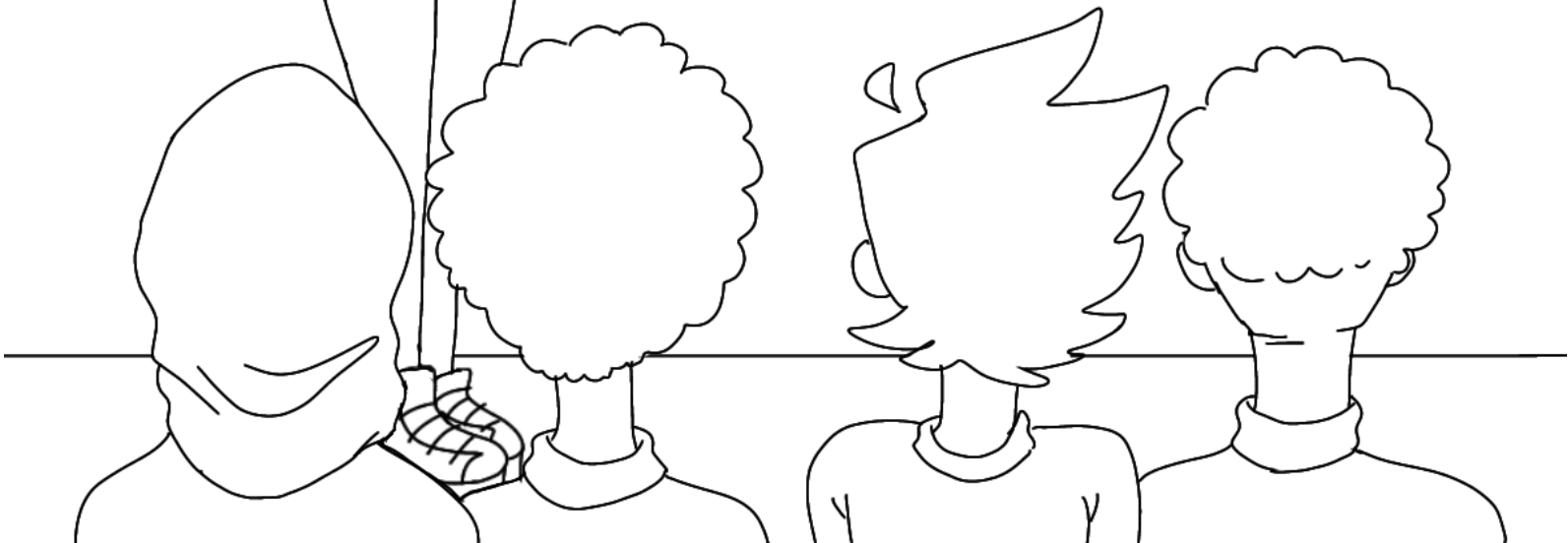


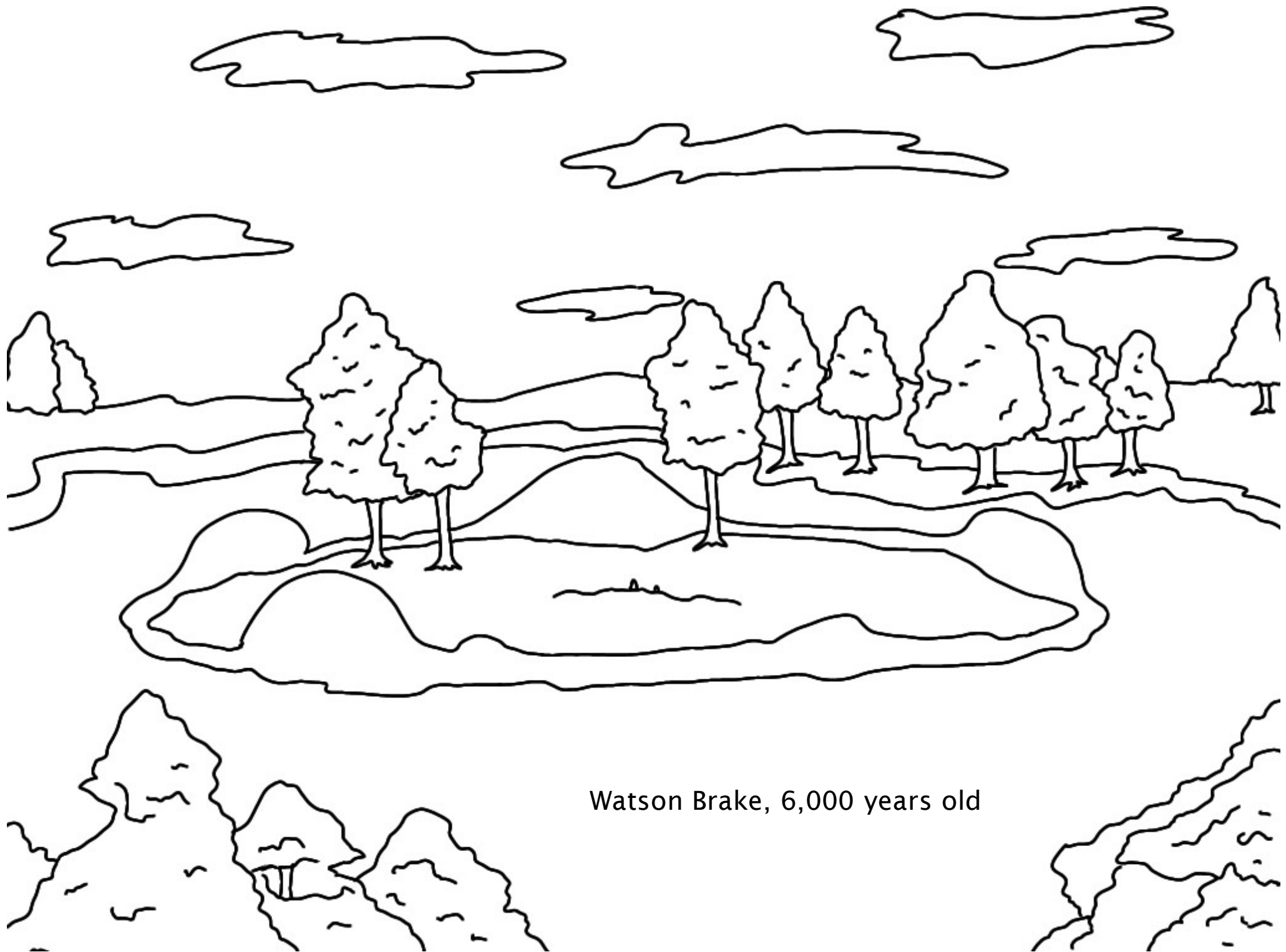


LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGY

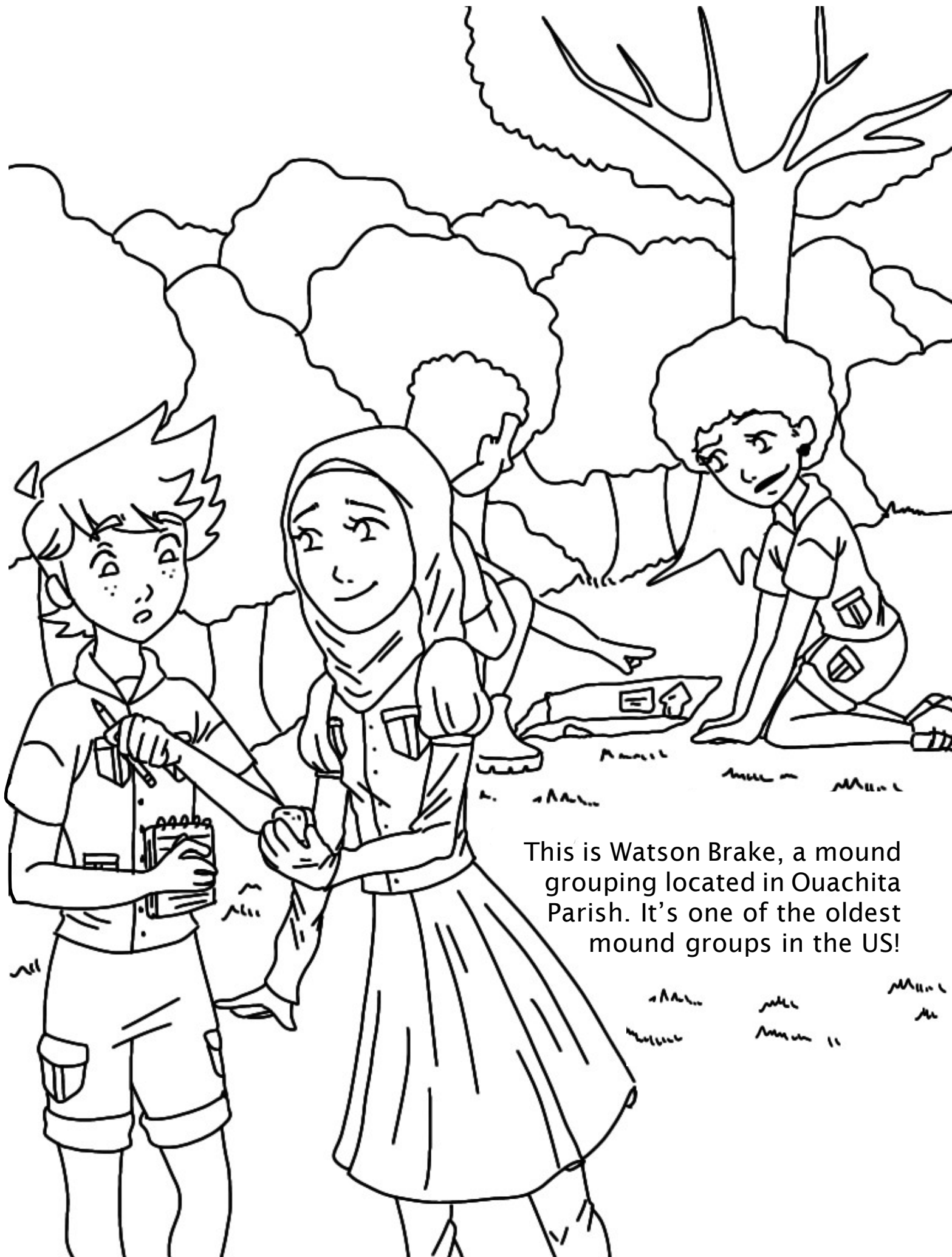
Illustrated by: Laela Baham

Good morning children! Today we're going to visit some of Louisiana's archaeological sites.





Watson Brake, 6,000 years old

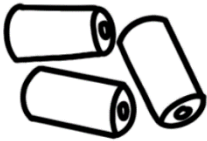


This is Watson Brake, a mound grouping located in Ouachita Parish. It's one of the oldest mound groups in the US!

Match the objects on the left to the terms on the right.



