

Windover Site

In 1982 in Titusville, Florida a burial site in a shallow pond was discovered. The pond had turned to peat many years before that which helped preserve the bones and even brain tissue of the ancient people buried in this pond. The bodies were so well preserved due to the peat preventing oxygen in. The people and objects found in this pond were between 7,000 and 8,000 years old. There were over 167 remains of people and artifacts discovered in this pond. The skeletons found were of both adults and children and they were buried wrapped in fabric with valuable artifacts that included bones, carved wooden objects, and tools. The artifacts were often made of wood, bone, and antler. Plants were also buried including prickly pear pads gourds. The fabric wrapped around the bodies is some of the oldest ever found. Making the fabric into something that could be wrapped around a body took a long time. Archaeologists believe that the Windover people probably made Titusville their semi-permanent home, maybe only living here in the spring and summer. These ancient people are thought to be a caring and less nomadic people. It is believed these people cared for the sick and injured. These people were not entirely peaceful however as some skeletons were found with fractures and other wounds.

Objectives:

First Grade:

Use senses to make observation about the site.

Understand how the Windover people's lives differed from our lives.

Understand new vocabulary introduced and relate it to prior knowledge.

Have a basic understanding of the Windover site and be able to write about three things you learned about.

Have a basic understanding of "taking away from" and "adding to."

Science:

SC.1.N.1.2 Using the five senses as tools, make careful observations, describe objects in terms of number, shape, texture, size, weight, color, and motion, and compare their observations with others. ---What types of artifacts were discovered? What do these objects look like, how big are they, and what color are they?

Social Studies

SS.1.A.2.2 Compare life now with life in the past.

Can you compare your life now with the people of Windover?

Reading & Language:

Vocabulary:

Artifacts: 1.any object made by human beings, esp. with a view to subsequent use.

2.a handmade object, as a tool, or the remains of one, as a shard of pottery, characteristic of an earlier time or cultural stage, esp. such an object found at an archaeological excavation.

Peat: 1.a highly organic material found in marshy or damp regions, composed of partially decayed vegetable matter: it is cut and dried for use as fuel.

Archaeology:

Nomad: 1.a member of a people or tribe that has no permanent abode but moves about from place to place, usually seasonally and often following a traditional route or circuit according to the state of the pasturage or food supply.

Archaeology: 1.the scientific study of historic or prehistoric peoples and their cultures by analysis of their artifacts, inscriptions, monuments, and other such remains, esp. those that have been excavated.

Shard: 1.a fragment, esp. of broken earthenware

LA.1.1.6.1 The student will use new vocabulary that is introduced and taught directly;
What were some of the artifacts found at the Windover site?

LA.1.1.6.5 The student will relate new vocabulary to prior knowledge;
Can you give examples of other artifacts you have seen before?

LA.1.4.2.3 The student will write an informational/expository paragraph that contains a topic sentence and at least three details;
What was the Windover site and can you discuss three things you learned about the site?

Mathematics:

MA.1.A.1.1 Model addition and subtraction situations using the concepts of "part-whole," "adding to," "taking away from," "comparing," and missing addend."

If you have 5 skeletons and you take away 3 how many are left?

If you have 4 skeletons and you add three more how many do you have?