work of an archaeologist - history

Archaeologist keywords

Instruments used for excavation

How objects are dated

How archaeologists find sites

History, archaeology, and tourism

Other resources

Archaeologist keywords

- Archaeology
  1. Story of the past from material remains
  2. Material remains are artefacts and buildings
  - Archaeologist: person who excavates objects of interest from underground and sometimes from underwater
  - Artefacts: objects made by people
  - Stories from history: legends or biblical stories (e.g. the story of troy)
  - Aerial photography: this shows up crop marks which indicates that a feature lies under the soil
• Crop marks: patterns in the way crops grow
• Underwater archaeology: using sonar, submarines, and diving gear to explore sunken wrecks
• Rescue/salvage archaeology: archaeology undertaken before new roads or buildings are developed
• Excavate: to dig up
• Conservation: protection and preservation of ancient objects so that they do not decay (usually done in a museum)
• Site: area that is excavated

(quizlet: https://quizlet.com/ie/544961219/archaeology-keywords-flash-cards/?new)

Instruments used for excavation:
Records- finds are stored on computers
Sieves- sort out artefacts
Diggers- clear away top soils
Laboratory- bone material is investigated for age and injuries
Survey- draw a plan of the site
Grid of squares- record each find
Digging tools- shovels, trowels, and brushes
How objects are dated

1. Stratigraphy- oldest layers are at the bottom and the youngest are at the top
2. Tree-ring dating- telling how old a tree is by studying its rings
3. Carbon-14 dating- telling how old something was alive by measuring how much carbon-14 is left in it
4. Coins and pottery- objects found alongside coins and pottery will be from the same age

How archaeologists find sites

- Above ground- some sites are above ground (e.g. castles, pyramids)
- Below ground- some sites are found by chance when people are ploughing or building (e.g.
terracotta army was found when people were digging for a well in China)

History, archaeology, and tourism

- Many of the most popular tourist sites in Ireland are based on history and archaeology (e.g. newgrange, Co. Meath)

Other resources:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aL8BXUBXyoU
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FpJSw4VghOE