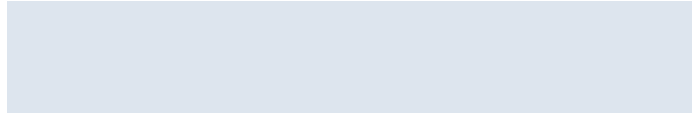
# DISCOVER LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Ages  
11-15

Every state has archaeological sites, archaeologists, and a State Historic Preservation Officer. Let's do some research on your state!

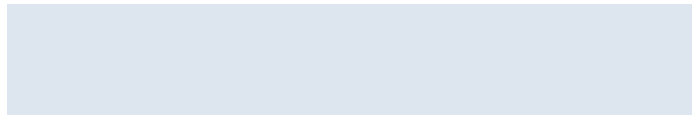
## WHO IS YOUR STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST?

Visit <https://www.state-archaeologists.us/find-your-state-archaeologist> to find out!



## WHO IS YOUR STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER?

Visit <https://ncshpo.org/directory/> to find out!



## WHAT ARE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICERS RESPONSIBLE FOR?

Visit <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservationfund/state-historic-preservation-office-program.htm> to find out!

