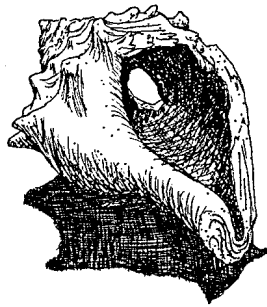
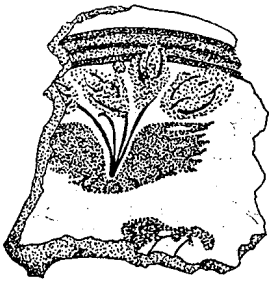


Lesson Plan**TOOLS AND UTENSILS****How Is This Used?****Overview**

By observing the form and shapes of tools from the past, students make predictions about tool functions based on contemporary examples.

Objectives/Skills

Students will

- demonstrate an awareness of how function and material influence the structure, shape, and appearance of a tool
- observe, examine, draw, hypothesize, draw parallels, make comparisons, write paragraphs

Age Level

Grades 5 through 8

Materials

- photographs or drawings of artifacts of stone, bone, and shell
- tools and utensils from home or school
- drawing or grid paper
- pencils

Background

Native Americans used stone, bone, wood, and shell to make tools and

utensils. The individual materials, their natural shapes, and their structure determined how they would be used. Broken shells were used as hoes, scoops, scrapers, and cups. Stone was used to make spear and arrow points, knives, scrapers, hammers, net weights, and many other implements. Sometimes one of these resources was used in the fabrication of a tool of another material—for example, antler tips were used as pressure flaking instruments in the making of stone projectile points.

Procedure

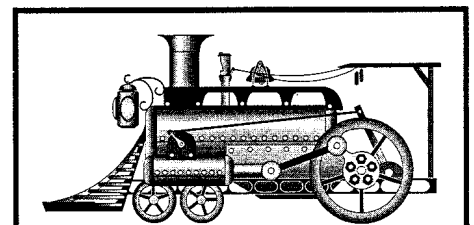
1. Ask students to select an artifact illustration to redraw. Encourage them to use a grid system so that proportions will be accurate.
2. Ask students to consider the purpose for which the tool might have been used based on its shape, structure, and the material of which it is made.
3. From the tools and utensils available, allow students to select and draw a contemporary tool that is used in the same way.
4. Lead students in a discussion about the similarities and differences among artifacts in the illustrations and the present-day tools, and discuss in particular the commonalities among their functions.

Extensions

- Reverse the procedure. Ask students to select a present-day tool to draw and an (illustrated) artifact that would perform a similar function.
- Ask students to write a paragraph explaining factors considered in making choices to match up artifacts with a tool or utensil.

This lesson has been adapted from Clues From The Past, edited by Pam Wheat and Brenda Whorton, published in cooperation with the Texas Archaeological Society by Hendrick-Long Publishing Co., P.O. Box 12311, Dallas, TX 75225-1123. Illustrations by Jeff Allen, Museum of Florida History.

For information, contact Pam Wheat at Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, 23390 County Road K, Cortez, CO 81321; (303) 565-8975. Contact Brenda Whorton at 3620 Haynie, Dallas, TX 75205; (214) 368-8290.



The Education Station invites examples of lesson plans and activity ideas, comments about useful resources, and articles about unique approaches to teaching archaeology. Illustrations and black and white photos are welcomed. Send material to Cathy MacDonald, Social Sciences Department, Father Leo Austin Secondary School, 570 Walsh Drive, Port Perry, Ontario, Canada L9L 1K9.