

Native Americans have been living in Oregon for thousands of years. They are the first Oregonians.

Culture is the way of life of a group of people. At the Museum of Natural and Cultural History we learn about different Native American cultures of Oregon. One way we learn is by studying the objects, or artifacts, people have used and then left behind. We also learn by listening to the stories, or oral traditions, that have been handed down from generation to generation.



An archaeologist is a scientist who studies clues to the past. At the museum, you will play the part of an archaeologist by studying the artifacts Native Americans left behind and learning the oral traditions that are still told today.

Word Challenge

Read the definitions below and fill in the correct word.

1. A scientist who searches for clues to the past

A R C H A E O L O G I S T

2. The way of life of a group of people

C U L T U R E

3. Objects made or used by people

A R T I F A C T S

4. Stories passed from one generation to the next

O R A L T R A D I T I O N S

5. People living in Oregon for thousands of years, the first Oregonians.

N A T I V E A M E R I C A N S

