



STUDENT ACTIVATION



Archeologist

Archeologists face tough conditions like heat, exhaustion, insects, and physical labor. Full of grit and perseverance, they are also analytical, using the scientific method to collect data and perform research. They observe and draw conclusions from their findings on how life was. They use their critical thinking and context clues to tell the story of the history of humans. They are keen notetakers and excellent communicators as they share their knowledge with colleagues, the public, and their students.

ARCHEOLOGIST ¹

An **archeologist's** job is three parts—they excavate, research, and teach. Throughout most summers, archeologists will head to dig sites, waking early in the morning to beat the heat and start digging. From shovels to toothbrushes, they use a variety of tools and extreme care to examine, recover, and preserve artifacts from human life of the past. After lunch, they spend the afternoon meticulously recording their findings in a way that can be reconstructed to tell the story of humans long ago. The rest of the year is devoted to teaching and research. Archeologists research and contribute to the patterns of human origins, cultures, and life, usually at a university or museum.

IS ARCHEOLOGIST A GOOD CAREER FOR ME?

Me	Archeologist
I like thinking outside the box and solving problems.	Archeologists are complex and creative problem solvers.
I am physically fit and enjoy being outside.	Archeologists put in long days at dig sites, often in extreme conditions.
I like learning new and interesting things.	Archeologists are curious and adventurous.
I am interested in school subjects like science and history.	Archeologists study archeology and anthropology in college.
I never give up.	Archeologists are perseverant and work for long periods of time on a single project.

¹ <https://www.archaeological.org/programs/educators/introduction-to-archaeology/a-career-in-archaeology/>

Archeologist

STUDENT ACTIVATION (CONTINUED)



How does this career help me?	How does this career help the world?
<p>Learning about our cultural past instills pride in humanity. There was life before written history, and archeologists use unearthed clues about lifestyle, dress, trade, food, work, travel and even entertainment that were left behind long ago. These findings give us a glimpse into our deep heritage.</p>	<p>Archeologists give us a look into the past. Through them, you can time travel, learning how different groups lived, flourished, and even died. The knowledge we gain from the past informs how we may behave in the future. One example is learning how human beings destroyed, adapted to, and sustained the environment. These are insights that we could learn from today.</p>

What are some similar careers?
<p>Archivists and museum curators oversee collections at a variety of institutions. These may include historical items or artwork.</p> <p>Anthropologists study historical human beings by looking at their origin, development, and behavior patterns.</p> <p>Historians study historical documents to analyze, interpret, and write about the past.</p>

Here are ways to practice the skills to be a successful **archeologist**:

- Join the science team at school or take a specialized science class. The more comfortable you are with the scientific method, the better. Choose people to work with that you may not typically talk to. Practice collecting quantitative and qualitative data and different ways to present both to peers.
- Volunteer at a dig site. There are dig sites happening in each state. They often welcome high school volunteers to come help, although they may charge a fee for room and board or food. Ask the state highway department and your local universities if a state archeologist is working near you.
- Discuss your course selection with your guidance counselor or teachers and try to make sure you are taking classes in advanced and specialized sciences and ancient history.

