



Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center
1725 State Street
La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601
Phone: 608-785-6473
Web site: <http://www.uwlax.edu/mvac/>

This lesson was created by a teacher participating in a Wisconsin ESEA Improving Teacher Quality grant entitled Inquiry Based Technology-Mediated Teacher Professional Development and Application.

- Title: Going on a Dig
- Submitted by: Barbara Moorhead
- Grade Level: 4 & 5
- Subjects: Art, Social Studies
- Objectives:
1. The students will be introduced and be given an overview of archaeology and what an archaeologist does.
 2. The students will become aware and familiar with the process involved in an archaeology excavation.
 3. The students will become familiar with archaeology terms.
 4. The students will each illustrate a different part of the process of archaeological excavation.
 5. The illustrations will be put together to create an accordion style book on Going On A Dig.
- WI Standards: -Art A.4.1, C.4.1, C.4.6, C.4.7, D.4.5
-Social Studies A.4.4
- Duration: Two 60 minute classes
- Materials/Supplies: -Book Archaeologists Dig For Clues by Kate Duke
-9 x 12 practice paper
-Pencils
-Thin black markers
-Colored pencils
-9 x 12 white drawing paper
-Clear tape to connect pages
-9 x 12 construction paper for cover
- Vocabulary: Archaeology terms
- Background: Prior knowledge from participating in an archaeological field experience.

Or background knowledge of what happens on a excavation.

- Setting the Stage: The students will take a pretest on what happens on an archaeology dig and what makes a good drawing/illustration.
- Procedure:
1. The teacher will ask the students what they know about what an archaeologists does and what happens during an archaeological excavation.
 2. The teacher will read the book Archaeologists Dig For Clues by Kate Duke.
 3. The teacher will share her field school experience and photos and share the process of what happens on a dig. PowerPoint presentations of teachers' field experiences can be found on MVAC's web site at: <http://www.uwlax.edu/mvac/Educators/LessonPlans.htm#PP>
 4. The student will list the steps in the excavation process. Information about the archaeological process can be found on MVAC's web site at: <http://www.uwlax.edu/mvac/ProcessArch/ProcessArch/index.html>
 5. The students will pick from a basket a slip of paper with a one part of the dig process on it. The student will illustrate that process.
 6. The teacher will review what makes a good illustration: filling up the empty space, details, drawing large, and making it colorful.
 7. Students will begin working on their illustration.
- Closure:
1. Students will share in the order of the process of a dig their illustration.
 2. Illustrations will be taped together to make an accordion style book on Going on a Dig.
- Evaluation:
1. Critique of illustrations
 2. Sharing of archaeology dig process
 3. Post-test
- Links/Extension: Bookmaking
- References: Archaeologists Dig For Clues by Kate Duke