Seasonal



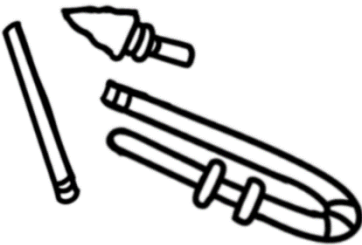
Atlatl (spear-thrower)



Projectile point (spear point)

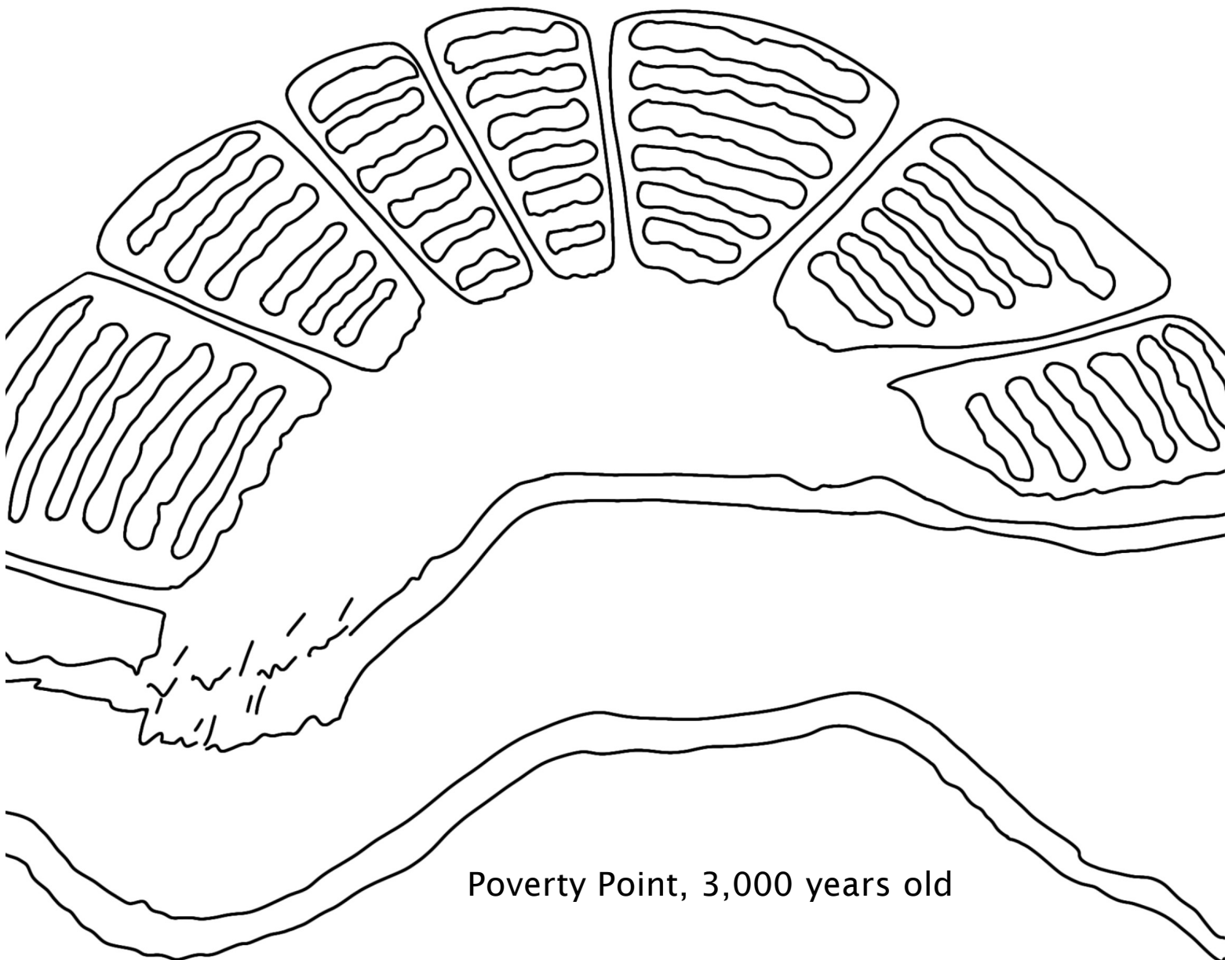
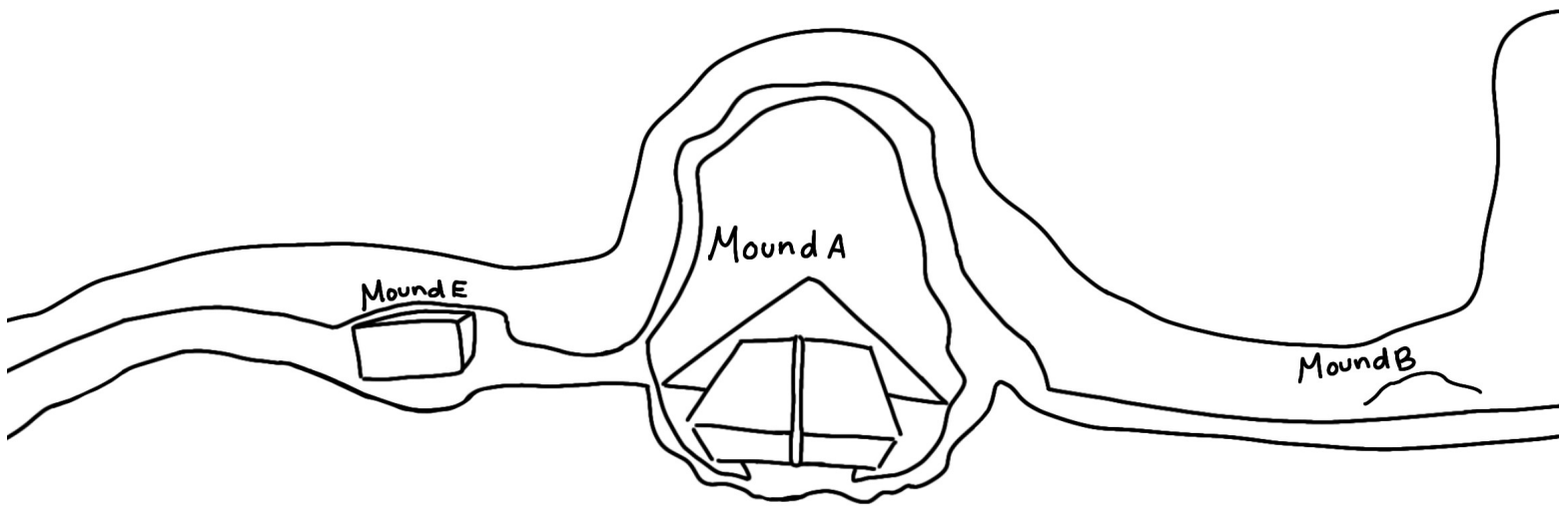


Drill of knife

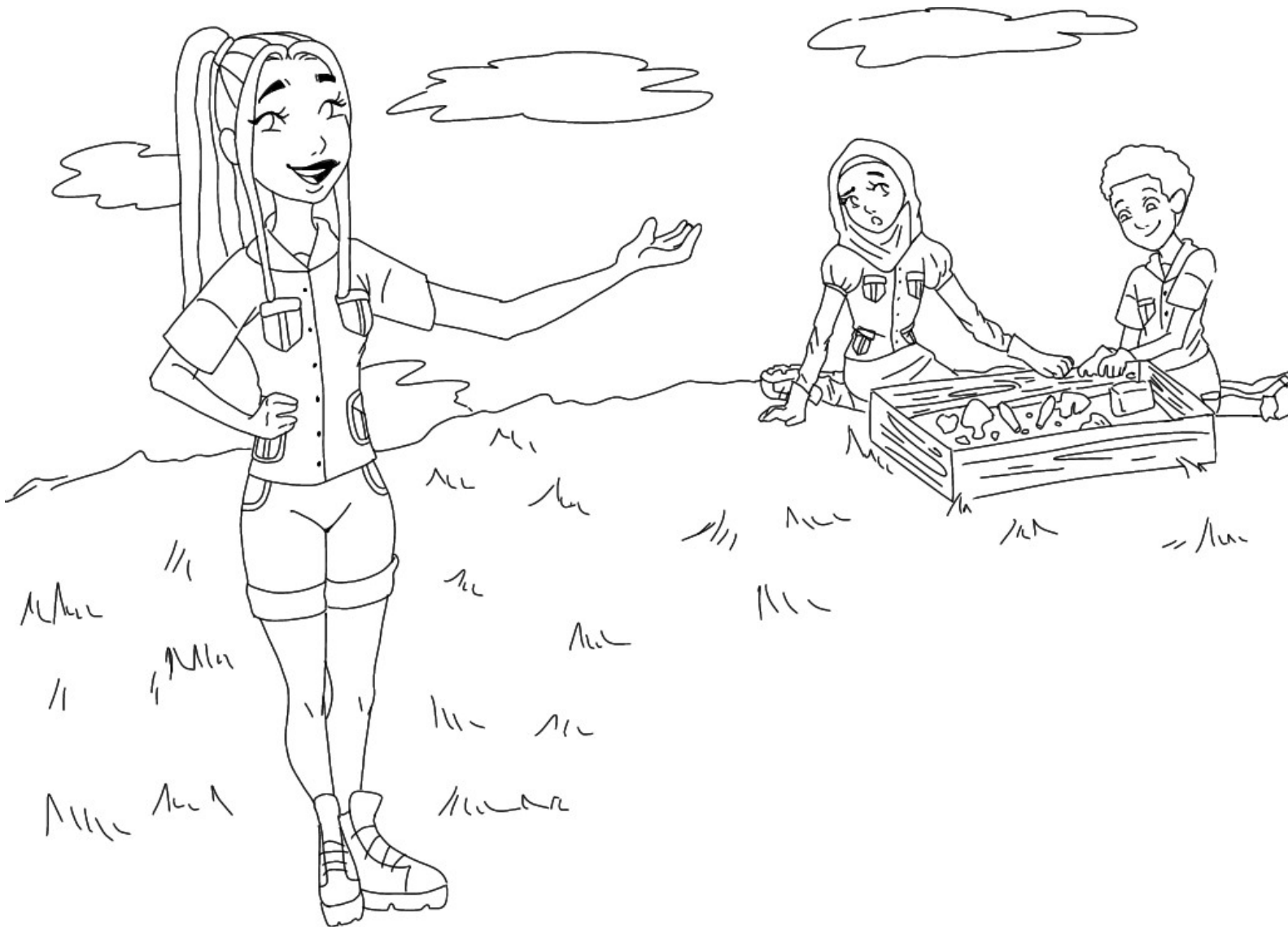


Beads (tubular)

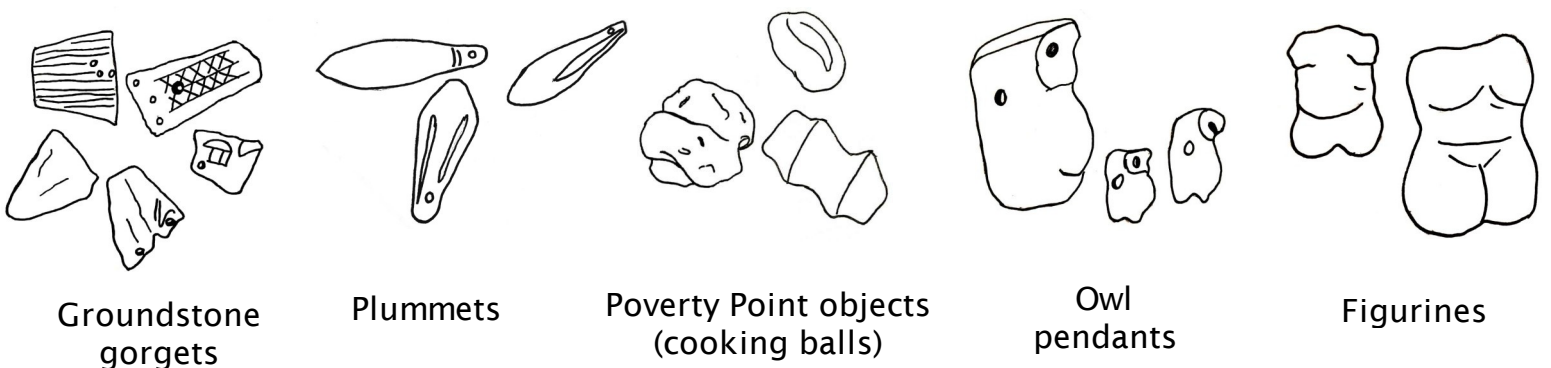
The American Indians who lived at Watson Brake hunted local animals like deer. They gathered wild plants, nuts, and seeds, and collected fish and snails from the bayou for food. Archaeologists recovered the remains of these plants and animals at the site. They learned these remains only appear at certain times of the year. Now we know the American Indians lived at Watson Brake during certain seasons.

