

Clues to the Past

Archaeologists are scientists who study evidence of past human activity. They look at ancient buildings and artifacts—objects made by people—to help them determine how humans lived long ago. Can you look at clues the way an archaeologist does? What do these artifacts tell you about Americans from the past? Circle your answer.

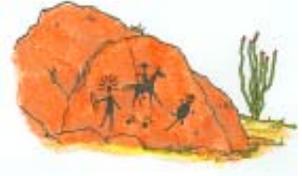
1

- a. They bought dishes at a store.
- b. They only used broken dishes.
- c. They were artists.
- d. They knew how to make paint from natural materials.
- e. c and d



2

- a. They had an alphabet.
- b. They knew creatures from space.
- c. They used symbols.
- d. They made petroglyphs with electric power tools.



3

- a. They knew where to find the right kind of stone.
- b. They needed sharp tools.
- c. They were hunters.
- d. All of the above



4

- a. They had only one bathtub.
- b. Over 100 people lived in one place.
- c. They had a 2-car garage.
- d. They were not nomads.



Now, look at the statements below and decide whether they are **True** or **False**.

- 1. _____ Archaeologists study dinosaurs.
- 2. _____ Historians study current events.
- 3. _____ Archaeological and historic sites are important because they often contain gold.
- 4. _____ As a steward of America's historic treasures, a BLM Junior Explorer must help take care of America's archaeological and historic sites.
- 5. _____ 260 million acres of America's public lands belong to you.
- 6. _____ When you find an ancient or historic artifact, you should take it home with you.