

CHAPTER 1 CLUES TO THE PAST

Activity 1 Focus on Ideas

Fill in each blank to form a summary of Chapter 1 by choosing the proper term from the words listed below.

age	farming	Nobel Prize	17 billion
artifacts	4 billion	1,750,000	specialize
carbon-14	historic	prehistoric	tells
data	Information Revolution	radioactive	translated
decipher	kitchen midden	rings	trees
excavated	legends	Rosetta Stone	writing

Many experts believe that the earth is more than _____ years old. They also claim that people have been on earth for more than _____ years. Humans however developed the skill of _____ only about 5000 years ago. The time before written records of history is called the _____ period. Much of what is known about this period comes from studies made of _____ and _____.

Archaeologists have _____, or dug deep into the earth, to find the remains of lost civilizations. One of the earliest archaeological finds was the discovery of the _____ in Egypt. In recent times, archaeologists have dug out tools, pottery, and other household items from great mounds of earth known as _____.

Scientists have to figure out the _____ of various archaeological finds. At first, they obtained this information by analyzing _____ and counting the number of _____. Since 1946, scientists have used a more exact method which measures the amount of _____ in objects.

Historians today have so much information about the past that many of them have to _____ in one branch of study or research. Using computers, they collect and file _____. This gathering of information on a large scale has been called the _____.

Activity 3 Being Creative

Write a job want ad for an archaeologist as it might appear in a newspaper or magazine.

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Activity 4 Word Puzzler

Unscramble the letters in the first column to spell out the term being described in the second column. Then write out the circle letters in the order in which they appear to form the word puzzler at the bottom.

sgenld	folktales	_____
sage	periods of time	_____
vziiliinocat	society with a developed knowledge of farming, trade, government, and science	_____
mpoltahstoagios	scientists who study the origin and development of humans	_____
espilsascti	people devoted to one branch of study	_____
tehnkci ndimde	name given to the remains of ancient households	_____
sgigtoolse	scientists who study the earth's rocks and minerals	_____
cfairstat	products of human skill	_____
	??? Word Puzzler ???	_____