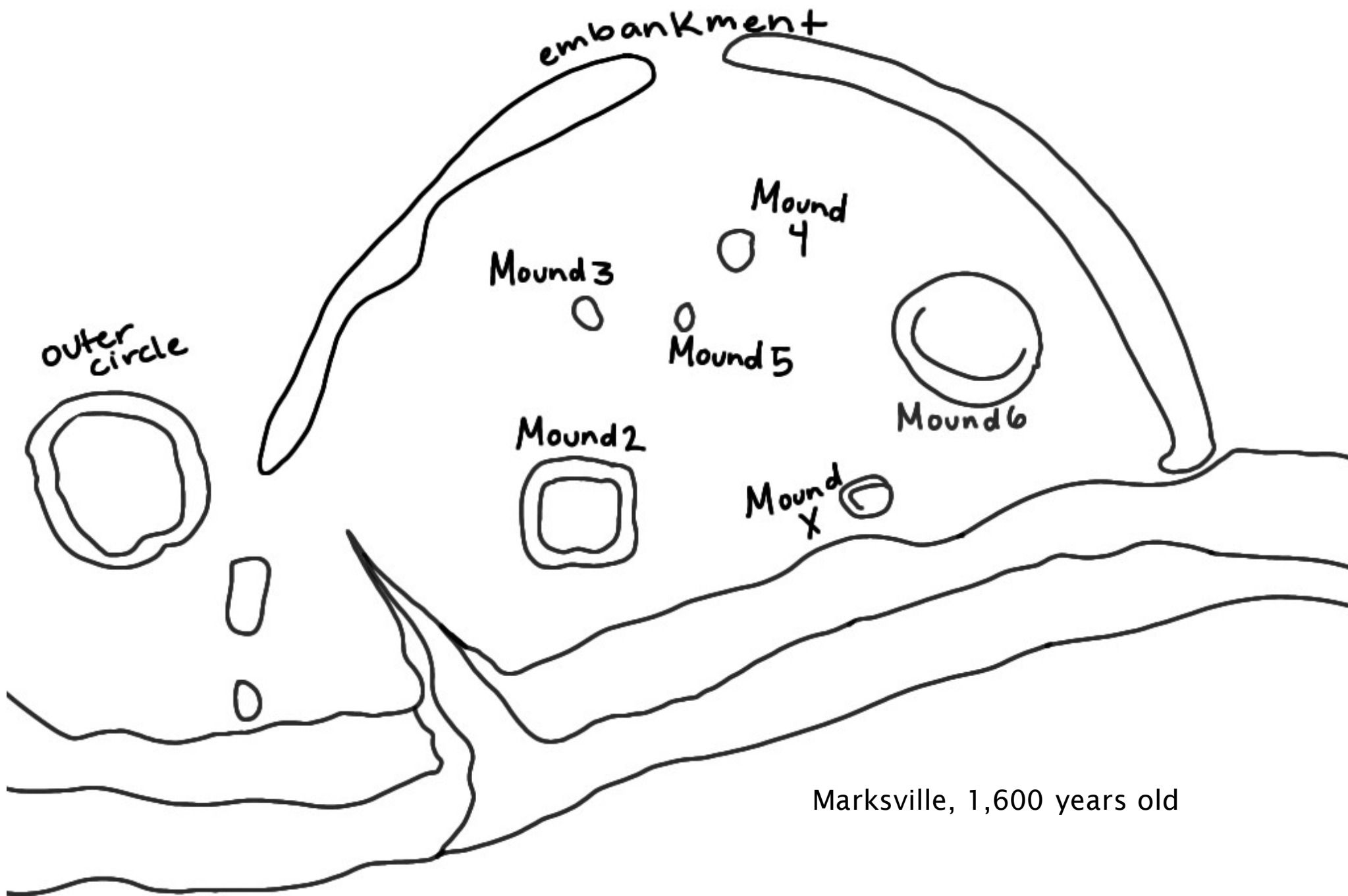


Poverty Point, 3,000 years old

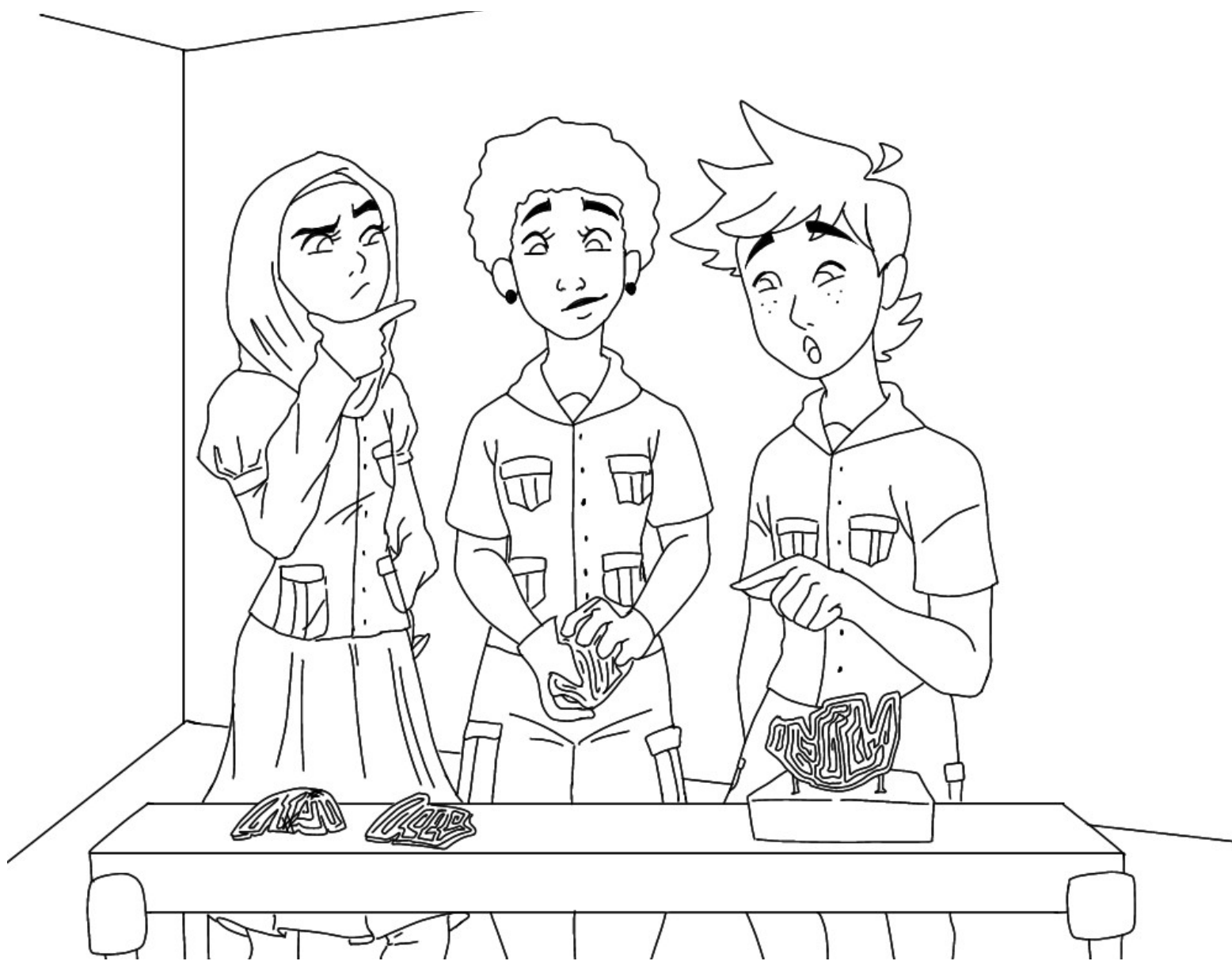


The Poverty Point World Heritage Site is a special place. It is an enormous site —roughly the size of 455 football fields! The American Indians built six mounds and six ridges. They hunted animals and gathered wild nuts, plants, and seeds for food. The people made tools and fish hooks from animal bones. They traded with other American Indians who lived close by and those who lived as far away as the Great Lakes. Stone was a trade item used to make spear points, gorgets (jewelry), and fishing net weights.





