

Archaeologists and Their Tools

Archaeologists in the field need **tools** to excavate and document their findings. Here are some of the tools they carry.



Trowel: a multipurpose tool used to excavate, scrape, examine soil changes, or collect dirt into a dustpan.

Ruler: used to measure artifacts and the distances between them.

Camera: used to take pictures of excavation areas and of artifacts.

Handbroom/brush: used to brush off rocks, clean artifacts and to keep the work area clean.

Pencil & notebook: scientists must document their findings! They write down measurements of artifacts and detailed observations of their experience in the field.

Can you find the tools from our list in this picture?



University of Tennessee Associate Curator of Paleoethnobotany, Dr. Kandace Hollenbach (right) with student Victoria Juarez (left) at the UT Cherokee Farm field school archaeology site.

Activity Time!

Archaeologists do more than attempt to discover past cultures, they also seek to explain what they find. Let's work on our observation and interpreting skills.

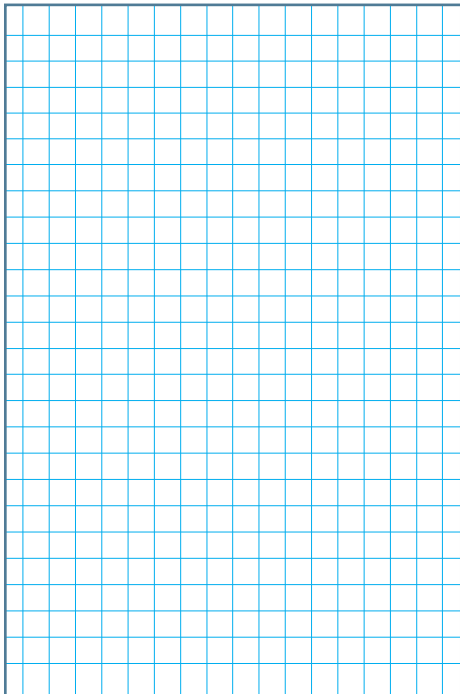
Go to your kitchen and pick out an object.

1

2

3

4



Draw the object. You can also draw the area in which you found it.

Length:

Width:

Depth:

Write down the object's measurements.

1.

2.

3.

Describe this object in 3 words or sentences.

What is this object's function? How do your observations support your conclusion?

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Engage with the McClung

Scientists make observations, document them, and interpret information. With the tools in this bag, you can do the same. *Where will your adventure take you next?*



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