

# AWESOME ARCHAEOLOGY!

A lot of the activities below require discussion with an adult or friend. If you are doing any digging activities make sure that Children are supervised at all times, and children – make sure you listen to your adults!

## **Archaeology is just rubbish!**

There are some who say that archaeology is just rubbish! It is the investigation of what past societies and communities have left behind whether it is buildings, burials or rubbish!

What do you think you will leave behind? Collect some items from around the house that you think will last for centuries after you have gone! What do you use them for? Why do you think they will last?

## **Be a toybox archaeologist!**

Look through your toybox – what is at the top? What is at the bottom? Why are they in layers? The layers of a toybox are just like the layers of history that archaeologist dig through in the soil. Can you find any broken toys – do the pieces fit together or are there some mystery parts?

If you don't have a toybox, look elsewhere – down the back of or underneath the settee? Maybe your wardrobe?

## **Building block jigsaw**

Build a structure – a tower, a house – any kind – out of building blocks, lego, empty cardboard boxes. Now knock it down!

Look at how the parts are lying – are they close together or far apart? Do how the parts lie give any clue to what the structure like?

Can you rebuild it – EXACTLY - as it was? Is this easy to do?

If you want to make this more difficult then ask an adult or friend to build the structure without you seeing it, then try and rebuild it from scratch!

## **Outside Activities**

If you are lucky enough to have garden, why not do some outdoor activities? Remember though – you will need an adult and most importantly, their permission!

## **Digging the Dirt!**

Why not have a go with an adult at digging in an area of the garden to see what you can find?

You will need outdoor clothes (it might get dirty) a small trowel, a small paintbrush

Choose a small area – maybe a 30cm square and mark out the area.

Now look at its location – is it near a building? What is on top – soil or grass or other?

Do you know any information about the area – when was your house built? Has there been lots of digging before? What do you think you might find?

Dig one layer at a time – use the paint brush to gently move the dirt out of the way – what is revealed?

If you find something, draw it to show where it was found in your square. What is it made of? What do you think it was used for? Repeat until you have dug down at least 10cm....or till you are bored/found something!

Remember to tidy up after yourself and fill the square back in

If you aren't able to dig in the garden – may be use a sandpit that an adult has helpfully buried some objects in!

We would love to know how you get on! Please share or send us your photos