



IMAGINE THIS...

The sun is beating down on you as you gently brush dirt away from a few objects that are hidden underneath. You are the first person to see these objects in hundreds of years. It's up to you to figure out their significance.

What steps would you take?



THE PAST IS STILL PRESENT

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Archaeology is the study of human history through the analysis of artifacts and sites. To do this work, archaeologists use a wide variety of skills. They research, survey land, map sites, carefully excavate, and study what they find. Each step of the archaeological process helps to reveal a more complete picture of what life was like in the past.



But, surprise! Archaeology doesn't just help us understand the past. It connects directly to our lives today. So, how can learning about the past help us today?

Archaeology is incredibly important to understanding people today. It can help us understand how people adapted to challenges such as food scarcity or climate change, how they lived their daily lives, and how they expressed and celebrated their cultural identity. For example, through the study of ancient projectile points, such as arrowheads, we gained the foundational knowledge needed to develop modern knives and scalpels, which are important tools for food preparation and medical practices.

When we uncover more about how people lived their lives and responded to challenges and triumphs, we build empathy and appreciation for the complexity of life. So, the next time you wonder about the way houses are built, farming practices, or how we dye our clothes, you may want to look to archaeology for the answer!