



Archaeology Merit Badge Workbook

SCOUTMASTER BUCKY

Scouts participating in a Scoutmaster Bucky merit badge opportunity, whether online or in person, should consider using the Archaeology merit badge pamphlet for discovery and knowledge, along with the class preparation pages for clarifications, insights, and expectations.

<https://scoutmasterbucky.com/merit-badges/archaeology/archaeology-pamphlet.pdf>

<https://scoutmasterbucky.com/merit-badges/archaeology/archaeology-cpp.pdf>

REQUIREMENTS 10a and 10b REQUIRE COUNSELOR PERMISSION.

REQUIREMENT 10a REQUIRES PARENT / GUARDIAN PERMISSION.

REQUIREMENT 1: Tell what archaeology is

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 1: Explain to your counselor how archaeology differs or relates to anthropology.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 1: Explain to your counselor how archaeology differs or relates to geology.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 1: Explain to your counselor how archaeology differs or relates to paleontology.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 1: Explain to your counselor how archaeology differs or relates to history.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 1: Explain how archaeology is different than artifact collecting.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 1: Explain how archaeology is different than treasure hunting.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 2:

Describe the following steps of the archaeological process: site location, development of background research and a research design, site survey and fieldwork, artifact identification and examination, interpretation, preservation, and information sharing.

site location:

development of background research and design:

site survey and fieldwork:

artifact identification and examination:

interpretation:

preservation:

Information sharing:



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REQUIREMENT 3: Describe at least two ways in which archaeologists determine the age of sites, structures, or artifacts.

METHOD #1:

Method #1:

How does it work?

METHOD #2:

Method #2:

How does it work?

REQUIREMENT 3: Explain absolute dating.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 3: Explain relative dating.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 4: Learn about a combined total of five archaeological sites located both within and outside the United States.

REQUIREMENT 4a: For EACH site you research, point it out on a map and explain how it became known to archaeologists. Describe some of the information about the past that has been found at each site. Explain how the information gained from the study of these sites answers questions that archaeologists are asking and how the information may be important to modern people. Compare the relative ages of the sites you research.

SELECTED SITE #1:

Name and Location:

As a part of completing this requirement you will need to point out this site location on a map.
Make sure you have this ready to share when you meet with the merit badge counselor.

How was the site discovered?

Information about the past found at the site:

How is information found at this site answering questions for archaeologists?

How is information found at this site important to people today?

Relative age of site:



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SELECTED SITE #2:

Name and Location:

**As a part of completing this requirement you will need to point out this site location on a map.
Make sure you have this ready to share when you meet with the merit badge counselor.**

How was the site discovered?

Information about the past found at the site:

How is information found at this site answering questions for archaeologists?

How is information found at this site important to people today?

Relative age of site:



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SELECTED SITE #3:

Name and Location:

As a part of completing this requirement you will need to point out this site location on a map.
Make sure you have this ready to share when you meet with the merit badge counselor.

How was the site discovered?

Information about the past found at the site:

How is information found at this site answering questions for archaeologists?

How is information found at this site important to people today?

Relative age of site:



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SELECTED SITE #4:

Name and Location:

**As a part of completing this requirement you will need to point out this site location on a map.
Make sure you have this ready to share when you meet with the merit badge counselor.**

How was the site discovered?

Information about the past found at the site:

How is information found at this site answering questions for archaeologists?

How is information found at this site important to people today?

Relative age of site:



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SELECTED SITE #5:

Name and Location:

As a part of completing this requirement you will need to point out this site location on a map.
Make sure you have this ready to share when you meet with the merit badge counselor.

How was the site discovered?

Information about the past found at the site:

How is information found at this site answering questions for archaeologists?

How is information found at this site important to people today?

Relative age of site:



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REQUIREMENT 4b: Choose ONE of the sites you picked and give a short presentation about your findings to a Cub Scout pack, your Scout troop, your school class, or another group.

You will give your presentation to the merit badge counselor and other Scouts as a part of the class.

This requirement must be reviewed with your merit badge counselor.

BE PREPARED!

REQUIREMENT 5a: Learn about the federal laws and international conventions that protect archaeological sites.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 5a: Find out if your state, county, or local government has regulations that apply to archaeological or historic sites.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 5b: Identify a national, international, or local organization that helps to protect archaeological sites.

Notes:



REQUIREMENT 6a: Explain why it is important to protect archaeological sites.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 6b: Explain what people should do if they think they have found an artifact.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 6c: Describe the ways in which you can be a protector of the past.

Notes:



DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING (7A, 7B, or 7C) FOR REQUIREMENT 7

REQUIREMENT 7a: Visit a museum to observe how artifacts aid in conveying history.

Name of Museum and Location:

Date of Visit and Who You Visited with:

Notes:



REQUIREMENT 7b: Present to your counselor a significant family artifact/heirloom and discuss its history.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 7c: Make a list of the trash your family throws out during one week.

