



# Archaeology

EDUCATION PROGRAM

## TEACHER RESOURCE CATALOG

*Please share with other teachers*

### Introduction

Established in 1982, Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center (MVAC) is located on the campus of the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse. MVAC's Archaeology Education Program provides a number of archaeological opportunities for precollegiate teachers, students, and the general public. Our programs introduce participants to ongoing scientific investigations and cultural resource preservation.

#### **MVAC activities include:**

- \*Teacher workshops and classes
- \*Classroom presentations
- \*Resources for classroom use
- \*Youth camps
- \*Lectures
- \*Lab tours
- \*Tours of archaeological sites
- \*Artifact shows
- \*Field schools

#### **Teacher Resource Catalog**

The Teacher Resource Catalog lists all the presentations and resources available to precollegiate instructors from MVAC's Archaeology Education Program. We encourage you to register early to ensure you receive the resources and presentations you want - when you want them. This Resource Catalog is also available on-line at our web site.

#### **A Word about Our Materials**

The Archaeology Education Program staff take great care to ensure the accuracy and quality of the materials that we provide. Grade level assignments are approximate and are provided only as a guide. Instructors are encouraged to preview the resource materials to ensure appropriateness. Boxes are available for viewing by appointment. We appreciate feedback from teachers and students and consider this information when revising programs and purchasing new materials.

#### **Rental Information**

The Archaeology Education Program is located at the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse in the Archaeology Center and Laboratory Building. Materials are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis and can be picked up and dropped off at the Center. Resource materials may not be available for rental during the summer. Materials that can be shipped (shipping to be paid by the instructor) are noted in the catalog. Users are responsible for all materials (inventory sheets provided), and will be charged replacement costs for any materials lost or damaged while in their possession. Fees and availability are subject to change without notice.

#### **Matching Funds Program**

Matching funds may be available through a grant provided by the UW-La Crosse Foundation. Check MVAC's web site Educators section for more information and the on-line application form.

#### **Website**

Visit our web site for information about all of our activities or contact us to receive a copy of our activity brochure. Contact MVAC at the address, phone number or e-mail address under our contact information.

[www.uwlax.edu/mvac](http://www.uwlax.edu/mvac)

MVAC

## Contacts:

For additional information on the Archaeology Education Program, its programs and resources, or to schedule presentations or resources contact:

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## Presentations

The Archaeology Education Program is always pleased to provide presentations related to the science of archaeology and the pre-European history of the La Crosse area. In addition to the popular presentation topics that are listed below, presentations can also be designed for a variety of other topics or to meet the individual needs of instructors.

**Transportation charges:** Transportation charges will be based on distance from UW-La Crosse.

### **Introduction to Archaeology and the Pre-European People of the La Crosse Area**

Grade level: K through 2

Length: 45 minutes

Format: lecture format for large groups

Number of students: 100 +

Subject: Our most requested presentation for primary grades provides a great introduction to the science of archaeology. Young students will learn about what archaeologists study, how they work and the tools that they use. They'll discover what archaeologists have learned about the people who lived in the Upper Mississippi River area before the arrival of Europeans.  
**Fee: \$70.00 (plus transportation)**

### **Garbology**

Grade level: 1 through 2

Length: 45 minutes

Format: hands-on for classroom size groups

Number of students: 30 maximum

Subject: Acting as amateur archaeologists, students experience how archaeologists learn about past people through their own analysis of contemporary garbage.

**Fee: \$70.00 (plus transportation)**

### **Indoor Mapping**

Grade level: 3 through 8

Length: 45 minutes

Format: hands-on for classroom size groups

Number of students: 30 maximum

Subject: Using the same methods that archaeologists use during excavations, students map and record information from a simulated test unit.

**Fee: \$70.00 (plus transportation)**

### **Outdoor Mapping**

Grade level: 3 through 8

Length: 1 hour

Format: hands-on for classroom size groups, grassy area outside

Number of students: 30 maximum

Subject: Students map out a simulated excavation site and record information on the "artifacts" recovered at specific locations.

**Fee: \$70.00 (plus transportation)**

### **Introduction to Archaeology and the Pre-European People of the La Crosse Area**

Grade level: 3 through 12

Length: 45 minutes

Format: PowerPoint/lecture format for large groups

Number of students: 100 +

Subject: This presentation includes a powerpoint presentation combining an introduction to the science of archaeology along with some of the pre-European artifacts found in the Upper Mississippi River Valley.

**Fee: \$70.00 (plus transportation)**

### **Ceramic Reconstruction**

Grade level: 3 through 5

Length: 45 minutes

Format: hands-on for classroom size groups

Number of students: 30 maximum

Subject: Similar to putting together pieces of a puzzle, students are challenged to re-assemble broken contemporary ceramic pieces, thereby experiencing how archaeologists reconstruct artifacts and furthermore construct theories about past cultures.

