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: Mapping an Artifact

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Grade Level: 4th - 8th

Subjects: Math

Objectives: Students will be able to accurately map an artifact and draw it to scale

Duration: Two to three 45-minute class periods

Materials/Supplies: Graph paper, cm rulers, “artifact photos”

Setting the Stage: Show students photos of feature with artifacts visible. Ask students for ideas on ways to preserve the information at each level.

Procedure: Day 1
1. Copy a present day artifact (milk carton, DVD case, candy bar wrapper, etc) on paper with rulers on both the X and Y axis. Place dots at graphing points.
2. Distribute copies to students along with graph paper.
3. Determine scale to be used (example: 1 square = 1 cm)
4. On overhead, demonstrate how to graph the object using the graphing points.
5. Assign students further practice.

Day 2
1. Students receive an artifact photo without graphing points. Students are directed to place points on the photo where he/she believes a measurement should be taken. Teacher circulates assisting students.
2. Students begin mapping artifact.

Day 3 (optional)
Additional work time or assignment with increased difficulty.

Closure: Why do you think archaeologists take both photographs and draw maps of
a level? What information is important to place on our maps?

Evaluation: Collect student’s artifact photos and maps.

Links/Extension: Activity could continue with multiple artifacts to be mapped.