TRASH LOG

Day

Garbage

Day 1

Day 2

Day 3

Day 4

Day 5

Day 6

Day 7



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REQUIREMENT 7c: Discuss with your counselor what archaeologists might learn about you and your family if they found your trash a thousand years from now.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 8: Research a group of people who lived in your area more than 100 years ago.

Selected group of people:

REQUIREMENT 8: Find out about their ways of life, including housing, clothing, arts and crafts, tools, trade and markets, rituals and religions, and diets, and their relationships with other groups of people in the area.

general ways of life:



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housing:

clothing:

arts and crafts:

tools:



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trade and markets:

rituals and religions:

diets:

relationships with other groups of people in the area:



REQUIREMENT 8: Describe what you would expect to find at an archaeological site where these people lived.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 8: Explain how these people influenced your current community.

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 9: Identify three career opportunities in archaeology.

Career Opportunity #1:

Career Opportunity #2:

Career Opportunity #3:

REQUIREMENT 9: Pick one and explain how to prepare for such a career. Discuss with your counselor what education and training are required, and explain why this profession might interest you.

Selected Career Opportunity:

How to prepare for this career:

Education Requirements:

Training Requirements:

REQUIREMENT 9: Explain why this profession might interest you.

Notes:



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DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING (10A or 10B) FOR REQUIREMENT 10

REQUIREMENT 10a: With your parent or guardian's and counselor's permission, assist a qualified archaeologist for at least eight hours with a project being worked on. Projects may include surveying, site monitoring, site stabilization, excavation, laboratory analysis, use of digital archaeological technology, or public outreach.

VISITING AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE WILL REQUIRE ADVANCE PLANNING. AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE DURING STUDY CAN BE A DANGEROUS PLACE. WHILE THERE, YOU WILL NEED TO CLOSELY FOLLOW THE ARCHAEOLOGIST'S DIRECTIONS AND COMPLY WITH ALL THE SAFETY PROCEDURES. BE AWARE OF THE CHANGING CONDITIONS AT THE SITE.

Selected Archaeological Project:

Location of Archaeological Project:

Qualified Archaeologist Overseeing Archaeological Project:

PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION: IS REQUIRED.

Parent's / Guardian's Name

Phone or Email

Parent's / Guardian's Signature

Date ☐ permission

COUNSELOR PERMISSION: IS REQUIRED.

Counselor's Name

Phone or Email

Counselor's Signature

Date ☐ permission



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Volunteer Time Sheet				
Date	In Time	Out Time	Total Time	Supervisor's sign off

REQUIREMENT 10a: Describe your involvement in the project.

Notes:



REQUIREMENT 10a: Describe what you learned about archaeology.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 10a: Describe the steps of archaeological inquiry.

previous versions of the Archaeology merit badge pamphlet defined the “STEPS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INQUIRY” as follows:

1. Site Location
2. Site Excavation
3. Artifact Identification and Examination
4. Preservation
5. Information Sharing

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 10b: With your counselor's approval, take part in a simulated archaeological project designed by a qualified archaeologist. The project must include the use of a simulated archaeological site including artifacts and features for the site.

TO FIND OUT HOW TO MAKE A SIMULATED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE, TALK WITH A PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGIST, TRAINED AVOCATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGIST, MUSEUM SCHOOL INSTRUCTOR, JUNIOR HIGH OR HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE TEACHER, ADVISOR FROM A LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY, OR OTHER QUALIFIED INSTRUCTOR.

Simulated Archaeological Project:

Location of Archaeological Project:

Qualified Archaeologist Designer of Project:

COUNSELOR PERMISSION: IS REQUIRED.

Counselor's Name

Phone or Email

Counselor's Signature

Date

☐

permission

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 10b: Using the steps of archaeological inquiry, analyze the "artifacts and features" and document the spatial relationships of the "artifacts and features" at the simulated site.

previous versions of the Archaeology merit badge pamphlet defined the "STEPS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INQUIRY" as follows:

1. Site Location
2. Site Excavation
3. Artifact Identification and Examination
4. Preservation
5. Information Sharing

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 10b: Explain how the environment and time can affect the interpretation of an artifact and the overall archaeological site.

Notes:

REQUIREMENT 10b: Tell how you would share the results of your analysis with other researchers and the public.

Notes:



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UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A QUALIFIED ARCHAEOLOGIST OR INSTRUCTOR, DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING (11A or 11B) FOR REQUIREMENT 11

REQUIREMENT 11a: Help prepare an archaeological exhibit for display in a museum, visitor center, school, or other public area.

Archaeological Exhibit:

Location of Exhibit:

Supervising Qualified Archaeologist:

Notes:



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REQUIREMENT 11b: Use the methods of experimental archaeology to re-create an item or to practice a skill from the past. Write a brief report explaining the experiment and its results.

Item or Skill from the past:

Supervising Qualified Archaeologist:

Notes: