



Uncovering Michigan's Prehistoric Past

Educational Standards

Third Grade

E.SE.03.22 Identify and describe natural causes of change in the Earth's surface (erosion, glaciers, volcanoes, landslides, and earthquakes).

E.ES.03.51 Describe ways humans are dependent on the natural environment (forests, water,

3 – H3.0.1 Identify questions historians ask in examining the past in Michigan (e.g. What happened? When did it happen? Who was involved? How and why did it happen?)

3 – H3.0.2 Explain how historians use primary and secondary sources to answer questions about the past.

Fourth Grade

E.ST.04.31 Explain how fossils provide evidence of the history of the Earth.

E.ST.04.32 Compare and contrast life forms found in fossils and organisms that exist today.

4 – H3.0.1 Use historical inquiry questions to investigate the development of Michigan's major economic activities (agriculture, mining, manufacturing, lumbering, tourism, technology, and research) from statehood to present.

- What happened?
- When did it happen?
- Who was involved?
- How and why did it happen?
- How does it relate to other events or issues in the past, in the present, or in the future?
- What is its significance?

Fifth Grade

L.EV.05.11 Explain how behavioral characteristics (adaptation, instinct, learning, habit) of animals help them to survive in their environment.

L.EV.05.13 Describe how fossils provide evidence about how living things and environmental conditions have changed.

L.EV.05.14 Analyze the relationship of environmental change and catastrophic events (for example: volcanic eruption, floods, asteroid impacts, tsunami) to species extinction.

Sixth Grade

L.EC.06.41 Describe how human beings are part of the ecosystem of the Earth and that human activity can purposefully, or accidentally, alter the balance in ecosystems.

E.SE.06.12 Explain how waves, wind, water, and glacier movement, shape and reshape the land surface of the Earth by eroding rock in some areas and depositing sediments in other areas.

E.ST.06.31 Explain how rocks and fossils are used to understand the age and geological history of the Earth (timelines and relative dating, rock layers).

E.ST.06.42 Describe how fossils provide important evidence of how life and environmental conditions have changed.

6 – W1.2.1 Describe the transition from hunter gatherers to sedentary agriculture (domestication of plants and animals).

6 – W1.2.2 Describe the importance of the natural environment in the development of agricultural settlements in different locations (e.g., available water for irrigation, adequate precipitation, and suitable growing season).

6 – H1.1.1 Explain why and how historians use eras and periods as constructs to organize and explain human activities over time.

6 – H1.2.1 Explain how historians use a variety of sources to explore the past (e.g., artifacts, primary and secondary sources including narratives, technology, historical maps, visual/mathematical quantitative data, radiocarbon dating, DNA analysis).

6 – W1.1.1 Describe the early migrations of people among Earth's continents (including the Beringia and Bridge).

6 – W1.1.2 Examine the lives of hunting and gathering people during the earliest eras of human society (tools and weapons, language, fire).

Extended Activities

Archaeological Dig

E.ST.04.31 Explain how fossils provide evidence of the history of the Earth.

E.ST.04.32 Compare and contrast life forms found in fossils and organisms that exist today.

L.EV.05.13 Describe how fossils provide evidence about how living things and environmental conditions have changed.

E.ST.06.42 Describe how fossils provide important evidence of how life and environmental conditions have changed.

The Dating Game

E.ST.06.31 Explain how rocks and fossils are used to understand the age and geological history of the Earth (timelines and relative dating, rock layers).

Make a Trace Fossil

E.ST.04.31 Explain how fossils provide evidence of the history of the Earth.

E.ST.04.32 Compare and contrast life forms found in fossils and organisms that exist today.