**Fee: \$70.00 (plus transportation)**

### **Archaeology Laboratory Tour**

Exhibits focus on regional archaeology and include 3-D replicas of area rock art, a painted mural depicting the lifestyles of the four earliest culture of Wisconsin, pottery, points, and exhibits on recent excavations. The Laboratory is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. year round. Special school group tours can be arranged for classroom size groups. See contact information to right.

### **Environmental Field Trip**

If your class or school will be exploring areas such as Perrot State Park or Goose Island, call MVAC. Staff members can meet you at the park to discuss and/or tour archaeological sites in the area, lead students in Native American Games, or design a presentation around your curriculum. Special field trips can be arranged through Jean. See contact information to right.

### **Pre-European People of the La Crosse Area**

Grade level: 4 through 12

Length: 45 minutes

Format: hands-on for classroom size groups

Number of students: 30 maximum

Subject: Our most requested presentation for middle and upper grades. Students act as amateur archaeologists as they analyze artifacts from various time periods and ultimately discover new information about the pre-European history of the Upper Mississippi River Valley.

**Fee: \$70.00 (plus transportation)**

### **Spear and Arrowhead Identification**

Grade level: 3 through 12

Length: 45 minutes

Format: hands-on for classroom size groups

Number of students: 30 maximum

Subject: Working in small groups, students become fascinated with the identification of replicated spear and arrowheads as they discover the techniques used by archaeologists to identify artifacts.

**Fee: \$70.00 (plus transportation)**



Pre-European People of the La Crosse Area presentation

To schedule presentations or resources, contact Jean Dowiasch at [dowiasch.jean@uwlax.edu](mailto:dowiasch.jean@uwlax.edu) or 608-785-8454.

## Resource Boxes

Resource Boxes provide instructors with multi-media resource materials related to the science of archaeology, the pre-European history of the area, and Native American cultures. Boxes are designed to allow flexibility and to generate enthusiasm in the classroom. Boxes are rented on a monthly basis and vary in content.

### Archaeology

#### Archaeology - Primary

Grade level: 1 through 4

Contents: books, 5 classroom book sets, simulation, bulletin board, videos, hands-on materials

#### Archaeology - Middle

Grade level: 4 through 8

Contents: books, 5 classroom book sets, simulation, bulletin board, videos, hands-on materials

Subject: Each box provides an easy introduction to the science of archaeology, both local and around the world.

**Loan period: one month**

**Fee: \$35 per month**      *Not Shippable*

#### Ancient Cultures of Southwestern United States

Grade level: 2 through 5

Subject: Students will be intrigued by these cultures and how they lived in their unique environment. A great way to stimulate explorations of different housing and environmental adaptations of other cultures.

Contents: books, teacher guides, multiple copy book, simulations, bulletin board, videos, slides/cassette, hands-on materials

**Loan period: one month**

**Fee: \$35 per month**      *Shippable*

#### Spear and Arrowhead Identification

Grade level: 3 through 12

Subject: Realistic replica arrowheads allow students to use the same process as archaeologists use to identify arrowheads and draw conclusions.

Contents: books, bulletin board, video, hands-on materials

**Loan period: one month**

**Fee: \$35 per month**      *Shippable*



Thunderbird image,  
Vernon County, WI

#### Rock Art

Grade level: 3 through 8

Subject: This assortment provides background information on this early art form that includes carving and painting on rock surfaces. Emphasis placed on the Upper Mississippi River area.

Contents: books, classroom book sets, teacher guides, bulletin board, videos, hands-on materials

**Loan period: one month**

**Fee: \$35 per month**      *Not Shippable*

#### Egypt

Grade level: 3 through 8

Subject: Students become engaged in creating messages to their friends using ancient hieroglyphic symbols. Be sure to appropriate lots of time to share the exciting materials in this box which bring the ancient Egyptian-past to life.

Contents: books, teacher guides, teaching packet, bulletin board, classroom book sets, videos, hands-on materials

**Loan period: one month**

**Fee \$35 per month**      *Not Shippable*

#### Mapping

Grade level: 4 through 8

Subject: Students enjoy mapping and recording the excavation of a simulated test unit and gain understanding of the accuracy and precision needed in the archaeological process. You provide the artifacts.

Contents: books, bulletin board, hands-on

**Loan period: one month**

**Fee: \$35 per month**      *Not Shippable*

#### Ceramic Reconstruction

Grade level: 3 through 8

Subject: Using the same laboratory procedures as archaeologists, students are challenged by reconstructing historic ceramic materials. Students are exposed to patience, persistence, planning, and precision.

Contents: bulletin board, hands-on materials

**Loan period: one month**

**Fee: \$35 per month**      *Shippable*



Students washing artifacts  
at the Archaeology Lab

#### Moundbuilders

Grade level: 3 through 12

Subject: Easily enriched with discussions or tours of local sites, this collection provides information on the early mound building cultures. Multiple copies of "The Earthshapers" allow students to explore life during moundbuilder times through the eyes of a young girl named Yellow Moon.