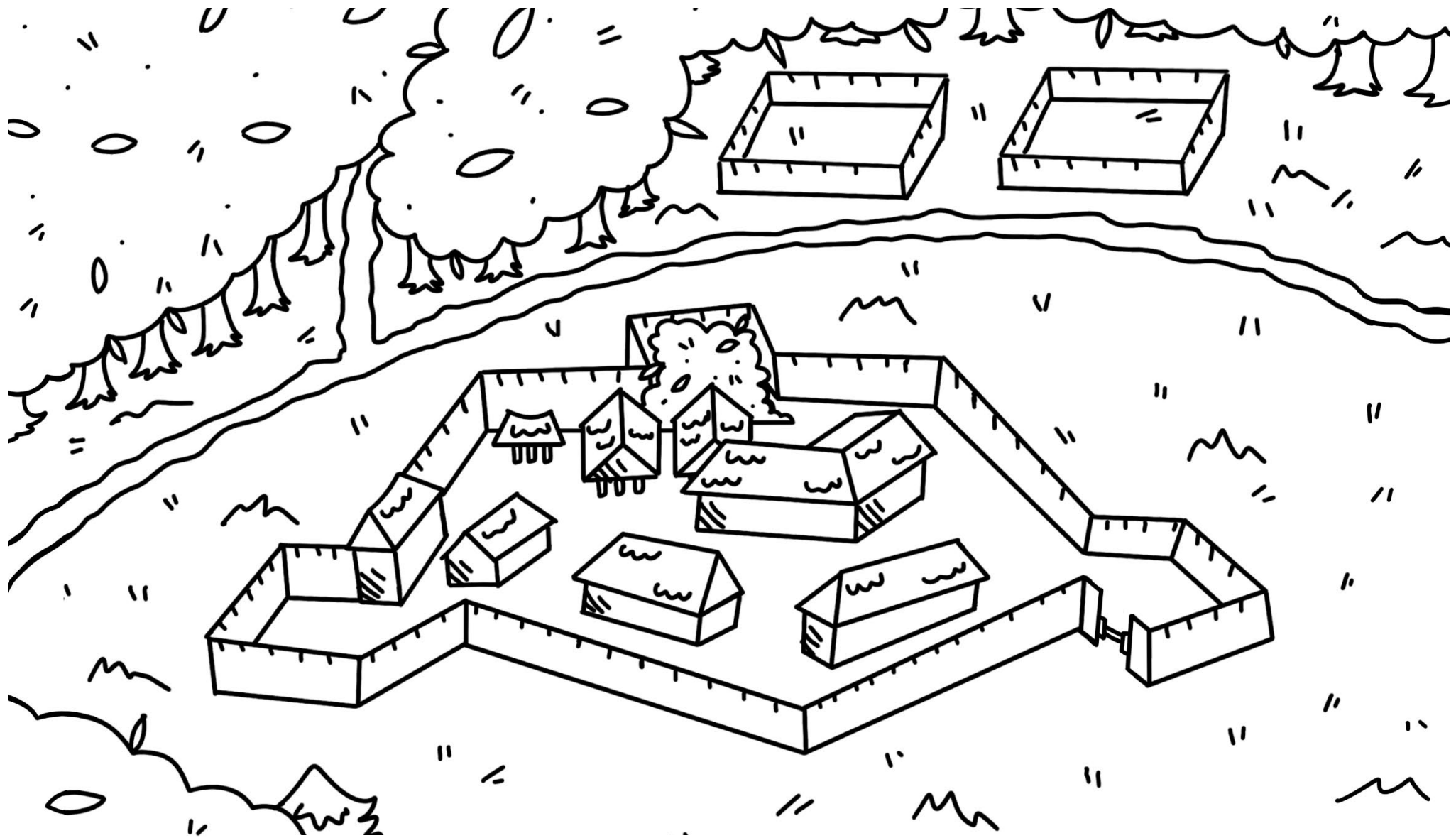
Marksville, 1,600 years old



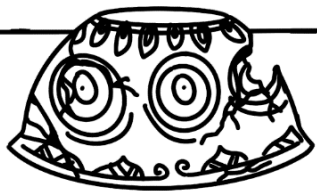
Designs on the pottery found at Marksville show triangles, lines, and serpents. Archaeologists are unsure of the designs' meaning. Some of the designs on these pots came from a rocker-stamp or a curved piece of wood, bone, or shell that had teeth, like a saw. The designer rocks the stamp back and forth on the wet pottery, making tiny dents on the surface. By pressing and moving a piece of wood through the wet clay, they can make smooth lines. They also used the smooth rounded ends of sticks to create round indentations in the wet clay. The American Indians at Marksville made containers by combining clay with grog. Grog is a type of temper made from ground-up pieces of broken pottery or fired clay. It acts like glue and helps the pot hold its shape.

Design your own ceramic pot!
Use the space below to recreate designs like those
seen at the Marksville site or create your own design!





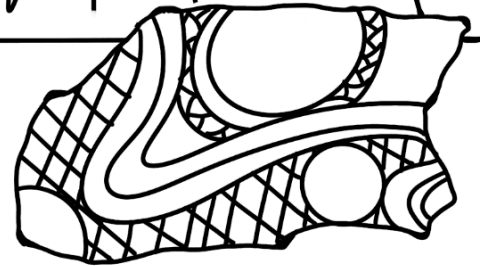
Los Adaes was a Spanish fort built in 1721. It served as the capital of Texas from 1729 until the fort closed in 1772. Archaeologists found artifacts that tell us some of what happened at the fort. We know the Spanish traded with the French and the American Indians, like the Caddo, who lived in the area. Projectile points and other artifacts show the Caddo people lived in the area before the Spanish built the fort. Coins, pottery sherds, tools, and religious items like *higas* tell us about the daily lives of the Spanish soldiers.



Spanish bowl



French plate



Caddo ceramic fragment



French coin



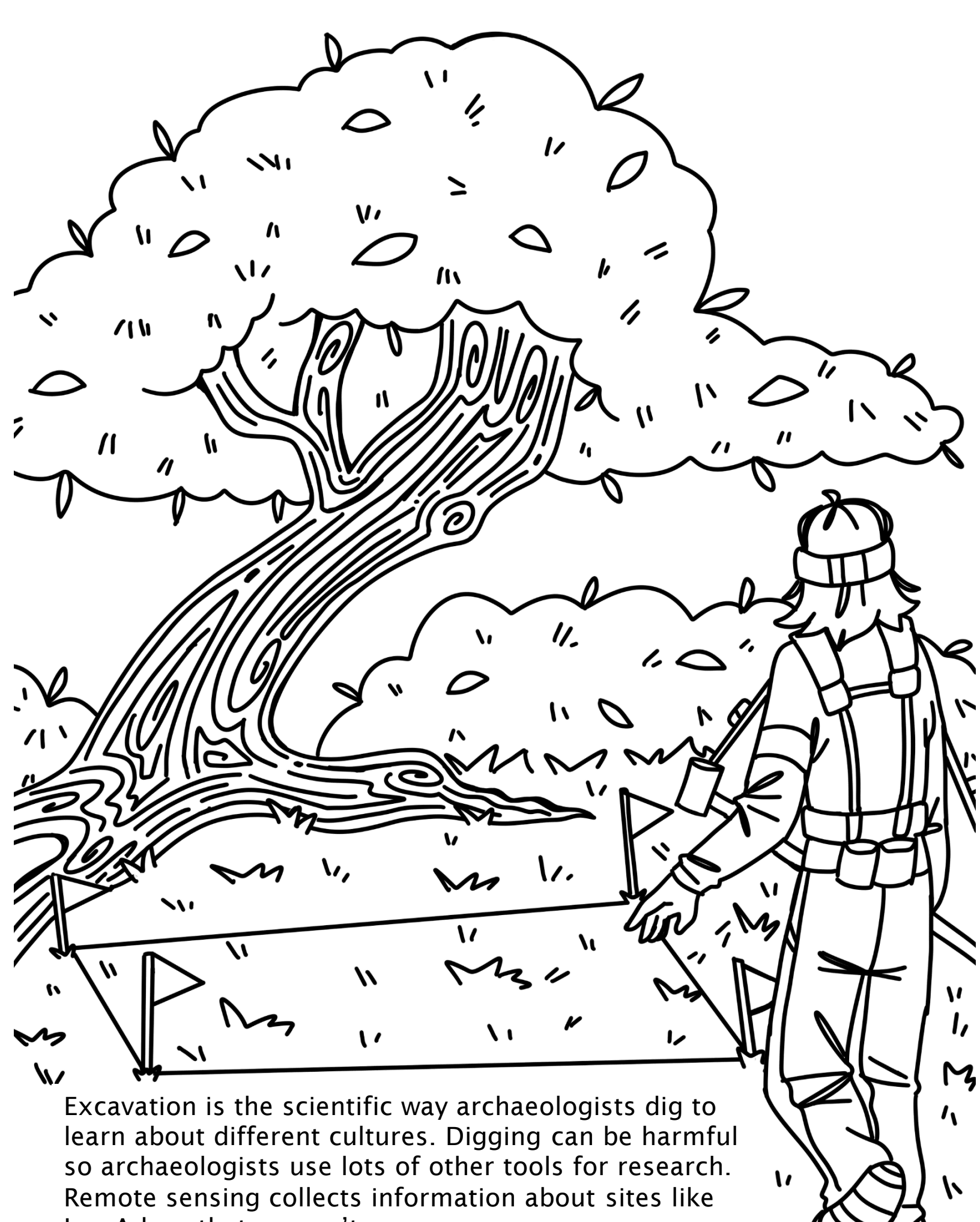
Spanish coin



Spanish higa(s) &
religious medal



Projectile point(s)



Excavation is the scientific way archaeologists dig to learn about different cultures. Digging can be harmful so archaeologists use lots of other tools for research. Remote sensing collects information about sites like Los Adaes that we can't see on our own.

WORD SEARCH

C	E	U	O	I	X	B	W	S	P	M	H	V	L	N	A	L	I	D	L
G	W	C	T	W	Y	T	Z	D	F	M	J	M	N	L	V	Q	Q	P	Y
O	O	Q	U	D	L	D	C	A	Z	P	P	Z	A	Y	D	M	V	F	G
T	Z	R	F	Z	E	P	M	E	P	L	A	A	G	L	Q	R	V	O	F
M	J	I	G	P	L	Z	E	B	I	E	B	I	F	T	Z	L	R	U	T
R	X	O	Q	E	D	N	D	N	C	S	Y	D	T	A	F	T	K	N	B
H	P	N	R	Y	T	D	C	A	D	G	H	D	P	L	N	D	I	A	F
Y	S	C	M	I	G	A	L	P	Y	A	Y	O	R	T	E	O	I	B	F
Q	R	S	H	P	V	J	W	L	D	N	N	L	Q	A	P	Q	M	V	O
E	Y	B	N	E	B	Z	C	U	A	O	U	T	E	R	W	W	J	M	N
B	T	D	X	D	A	A	R	M	M	R	H	Y	A	M	W	D	L	Y	R
P	Z	Q	S	Z	E	N	D	M	B	J	N	E	O	W	O	I	A	M	L
A	M	C	M	D	K	L	Q	E	H	O	P	B	F	F	R	E	W	K	E
B	X	I	C	G	V	R	D	T	K	S	Z	D	W	L	D	I	N	Q	M
Y	B	P	O	V	E	R	T	Y	P	O	I	N	T	O	B	J	E	C	T
C	G	P	E	L	V	V	Q	S	F	U	T	D	D	W	J	Y	N	N	I
N	Q	F	Y	U	O	M	K	A	L	L	D	R	B	H	C	X	C	T	P
I	O	J	L	R	G	V	Q	U	I	Z	H	Z	E	G	T	S	S	E	T
D	Q	W	U	S	D	X	P	G	Q	F	O	F	P	A	X	W	W	N	Q
E	F	I	G	U	R	I	N	E	M	Y	E	R	E	Y	J	W	C	C	A

