

ARCHEOLOGY

Archeology is an interdisciplinary science that investigates physical evidence left by past people. From this evidence inferences are made regarding past human behavior, technology, and culture. In this module, students will be exposed to the skills and concepts used by archeologists by participating in pre-visit development lessons and activities, a field exploration at Petrified Forest National Park, and a final research project presentation at school.

GOALS

In this module, students will:

- develop an understanding of the science of archeology by learning the skills and concepts involved;
- be introduced to a broad overview of the archeological time periods represented at the park;
- explore an aspect of archeology through participation in a field exploration and development of student research projects;
- become aware of the importance of preservation of cultural resources; and
- understand the role of the National Park Service in preservation and protection of cultural and natural resources.

OBJECTIVES

By the end of this module, students will be able to:

- describe archeology as the study and interpretation of past human cultures;
- list archeological time periods represented at the park;
- explain why culture changes over time;
- use the scientific methods adopted by archeologists;
- recognize that archeological resources are nonrenewable;
- document threats to archeological resources and suggest ways to protect them; and
- describe at least one thing they learned about Petrified Forest National Park and/or the National Park Service.

MODULE DESIGN

Each pre-visit lesson develops the concepts and skills needed by students to choose and participate in one of the following field explorations:

- Monitoring Petroglyphs
- Archeological Excavation
- Subsistence Lifestyle Study