

Archaeology Activity Minimum Vessel Count

Goal: Figure out how many different objects there are.

Important! - Be sure to listen to the instructor and follow their directions closely.
Some objects may be sharp – take care when handling them.

What you will need

This minimum vessel kit.

A way to document your objects such as a camera, cellphone, or pencil and paper.

Directions

1) Place all the artifacts on the table, spread them out and examine them as a group for a few minutes. If you want, count the total number of pieces.

Archaeologists like to know how many different objects they have, instead of just how many pieces of objects they have. This kit contains a variety of different objects which all have the same pattern. This makes it more challenging to determine how many there are. Also, not all of the pieces are here! This is a problem archaeologists often face.

2) Work as a team by choosing an artifact and finding other pieces that match it.

3) When you have figured out how many objects you think there are, ask your instructor if you got it right!



Thank you for doing the activity – hope you had fun!