

Unit Title:
Artifacts, Maine's History Uncovered
What will future archeologists uncover about
Gardiner students in the year 2407?

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Unit Summary:

By creating time capsules this 4th grade unit will show what technology, inventions, and tools were important during two different time periods of Maine. Archeologists are able to uncover Maine's history by finding and deciphering the artifacts left behind by early inhabitants of Maine.

Unit Goals:

Through artifacts students will better understand life in various time periods focusing on tools/technology that were a part of daily lives of the time periods.

Objectives:

- *Discuss tools/technology of Popham Colony
- *Compare inventions of the past with inventions/technology today
- *Choose five items used by colonists in the Popham Colony and five items used today by students for the time capsules
- *Write a narrative for each set of items including why chosen and what future archeologist will know about us by finding these artifacts.

Maine Learning Results 1997

History

C. Historical Inquiry, analysis, and interpretation

1. Identify changes currently occurring in daily lives and compare these changes in daily life during a specific historic era.

Activities:

1. Read historical accounts of Popham colony, diaries, journals, logs. (See bibliography for accurate accounts). View artifacts found at the Fort St. George dig site at www.pophamcolony.org.

2. Field trip to Popham Colony dig site or Maine State Museum 12,000 years of history display, or Maine Maritime Museum (summer of 2007 will display Popham dig site artifacts) to observe different artifacts found during Maine archeological digs.

Discuss how artifacts help to uncover what life in Maine was like during different time periods. Make a Venn diagram comparing tools/technology of 1607 and 2007.

3. Students will choose 5 tools/technology that settlers at the Popham Colony might have left behind when they returned to England.

Prompt: After 14 months of settlement the leader of the Popham colony decides it is time for all of you to sail back to England. You want to leave a record that you once lived at Fort St. George, and the Popham Colony. Choose 5 tools/technology you would leave for the 2007 archaeologist to find. Draw a picture and write a narrative for each item chosen and what the archeologist could “uncover” or understand about Maine’s history through these items.

4. Color Maine’s First ship picture or Fort St. George and use to cover one of the coffee cans. Place your pictures and narratives in the “time capsule and place on display

5. Prompt #2: Fast forward from 1607 to 2007. You will be leaving elementary school for the middle school in a year’s time. Choose 5 tools/technology items for archeologists to find in the year 2407, which shows your life as a 4th grade student in Pittston, Maine. Also, write a narrative for each item you chose and what the archeologist would “uncover” or understand about your life in 2007.

6. Design a cover for your next time capsule with ideas relevant to 2007. Cover the coffee can “time capsule,” place the pictures and narratives of your 2007 items into the time capsule, and place on display.

7. Divide time capsules into a 1607 group and a 2007 group and have students look through each time capsule and discuss choices made for tools and technology and compare changes from 1607 to 2007.

Materials

2 coffee cans with plastic lids per student

8” x 11” copies of Maine’s First ship OR Fort St. George (1 per student)

8” x 11” sheets of white paper (1 per student)

Color pencils

Popham Colony Artifact sheet

Photos of artifacts from Fort St. George (Popham dig)
Internet resources

Assessment Scoring Rubric

4-Exceeds Standard

Names and draws pictures of 5 tool/technology items for each time capsule. Also, accurately and specifically (in great detail) describes the significance of each item for the time period and completes the time capsules.

3- Meets Standard:

Names and draws pictures of 5 tool/technology items for each time capsule. Also accurately describes the significance of each item for each time period and completes the time capsules.

2-Partially Meets Standard

Names and draws pictures of 4 tool/technology items for each time capsule and /or writes 4 accurate descriptions for the four items for each time period in each time capsule or names and draws 5 tool/technology items but gives inadequate descriptions.

1-Does Not Meet Standard

Names and draws 3 or less tool/technology items for each time capsule and/or does not accurately describe 3 or less items in each time capsule.

Extensions:

1. Write an autobiographical account of your life in 2007. Make sure to give accurate details and be specific so an archeologist or historian in the year 2407 would understand what life is like in your era.
2. Research a different time period and design a picture book of 10 artifacts of that time period for future generations to learn from. You may draw the artifacts and color with color pencils or use photos. For each artifact write a specific and detailed description of what it is and what it does and why it is relevant to the time period you are researching.
3. Take photos or pictures of tools or technology items prevalent to 2007. Glue them to card stock or foam board backing. Cut into irregular pieces and place in a time capsule can that you designed. Give to a classmate to see if they can reassemble the artifacts accurately.