Atlatl

Poverty Point Object

Spear Point

Owl Pendant

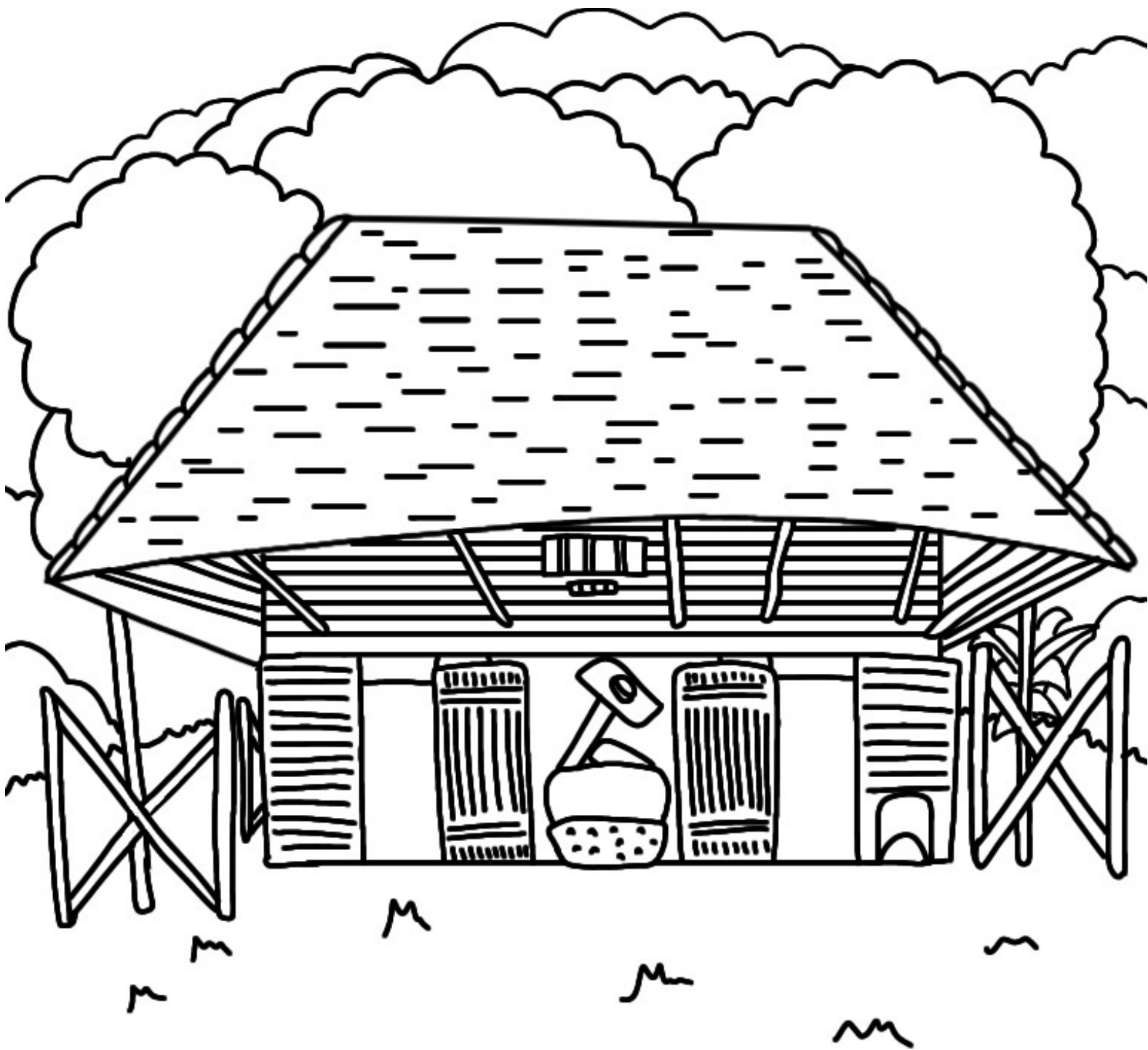
Gorget

Figurine

Adze

Beads

Plummet

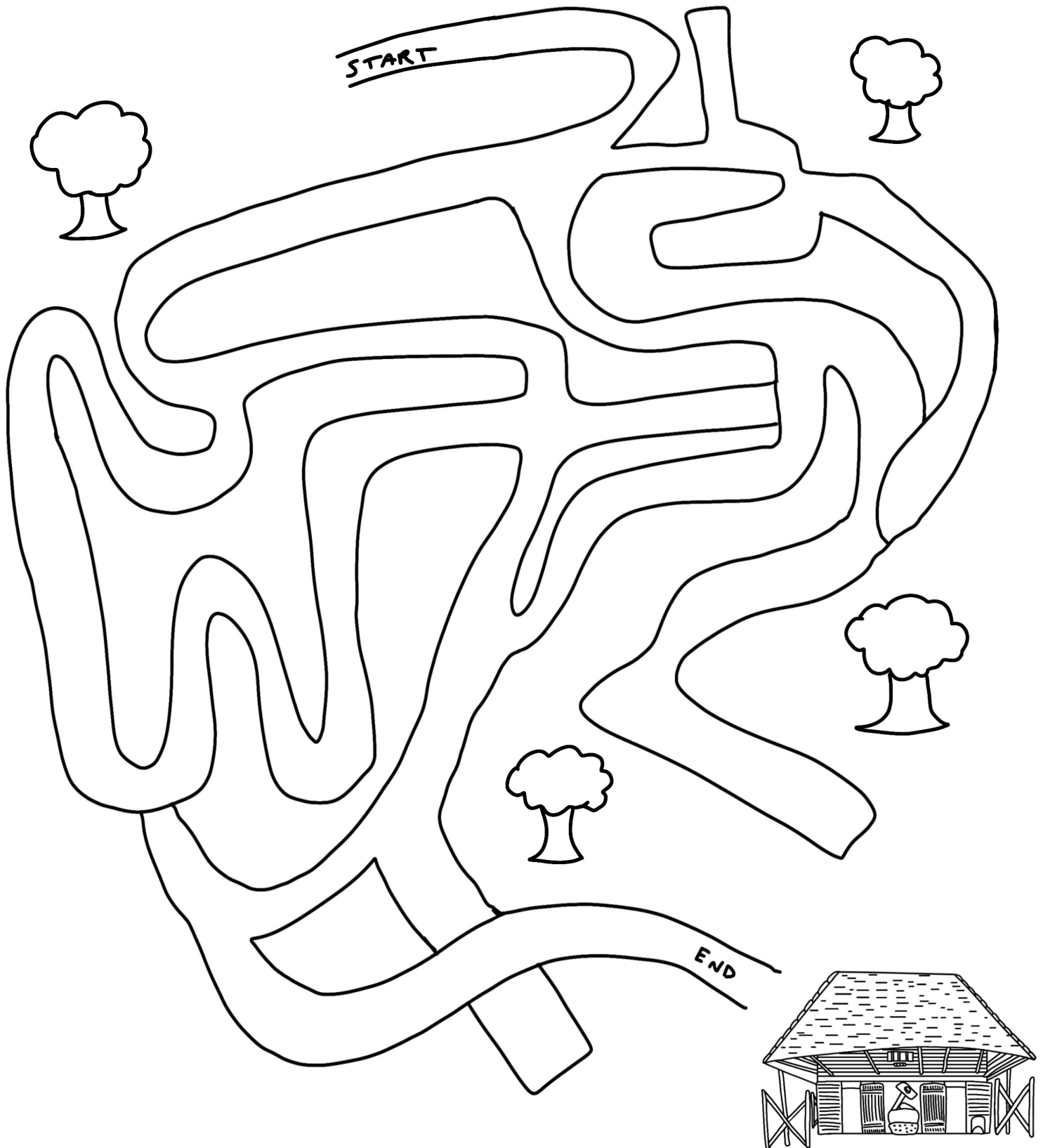


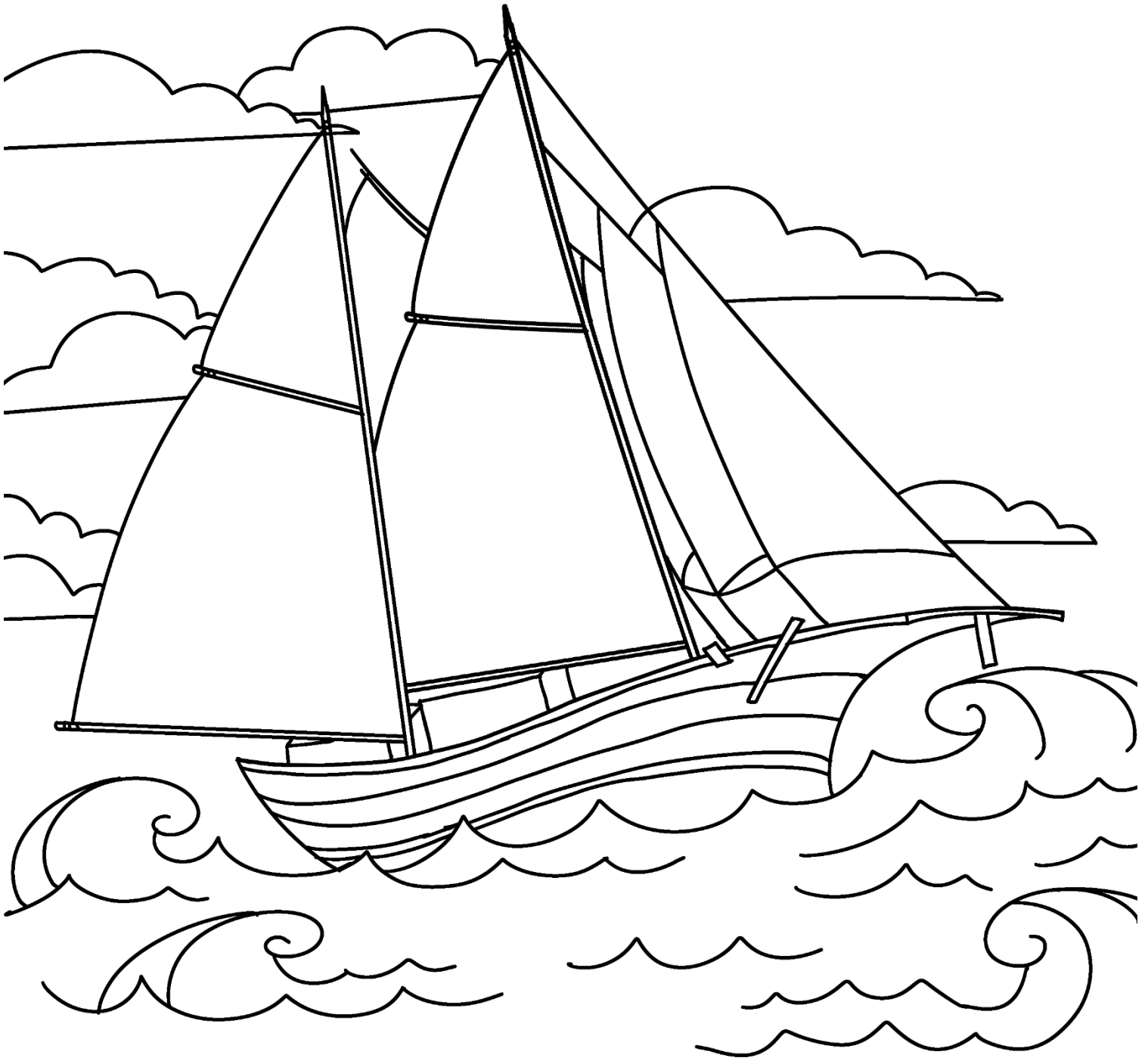
Archaeologists often work with historic preservationists. Historic preservationists help protect historic places, like Yucca House at Melrose Plantation. The Yucca House is an African-style home built by enslaved Africans. Louis Metoyer had the plantation built in the late 1700s. He and his mother, Marie Thérèse Coincoin, were once enslaved workers at Melrose. Preservationists also helped save Clementine Hunter's artwork. Clementine was an enslaved woman who taught herself to paint. Her paintings show what daily life was like at Melrose Plantation.



