



Career Adventures: Archaeologist

Time Capsules in Space

Adventure Description

You have been asked to create a time capsule with important artifacts about your life that would survive a trip into space. Your job is to think like an archaeologist and create a time capsule that can survive being shipped to space and remain on the moon (without falling apart) for 2000 years before it is opened.



Background Information

- Archaeologists are scientists responsible for finding and studying artifacts from the past. They are also responsible for preserving them so others can view them in a museum. Artifacts are items that were left behind from a human, plant, or animal. Archaeologists are also responsible for putting artifacts together to show future generations what life was like at a particular time (show **Discovery Picture: Archaeologist**).
- Provide explorers with **Discovery Picture: Time Capsules** and **Discovery Picture: Artifacts** to show examples of time capsules and artifacts. Discuss why archaeologists would want to look at artifacts that are found either in the ground or in a time capsule. Explain that artifacts are like clues that give information about what people did for fun, what they ate, how they looked, what they wore, and so much more. Based on these clues, archaeologists can then draw conclusions about how groups of people lived.



Activity (45-60 minutes)

Step 1: Creating Artifacts (10-20 minutes)

- Explain to explorers that there are two parts of a time capsule: the container and the artifacts. Explorers will first create 3-5 artifacts to go in their time capsule.
- Provide explorers with art supplies and building materials to create their artifacts. Explain to explorers that they will need to create artifacts that will provide clues about their life.
- If explorers need help deciding what to create, provide them with **Discovery Handout: Suggestions for Artifacts**.

Step 2: Building and Testing the Time Capsule (15-30 minutes)

- Explain to explorers that it is now time to build their time capsule. Because the time capsule will be going on a spaceship to the moon, it needs to be sturdy and not fall apart during travel.
- Provide explorers with **Discovery Handout: Instructions for Creating a Time Capsule**.

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



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- Once the time capsules are built, it is time to check if they can withstand a trip to space. Have explorers carefully stand on a chair and throw their time capsule to the ground. Did the capsule break or stay in one piece? If capsule broke, what can be done differently to build a capsule in the future so it doesn't break?

Step 3: Analyzing Artifacts (5-15 minutes) *Optional*

- If time permits, have explorers place all time capsules at the front of the room. Have explorers close their eyes while you scramble and move the time capsules around. Then, have explorers choose one capsule to analyze.
- Have explorers carefully open the capsule and look through the artifacts. Explorers will think like archaeologists and decide what the items tell about the person who built the capsule. Have explorers guess who the capsule belongs to.

Materials List:

Provided online:

- Discovery Picture: Archaeologist
- Discovery Picture: Time Capsules
- Discovery Picture: Artifacts
- Discovery Handout: Suggestions for Artifacts
- Discovery Handout: Instructions for Creating a Time Capsule

Not provided:

- String, rope, or ribbon
- Art supplies and recycled materials
- Tape, hot glue, or glue