



STEM Career Adventures: Archaeologist

Exploring Secret Tunnels



Adventure Description:

Archaeologists uncover the secrets of the past by finding items left behind by people who lived long ago. Sometimes, they find tunnels and passageways built to keep secrets. They get to study what they find and figure out why people used the tunnels. Today, you will create a secret room that contains important information about you. Then, you will think like an archaeologist to explore another person's secret room in order to learn about them.



Activity (60 minutes)

*Note: Create the salt dough for Step 2 ahead of time in order to streamline the activity. See **Discovery Handout: Salt Dough Recipe**.*

Step 1: Brainstorm and Plan (10 minutes)

- First, explain to explorers that ancient civilizations have left clues about themselves and their lives inside places like caves, pyramids, and underground shelters (show **Discovery Picture: Ancient Architecture**).
- Next, ask explorers to spend a few minutes thinking about a few things that are important to them such as a favorite food, hobby, sport, person, or pet.
- Next, pass out **Discovery Page: Brainstorm and Plan** and have explorers write down the things that are important to them and make up who they are.
- Tell explorers that they will be incorporating these ideas into their secret room as a way to tell archaeologists about themselves and how they lived.

Step 2: Create Your Secret Room (15 minutes)

- Explain to explorers that people who lived in ancient civilizations often had to build secret rooms out of materials they had on hand.
 - For this activity, let the explorers know that they had flour, salt, water and cooking oil on hand.
- Tell explorers that they will use salt-dough to build their room. Their room should have 3 walls so that there is an opening to see their items in. They may or may not have a roof.
 - Have explorers refer to **Discovery Picture: Ancient Architecture** for inspiration.

Contact Allison, Director of Customer Service, with any questions or feedback at 314-272-2560 or allison@rozzylearningcompany.com

Send photos of your explorers and their projects to allison@rozzylearningcompany.com to be featured on Rozzy's website, social media pages, and blog!



STEM Career Adventures: Archaeologist

Exploring Secret Tunnels

Step 3: Decorate Your Secret Room (15 minutes)

- Explain to explorers that human beings leave behind clues about themselves through artwork, personal belongings and other artifacts. An artifact is anything made by humans such as a bowl, cup or tool. Things like soccer balls, ballet shoes, or trading cards would also be considered an artifact.
- Explain to explorers that they will now use salt-dough, art supplies, candy, and other snacks to create a room that tells something about them.
 - Explorers should use their brainstorming and planning page to help create their design.
 - Their design should allow anyone who sees it to describe something about the explorer who created it.
- Let explorers know that in the next step an archaeologist will examine their secret room and try to learn a little bit about them.

Step 4: Think like an Archaeologist (10-15 minutes)

- Explain to explorers that they will spend some time thinking like an archaeologist and investigate the secret rooms left behind by their classmates.
- Tell explorers that archaeologists spend their time examining artifacts left behind by humans to learn more about the culture and time period that they lived in.
- Pass out **Discovery Page: Archaeologist Log** and explain to explorers that they will use the log to guide their investigation into the secret rooms and the artifacts and artwork they find there.

Materials List

Provided online:

- **Discovery Handout: Salt Dough Recipe**
- **Discovery Picture: Ancient Architecture**
- **Discovery Page: Brainstorm and Plan**
- **Discovery Page: Archaeologist Log**

Not provided:

- Art supplies and recycled materials
- 2 cup water
- 8 cups of flour
- 3 cups salt
- 4-8 tablespoons of vegetable oil
- Small pieces of candy such as gumdrops, M & M's, Lifesavers, Mike and Ikes, licorice,

Contact Allison, Director of Customer Service, with any questions or feedback at 314-272-2560 or allison@rozzylearningcompany.com

Send photos of your explorers and their projects to allison@rozzylearningcompany.com to be featured on Rozzy's website, social media pages, and blog!