

Fantastic Fact
A Chinese farmer digging a well first discovered the Terra Cotta Warriors in 1974. Since then, archaeologists have uncovered more than 2,000 clay figures. There may be thousands more!

1.

Get a bird's-eye view of the excitement at the Overlook on Level 1.



The Terra Cotta Warriors

- See excavations under way and catch a glimpse of a mighty army.
- Ask your children: "Why do you think someone would build an army of statues?"



The Shipwreck

- Peer down at the pile of cannons under water!
- Ask your children: "What do you think it would be like to explore under the sea?"
- "What equipment would you need?"
- "What do you think you might find?"

Take the "Treasures Transport" Experience

Descend deep into the earth with your trusty guide as you prepare to discover the Treasures of the Earth!

Let the Adventure Begin! At the Museum ...

2.

There are mysteries to be solved!

- Help children explore and ask questions like archaeologists.
- Good questions often begin with who, what, when, where, how, or why.
- Encourage children by saying, "That's a great question! Let's see if we can find some clues."
- Help young children begin to understand that the distant past was "long, long ago."



Fantastic Fact
Archaeologists are scientific detectives. They examine artifacts (objects), artwork, writing, and other kinds of evidence about our past. Some archaeologists research the recent past. Others search for clues about how people lived hundreds or thousands of years ago.

3.

Tools of Discovery

- An archaeologist never leaves home without them!
- Help your children find these tools in the exhibit:



- Can you think of other tools archaeologists use?
- Explore the gallery to find more.

Discover More at Home and Beyond ...

Fun for the Whole Family

- Have an at-home "treasure" hunt. Help children draw a map of one room. Hide an object that provides a clue about the past, such as a baby picture or toy. Challenge children to find the object using the map and a few clues. Ask: What can this object tell us?
- Visit the exhibit website, childrensmuseum.org/treasures.
- ✓ **Hidden Treasures:** Try this experiment together to create mineral deposits like the concretions found on underwater artifacts.
- ✓ **Treasures of the Earth Archaeology Challenge:** Explore a virtual archaeological excavation and become Apprentice Archaeologists!
- Explore exciting **Family Events** on our website at www.childrensmuseum.org.

Find a Treasure Trove of Adventures in Books

- *Archaeologists Dig for Clues* (1997) by Kate Duke. School children visit a dig site and explore the meaning and methods of archaeology.
- *How the Sphinx Got to the Museum* by Jessie Hartland (2010). Colorful illustrations and an easy-to-follow story make this a great read-aloud book.
- *The 5,000-Year-Old Puzzle: Solving a Mystery of Ancient Egypt* (2002) by Claudia Logan. A boy named Will joins a 1920 archaeological dig. Photos show an actual excavation in Egypt.
- *The Incredible Story of China's Buried Warriors* (2000) by Dorothy H. Patent. Colorful photographs and illustrations feature the Terra Cotta Warriors and ongoing archaeological excavations.
- *Pirates* (2001) by Will Osborne and Mary Pope Osborne. The authors provide an overview of historical pirates, separating fact from fiction and folklore.
- *Captain Kidd: Seventeenth-Century Pirate of the Indian Ocean and African Coast* (2002) by Aileen Weintraub. This account of how Kidd was accused of piracy includes his trial, execution, and the subsequent search for his "treasure."

Book selections available from the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library.

FAMILY GUIDE



DISCOVER FOR YOURSELF
Have a family adventure together!
Explore the archaeology of three world-famous sites!



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Help Solve a Mystery

Use this map to explore the exhibit and discover clues!



Explore a Mysterious Egyptian Tomb

Help your children imagine they are the first archaeologists to examine the evidence inside a tomb built 3,000 years ago.

As you explore, ask your children:

- Whose tomb was this?
- Do you think it belonged to an important person?
- Can you find clues in the artwork?
- What clue can you find in the writing on the wall?

Family Challenge



Where does the mysterious tunnel go?
Excavate the tunnel together to see where it leads.

Fantastic Fact: Ancient Egyptians created hieroglyphic writing that used symbols to stand for words and sounds in their language. An oval shape, called a cartouche (kar-TOOSH), enclosed a pharaoh's name.

Walk Among the Silent Warriors

Help excavate an ancient Chinese site where thousands of terra cotta warriors are buried.

As you explore, ask your children:

- Who do you think could have created these warriors?
- Was it a powerful person ... an ordinary person ... a wealthy person? What clues make you think that?
- Why would someone create an army made of clay?



Family Challenge

No two soldiers in this army are exactly alike. The clay warriors were created by combining a small number of generic body parts. How many different warrior types can you find?



Discover Secrets Under the Sea

Help your children imagine they are exploring a mysterious shipwreck with underwater archaeologists.

As you explore, ask your children:

- Who do you think sailed this ship? What clues can you find?
- Does wood from the ship give us a clue?
- What clues might the cannons give us?



Charlie Becker's diagram of cannons at the wreck site.

Family Challenge

Work as a team to investigate the pile of cannons found at the wreck site.

- How do the cannons give us clues to the identity of the mysterious ship?
- Is their shape and length an important clue? What do they tell us?



Treasures of the Earth Archaeology Lab

There's always something new and exciting going on in the lab. Come discover for yourself!

- Visit with the lab assistants and ask: What are you working on today?
- What's in the big tank? Find out more during a "Cannon Talk."



Fantastic Fact

Archaeologists do more than dig! They take notes and keep detailed records. They also discover new clues in the lab. They clean, sort, examine artifacts, and do research. Sometimes they work to conserve delicate artifacts or reassemble broken objects.

