

# Camp Douglas



Chicago third graders help out at an archaeological dig!



Camp Douglas - Chicago  
1861-1865

## **GUIDE FOR YOUNG ARCHAEOLOGISTS**

## Archaeologists

**Archeologist:** A person who studies artifacts from past human life.

**Artifact:** Objects made and used by people in the past.

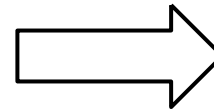
Archeology can be fun and helps us understand our past. The work of an archeologist is to find and keep artifacts from humans to help tell stories about things in the past, for example, what people ate and what types of tools they made and used. Over time, artifacts get buried under dirt, rubble, or even other human settlements. Archeologists have to carefully dig under the ground to find artifacts.

How do archeologists know where to dig? They start by studying the location. That might involve walking over the ground to decide where things could be buried. Sometimes archeologists even take photographs from the air to study a place before they dig.

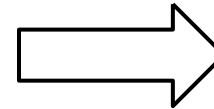
Archeologists dig in lots of places, including old garbage dumps, or in trash piles. Archeologists save the artifacts they find. They clean them very carefully and photograph them. Then the detective work begins. What is the artifact? Who used it? How is it used, and for what?

Digging for artifacts is a slow, carefully planned, and well-organized process. The deeper the archeologist digs the older the artifacts that will be found. When archeologists uncover new artifacts, they're uncovering pieces of history.

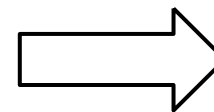
Archeologists have had several digs in places in Chicago and have found artifacts that tell the story of Camp Douglas. With fossils and artifacts archeologists can tell what people and animals did in the past.



**Looking for  
Artifacts**



**Finding  
Artifacts**



**Saving and  
Photographing  
Artifacts**