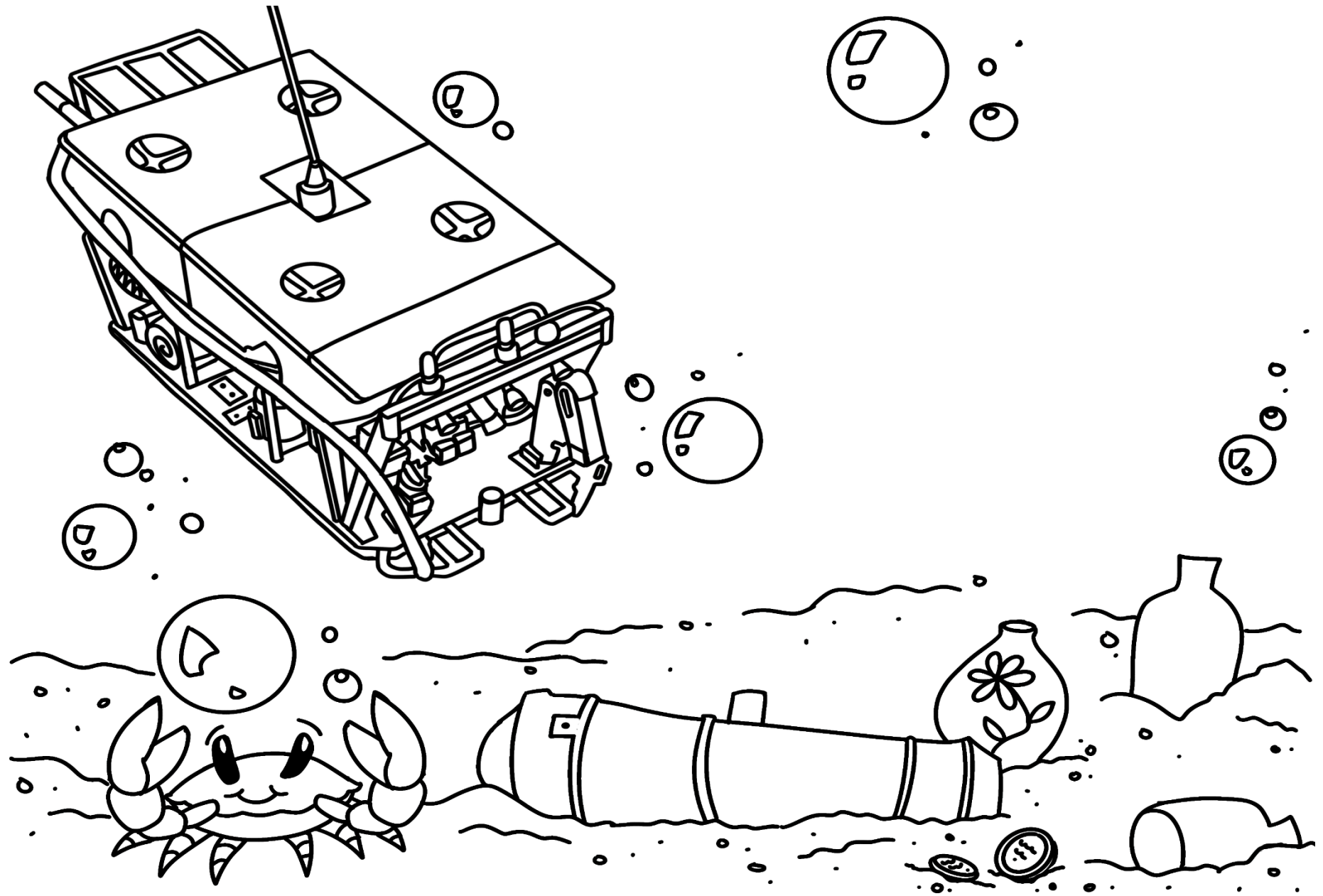
Clementine Hunter

Can you make it to the Yucca House?

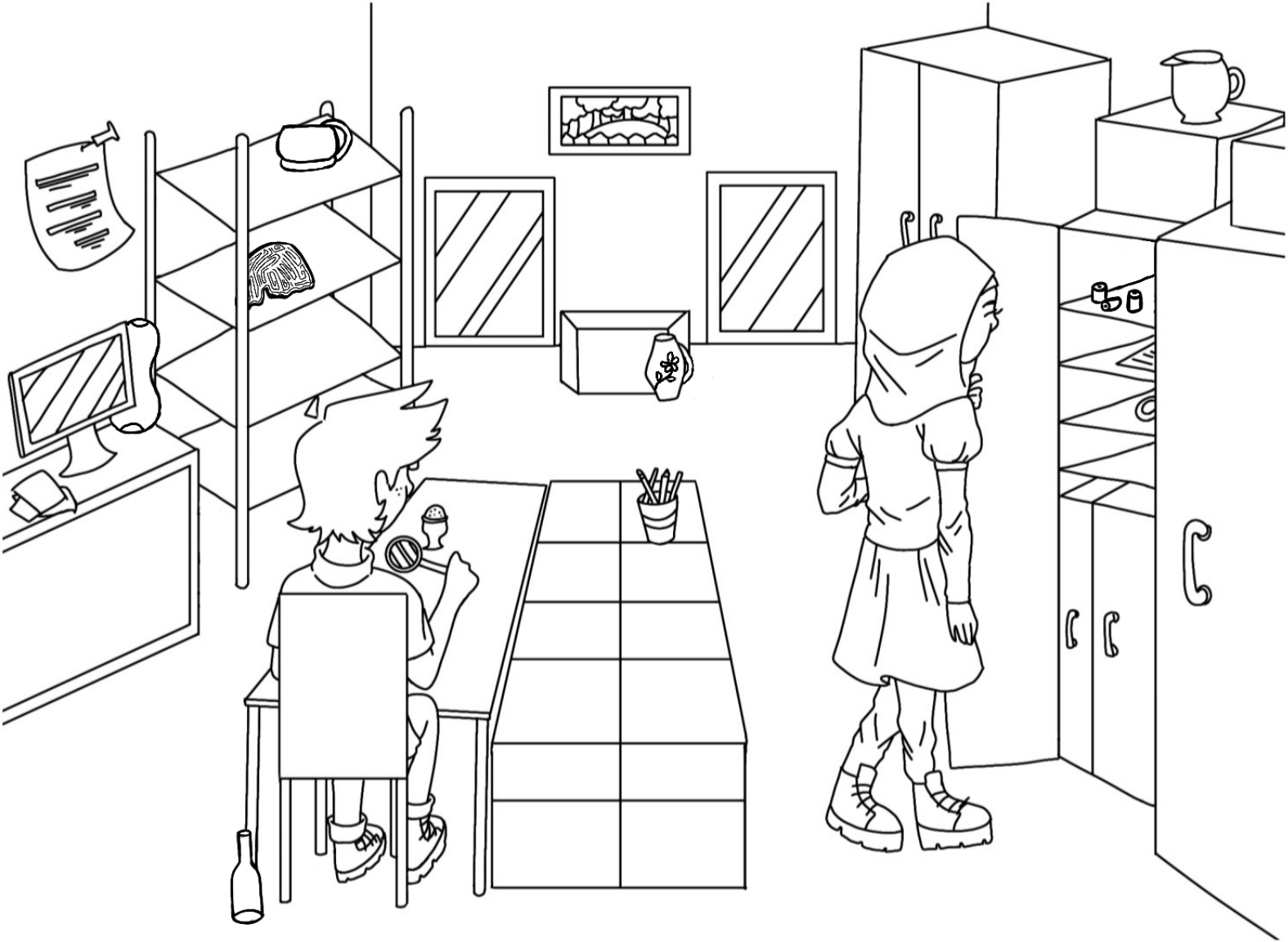




Archaeologists believe the Mardi Gras Shipwreck dates to early or mid-1800s. This date is thanks to artifacts recovered from the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico, like a coin that dates to 1808. The archaeologists didn't know the ship's name, so they named it after a nearby pipeline. It might be a merchant schooner because it had cargo on board from America, England, and France when it sank. The ship didn't show evidence of an attack so archaeologists believe it sank during a storm.



Archaeologists sometimes use different equipment to locate cultural sites and to collect artifacts. At 4,000 feet deep in the Gulf of Mexico, archaeologists couldn't dive to excavate the shipwreck. They used an ROV (Remote Operated Vehicle) to collect artifacts from the wreck on the ocean floor. They also saw a lot of sea creatures in the process!



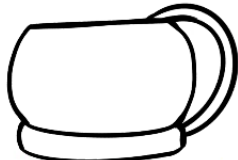
Archaeologists bring artifacts back to the lab for analysis and curation. Here, archaeologists identify the artifacts, record them, and conserve them for the future. Can you find the following artifacts in the Conservation Lab?



Wine bottle



Tea pot



Kettle



Pottery sherd



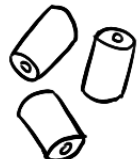
Sand clock



Stoneware jug



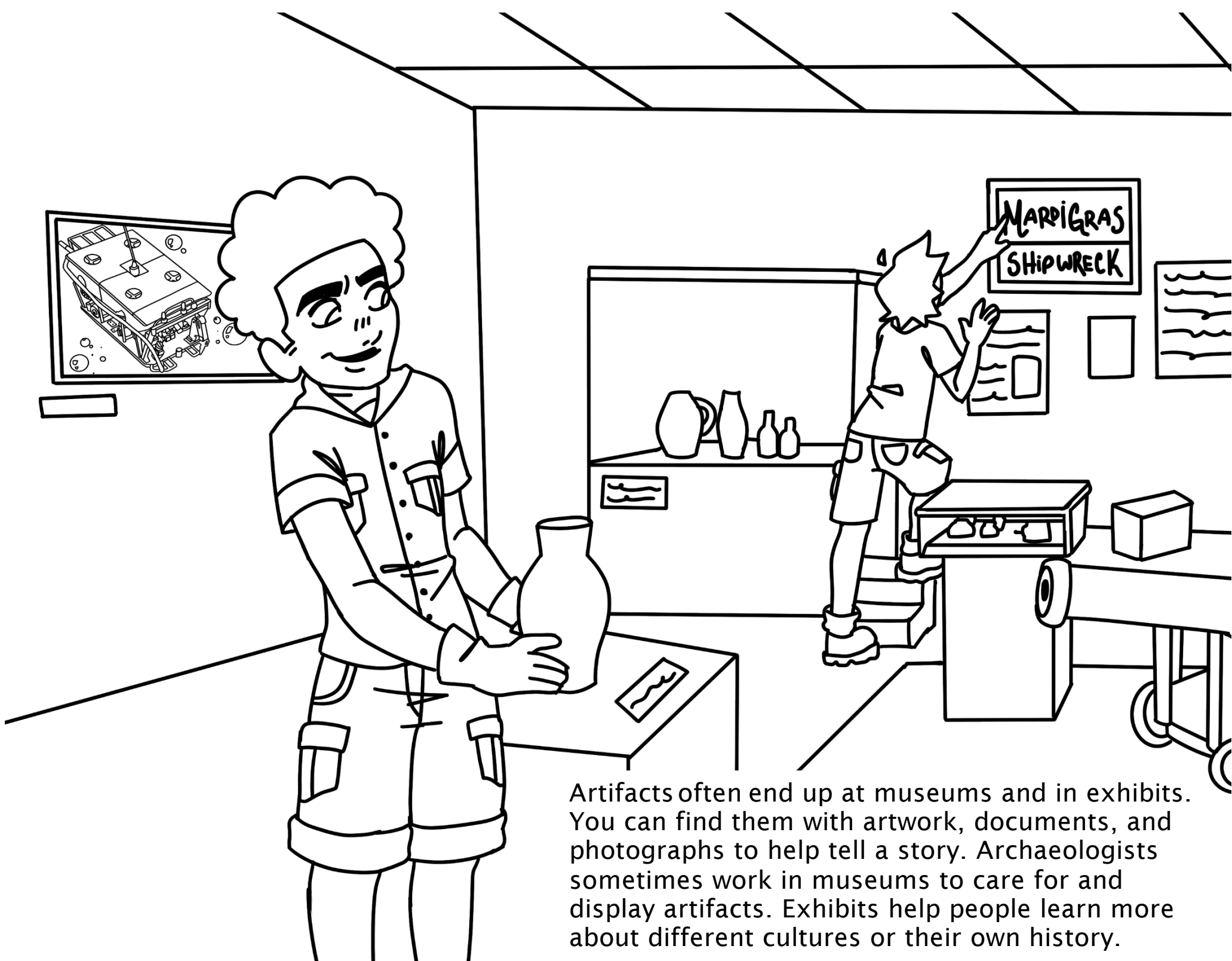
Pitcher



Beads
(tubular)

