

LESSON PLAN

DIGGING FOR DETAILS

Series: Digging Up the Past

Objective

To help students practice answering questions about key details in a short nonfiction book about a historic discovery.

Supplies

- One or more books in the Digging Up the Past series
- Whiteboard
- Paper and pencils

Before the Activity

Write the following questions on the whiteboard:

- In what year or time period did people make the discovery?
- What did they find? Describe what it looked like.
- · Where was it found?
- What time period was it from?
- How did scientists study it? What tools or methods did they use?
- What information did it help scientists learn?

Activity

Each book in the Digging Up the Past series tells the story of an amazing discovery that scientists made. In each story, people uncovered something that had been buried long ago. Sometimes, people found artifacts, or objects made by humans. Other times, they found fossils, or the remains of living things from long ago. In all cases, the discovery changed what people knew about science. It helped them understand new things.

Have each student choose one book in this series to read, and make sure all students have paper and pencils. As students read their books, they should look for the answers to the questions on the whiteboard. Students should write a short answer (one to three sentences) to each question. Remind students to use complete sentences, with both a subject and a verb.

Evaluation

Collect each student's paper at the end of the activity. Give students 1 point for each question they answered accurately, for up to 6 points total.