

Program: Understanding Early Societies in Ontario

Content: The purpose of this lesson is to provide students with a brief introduction to archaeology, the archaeological collection in the museum, and what you can determine about the people in an area by studying the archaeological remains at a site. This program can be used for onsite programming in conjunction with our permanent archaeology display as well as can be formatted as an outreach program that can be sent to classrooms for use in their curriculum. The materials required that will be used onsite as well as in the outreach kit include gloves as well as the following artifacts from our resource/teaching collection: celt, adze, pottery sherds (decorative and utilitarian examples), net sinkers, bone fragments (example with butcher marks and charring), gorgets, and arrow heads. An instructor guide and a student handout will also be provided with the kits. The instructor guide will include background information that would be presented in the onsite program, including information about the site the artifacts came from, a brief history of archaeology in Ontario and information about the cultural periods. There will be a hands on identification portion where students will be able to hold and examine items and learn about the different characteristics and uses of the artifacts.

Target audience: The target audience for this program is elementary school classes. The lesson will fit well with the curriculum of several grades, especially:

Grade 4: *Early Societies, 3000 BCE – 1500 CE*

Grade 5: *First Nations and Europeans in New France and Early Canada*

Grade 6: *Communities in Canada, Past and Present.*

Duration/date period of program: This program is being created in conjunction with our newly revised permanent exhibit about archaeology and Aboriginal populations in Aylmer and Malahide. It can also be formatted as an outreach program that can be sent to classrooms to add a hands-on aspect to curriculum material. The program will be run throughout 2018 and can be modified as needed as we receive summative evaluations.

Outcome and objectives of programs: The purpose of this lesson is to provide participants with a brief introduction to archaeology, the archaeological collection in the museum, and what you can determine about the past societies living in the area by studying the archaeological remains. Successful participants will be able to have a basic understanding about what archaeology is, about the time periods and archaeology of Aboriginal Peoples in Ontario, and be able to identify several examples of the types of archaeological artifacts found in Ontario.

Available: Year-Round, March 5 – November 30, 2018

Duration: 45 minutes

Maximum Class Size: 30 students

Cost: \$2 per student

**Note aspects of this program can be offered in class. Various artifacts can be brought into the classroom.