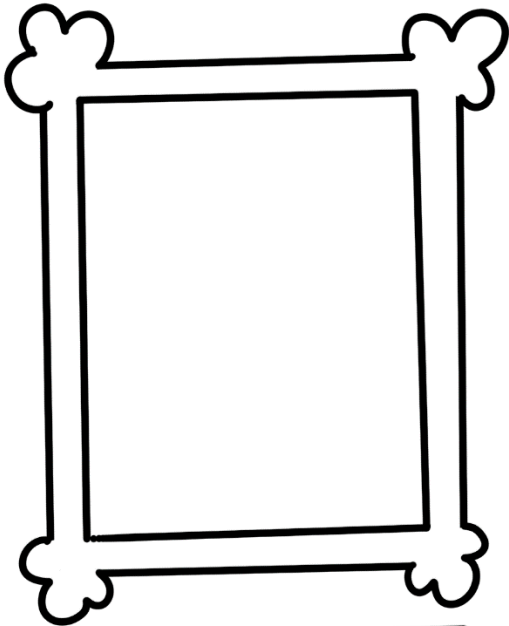


Pepper shaker

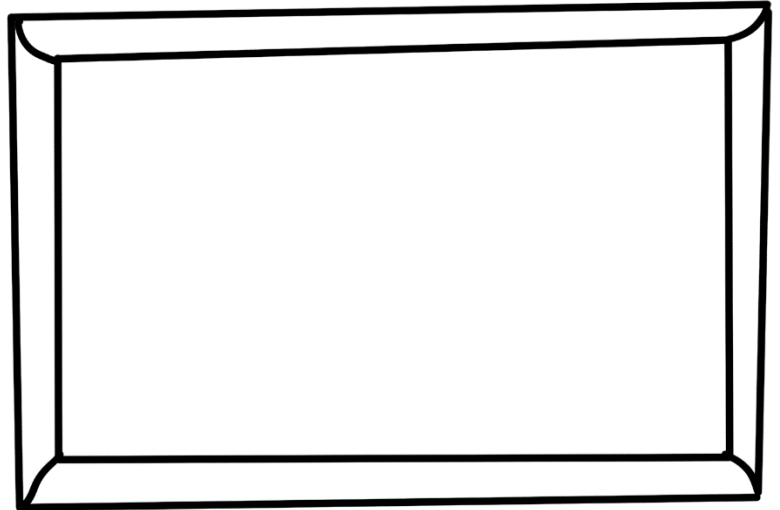


Artifacts often end up at museums and in exhibits. You can find them with artwork, documents, and photographs to help tell a story. Archaeologists sometimes work in museums to care for and display artifacts. Exhibits help people learn more about different cultures or their own history.

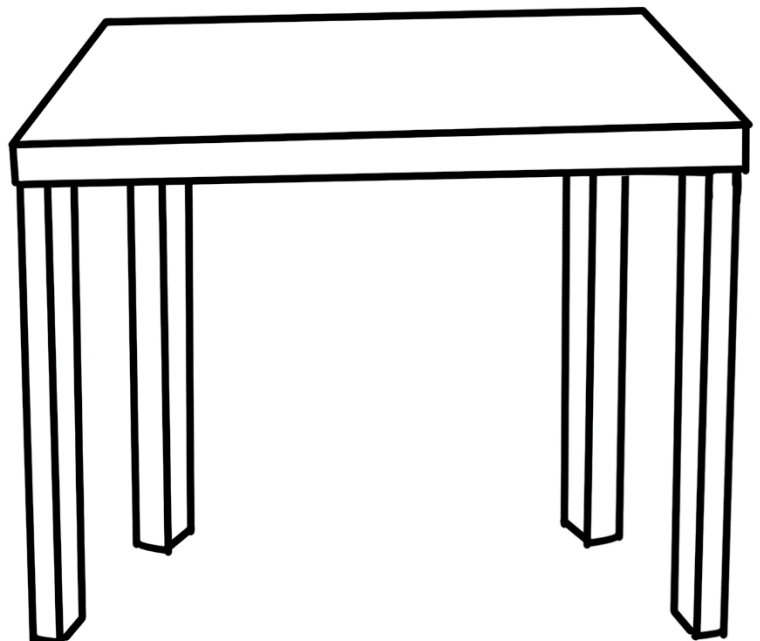
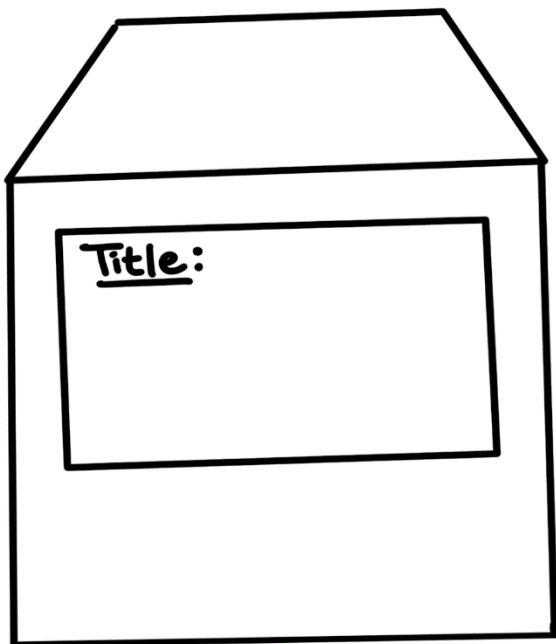
Fill this exhibit space with artifacts and images to tell a story.



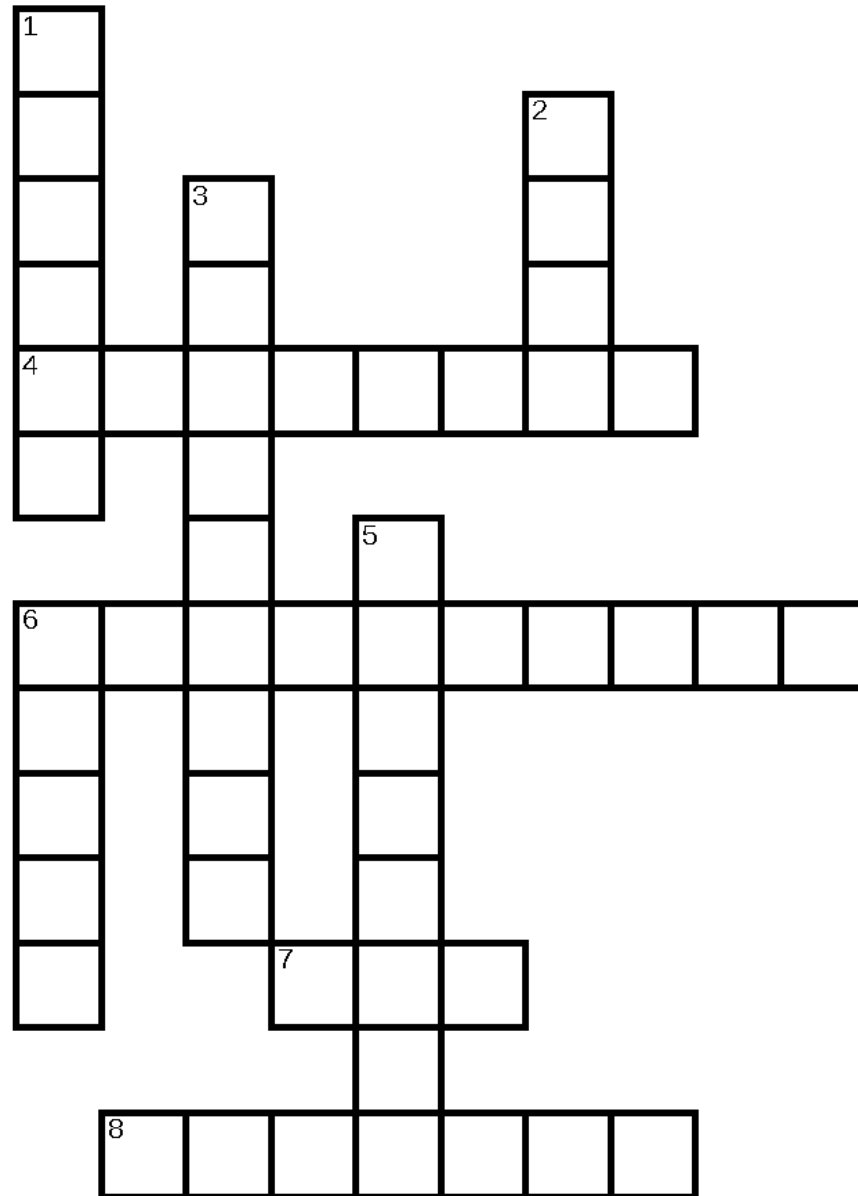
Title:



Title:



Complete the crossword puzzle!



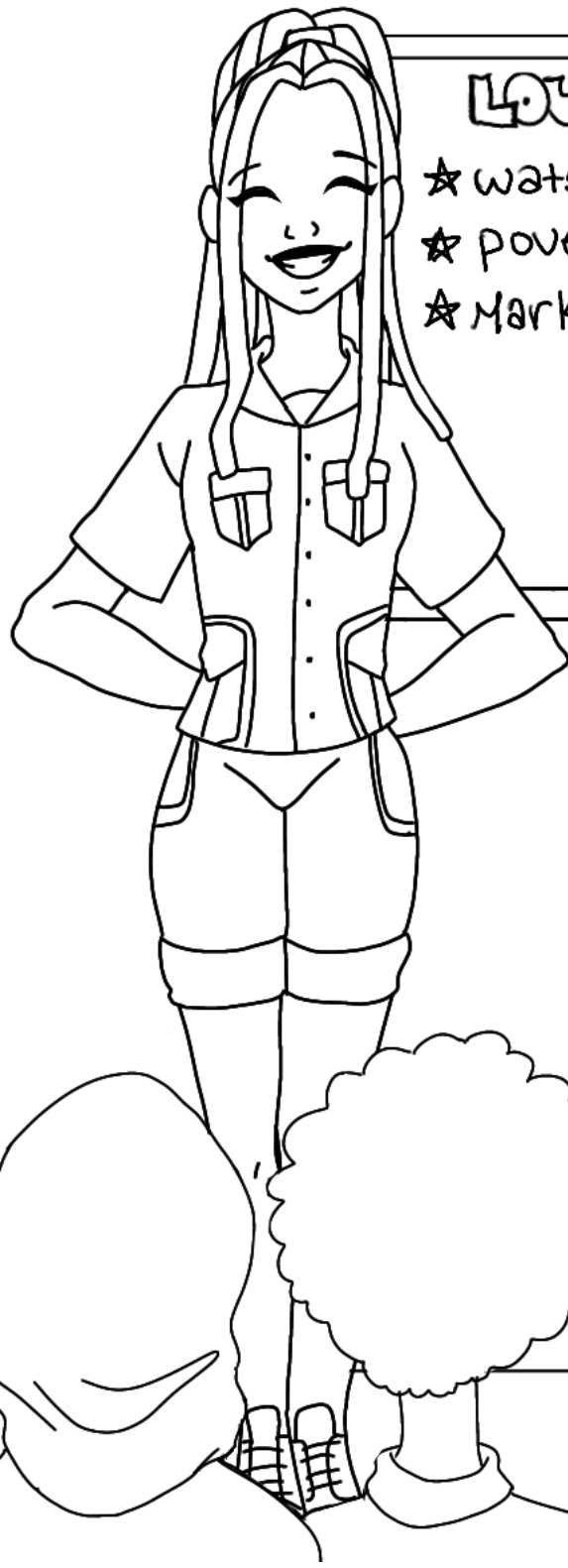
Across

- 4 Another word for "dig."
- 6 A projectile point or stone tool made by ancient humans to hunt.
- 7 A tool archaeologists use to locate archaeological sites.
- 8 Containers made from fired earth or clay.

Down

- 1 A tool used by archaeologists to dig in the earth.
- 2 A rectangle or square in the earth dug by archaeologists in order to find information about past peoples.
- 3 Pieces of paper archaeologists use to find information about a site.
- 5 Human-made or modified items past peoples leave behind.
- 6 A piece of pottery.

Now let's review what we learned!

