

Lesson Procedures:

1. Explain that archaeology is the study of past human life through the things people left behind, such as artifacts. Ceramics, or pottery, are one type of artifact that can teach us a lot about past life. The way ceramics are made varies by location and through time. When we find ceramics at a site, we can learn more about how old the site is and how connected the people who lived at the site were to others, including understanding their trade networks.

Resource:

[What are Artifacts and Features?](#) YouTube Video

Note: This video is part of our series "Ask an Archaeologist," which includes other short videos about key archaeological concepts

2. Pass out Historic Ceramic identification charts. You may also want to share it on the board. Explain that the photos show ceramic types that were found right here in Mobile. Help them engage with the chart with questions such as:
 a s w

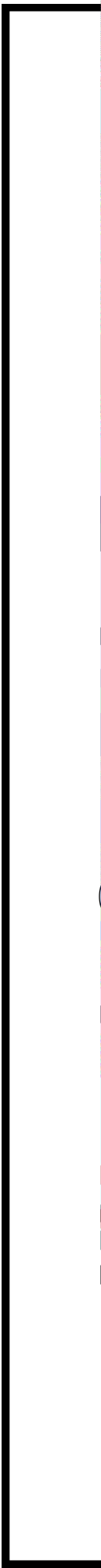
Name: _____

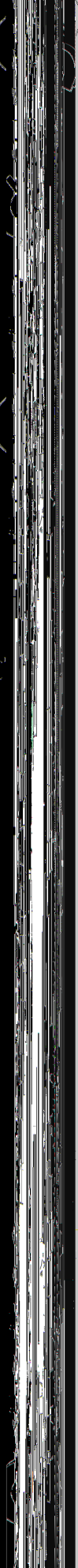
Think Like an Archaeologist

Archaeologists determine the age of a site by analyzing artifacts, like historic ceramics. Ceramic fragments from broken plates, bowls, and jugs can tell us the age of a site. Ceramics made in different parts of the world were brought to Alabama through exploration and trade.

1. What type of ceramic did you draw? _____
2. How old is that type of ceramic? _____
3. Where was the ceramic manufactured? _____
4. Circle the country where your ceramic type was manufactured and draw a path from that country to the United States.

5.





Vertical text or markings along the edge of the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.

