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## Archeology Dig for Grades 3 to 5

**Description:** Participants use basic archeological techniques to unearth artifacts from our model Tequesta kitchen midden.

**Duration:** 1 hour

**Maximum Number of Participants:** 30

**Summary:** Walk to site. Fifteen to twenty minute introduction to Native American history at the Deering Estate and the science of archeology. Divide into groups of two to three participants per plot. Excavate site with hand trowels and brushes. Sort and identify “Tequesta” artifacts of shell, bone, and pottery. Discuss findings. Return to main grounds.

**Objectives:** The purpose of this activity is to introduce students to the early history of South Florida and the Tequesta people through the discipline of archeology. At the end of this exercise, students will know

- The definitions of key words relating to archeology
- The basic process of collecting artifacts for scientific research
- That scientific research is a collaborative effort
- Details about the Tequestan way of life

**Benchmarks:** SS.A.1.2, SS.A.2.2, SS.A.6.2, SS.B.2.2, SC.H.1.2, LA.A.2.2

**Vocabulary:** ancient, archeology, artifact, celt, columella, culture, examine, excavate, learn, people, science, Tequesta/Tekesta

**Additional Resources:**

<http://dhr.dos.state.fl.us/kids/>

<http://library.thinkquest.org/J001645/>

<http://www.usd.edu/anth/midarch/arch.htm>

<http://www.nps.gov/grsa/resources/curriculum/mid/archeology/act.htm>