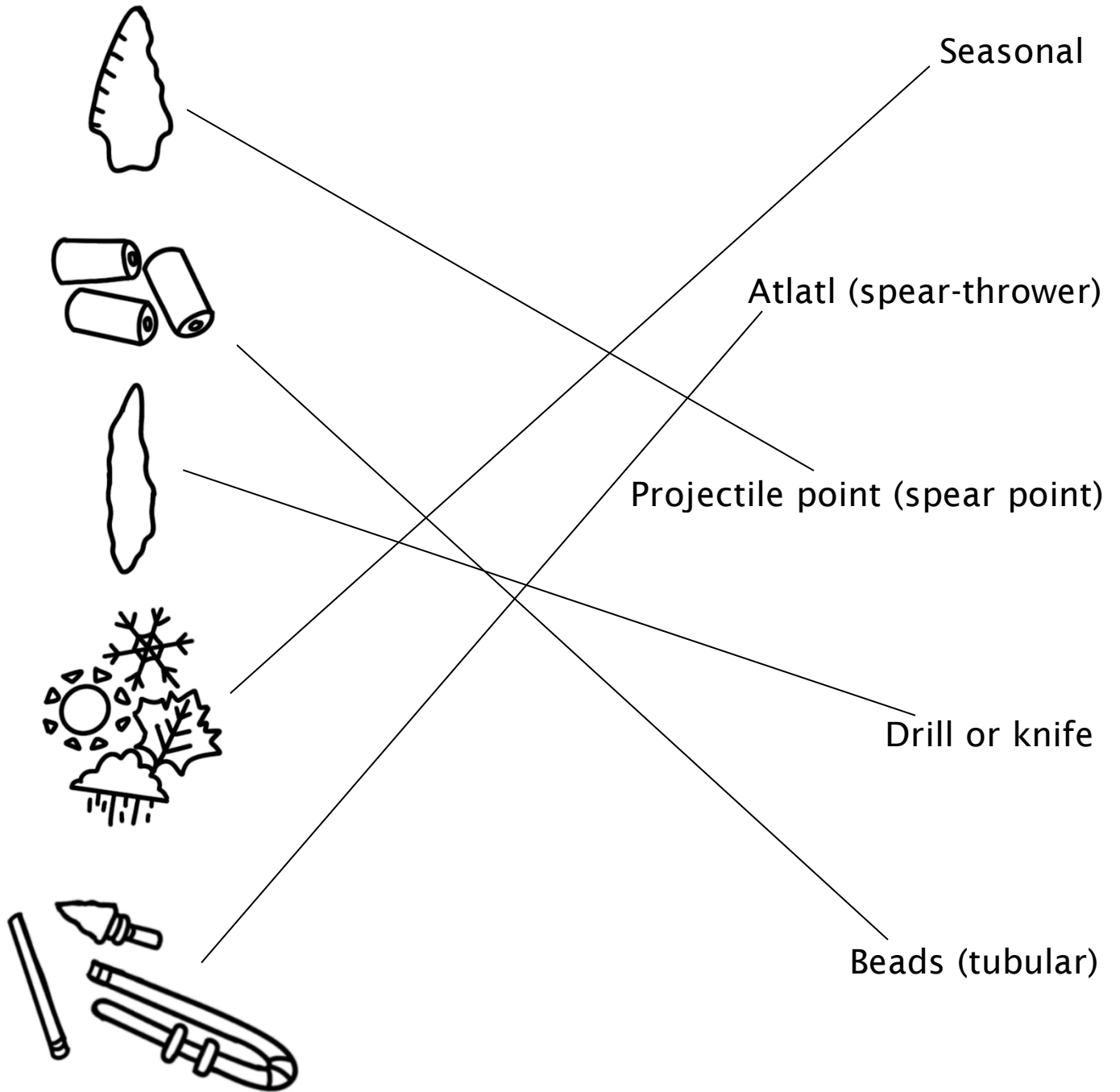


LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGY

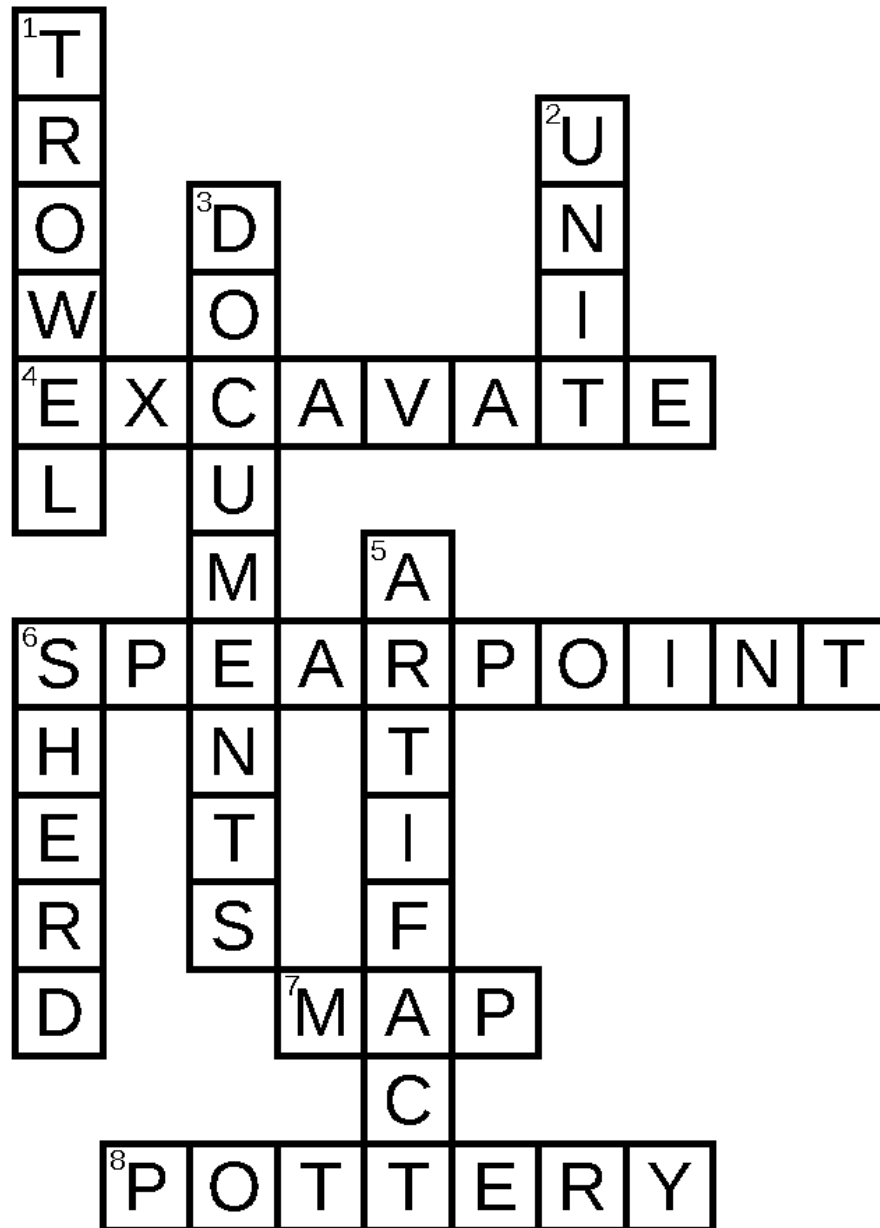
- ★ Watson Brake
- ★ Poverty Point
- ★ Marksville
- ★ Mardi Gras Shipwreck
- ★ Los Adaes
- ★ Melrose Plantation

OBJECT MATCHING

ANSWER KEY

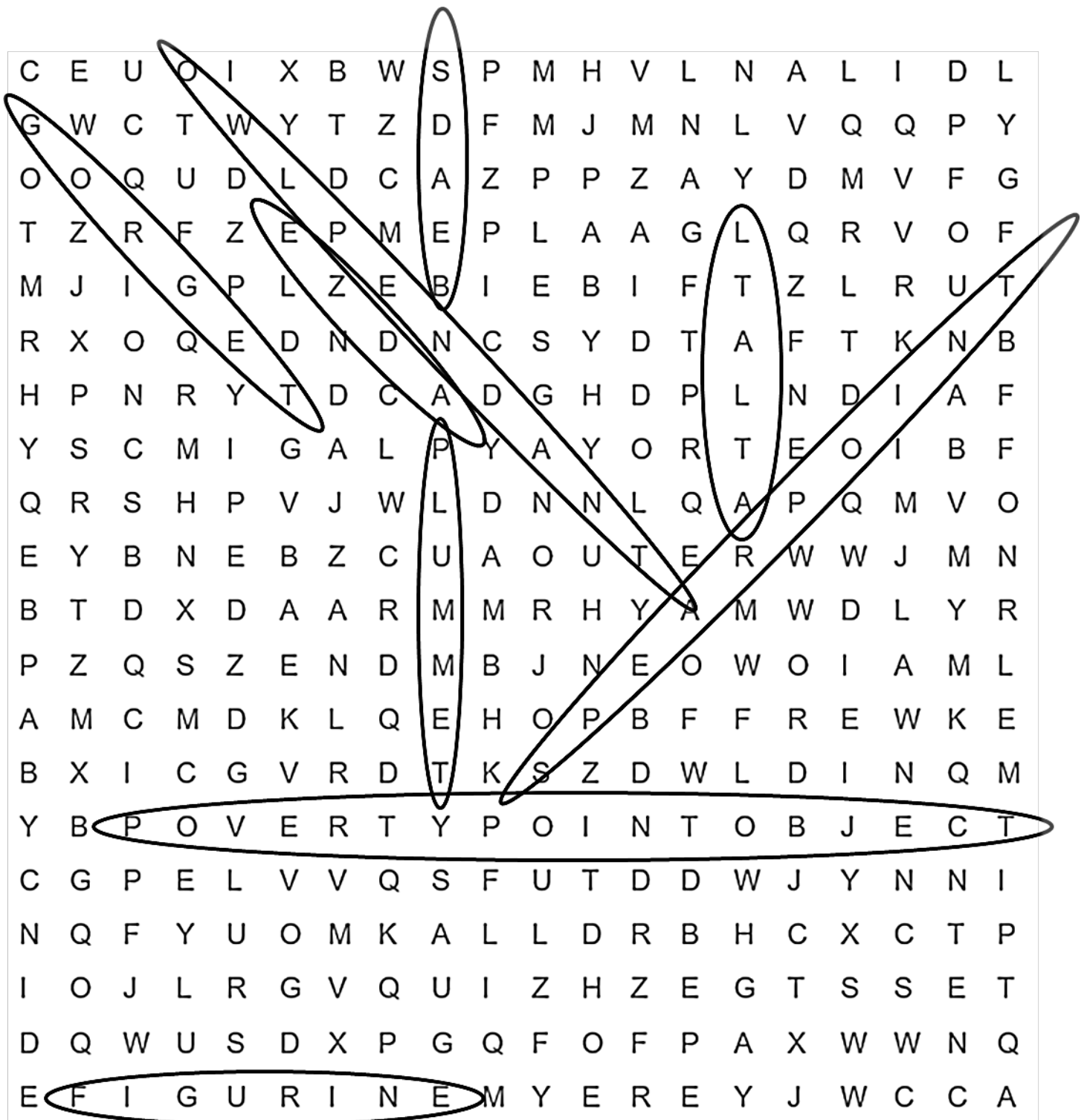


CROSSWORD PUZZLE
ANSWER KEY



WORD SEARCH

ANSWER KEY





LOUISIANA
OFFICE of CULTURAL
DEVELOPMENT

ARTS • ARCHAEOLOGY • HISTORIC PRESERVATION • CODOFIL