

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hour: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Assignment: What is archaeology?

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| What are some examples of things an archaeologist does NOT do?                            | How do archaeologists learn about the past?                                       |
| What is culture?  | So what kinds of questions can artifacts potentially answer? Give a few examples. |
| So now you should be able to give a simple definition of what archaeology is. What is it? | Name a few different types of archaeologists.                                     |

**Activity - Using artifacts to make assumptions.** Look at the images on slides 18-23. Each is an artifact found in a mysterious bag. Your job is to think like an archaeologist and make inferences (good guesses based on evidence) about who might have owned the bag and what they are like.

| Artifact 1 | Artifact 2 | Artifact 3 | Artifact 4 | Artifact 5 |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|            |            |            |            |            |

Make an educated guess about who might have owned the bag and what they are like.

Is this the only possible explanation? Compare what you think with a neighbor or with your group. What did they come up with? Could their ideas also be true?

What if someone found your backpack 500 years in the future? Would it give an accurate and complete picture of your life? Why or why not?

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| What is bias? How can it cause problems in archaeology? | Read parts of Motel of the Mysteries and write down 3 misconceptions that you notice the "archaeologists" make about our culture.<br>1.<br><br>2.<br><br>3. |
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