Contents: books, classroom book set, teacher guides, bulletin board, videos, hands-on materials

**Loan period: one month**

**Fee: \$35 per month**      *Not Shippable*

#### Maya-Inca-Aztec

Grade level: 3 through 5

Subject: Explore the unique cultural differences of these advanced civilizations. Spectacular buildings, complex mathematics, and warrior rituals were all a part of the lives of these Meso- and South American people.

Contents: books, teacher guides, cassette, multiple copy books

**Loan period: one month**

**Fee: \$35 per month**      *Shippable*

Funding for the purchase of new resources and hands-on materials has been provided by grants from the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse College of Liberal Studies.

## Native American Resource Boxes

### Native American Art and Music

Grade level: 1 through 12

Subject: Don't let the title of Art and Music limit the fun learning experiences that can be enjoyed across the curriculum with this collection. Provides hours of creative fun for all ages and serves as a springboard for discussion and further investigations in the fascinating heritage of Native Americans. Includes multiple copies of "Dancing Feather."

Contents: books, classroom book sets, teacher guides, teaching packet, bulletin board, multiple copy book, videos, cassettes, hands-on materials

**Loan period: one month**

**Fee: \$35 per month**      *Not Shippable*

### Wisconsin Native Americans

Grade level: 4 through 12

Subject: Materials focus on the Native Americans of Wisconsin, past and present. Through a variety of multi-media materials students can see, read, participate, and experience the original people of our region.

Contents: books, 4 multiple copy books, 3 classroom book sets, teacher guides, teaching packet, game, bulletin board, cassettes, videos

**Loan period: one month**

**Fee: \$35 per month**      *Not Shippable*

### Corn Grinding

Grade level: 2 through 4

Subject: Students love to sing along to traditional corn grinding songs as they use the mano and metate, provided with this assortment, to grind their own corn. Enjoyment of a tasty corn treat, made from time-honored recipes, captivates students as they explore the development of corn as a domestic crop by Native Americans. A favorite for teachers and students alike, this assortment appeals to a variety of the senses. Multiple copies of "Corn is Maize" are included in this box.

Contents: books, classroom book set, bulletin board, videos, cassette, hands-on materials

**Loan period: one month**

**Fee: \$35 per month**      *Not Shippable*

## Other Topics

### Archaeology-Geology-Paleontology

Grade level: 1 through 4

Subject: Helping to unravel the myth that archaeologists dig up dinosaurs, this collection focuses on the differences between archaeology, geology and paleontology.

Contents: books, 3 multiple copy books, bulletin board, game, hands-on materials

**Loan period: one month**

**Fee: \$35 per month**      *Not Shippable*

### Fur Trade

Grade level: 3 through 5

Subject: Students become explorers themselves as they touch the animal hides included in this assortment, and consider the importance of the fur trade in shaping the early history of Wisconsin people.

Contents: books, classroom book sets, multiple copy book, bulletin board, videos, hands-on materials

**Loan period: one month**

**Fee: \$35 per month**      *Not Shippable*

## Displays

### Riverside Museum

The Museum focuses on the early history of the people of the La Crosse area and the Mississippi River. Exhibits include the history of pre-European people of the area, the history of early La Crosse, the Mississippi River and steam boating, and the early fur trade. Located in La Crosse's Riverside Park at the Visitors and Convention Bureau, the museum is open seven days a week, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Special group tours can be arranged for dates throughout the school year by contacting the La Crosse County Historical Society at 608-782-1980.

### Archaeology Laboratory

Exhibits focus on regional archaeology and include 3-D replicas of area rock art, a painted mural depicting the lifestyles of the four earliest cultures of Wisconsin, pottery, points, and exhibits on recent excavations. The Laboratory is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., year-round. Special group tours can be arranged by contacting MVAC at [dowiasch.jean@uwlax.edu](mailto:dowiasch.jean@uwlax.edu) or 608-785-8454.

## Support

### MVAC Memberships

Support MVAC's work by becoming a member. For more information call Marcee at 608-785-8463 or look on the MVAC website under *About/Support* for a membership brochure.

### Web Site

MVAC's Educators section of the web site is designed for classroom teachers, educators outside the classroom (environmental educators, museum educators, home schoolers, etc.), and parents looking for information for their children and youth. The Educators section includes lesson plans, Frequently Asked Questions, a glossary, and resource reviews.

[www.uwlax.edu/mvac](http://www.uwlax.edu/mvac)

### Teacher Training

The Archaeology Education Program offers a variety of opportunities for pre-collegiate instructors who are interested in increasing their knowledge of the science of archaeology and the pre-European history of the Upper Mississippi River area. Check our website for upcoming classes and workshops.

### Summer School

The Archaeology Education Program can provide experience personnel to teach archaeology classes for your district. Contact us for more information.

### Activity Brochure

If you would like a brochure listing all of MVAC's public events, contact Jean Dowiasch at [dowiasch.jean@uwlax.edu](mailto:dowiasch.jean@uwlax.edu) or 608-785-8454.



Bison, Bell Coulee Rockshelter