



Serpent Mound Grounds and Museum Self-Guided Tour, Serpent Mound Description and Curriculum Resources

- Self-Guided Tour:** Serpent Mound Grounds and Museum
- Availability:** Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday
September, October, April, May, June, by reservation
- Time Allowance:** 1½ to 2 hours on site
- Cost:** \$35.00 parking fee, no individual admission fees
- Grades:** 4th, adaptable to all
Maximum 120 students (divided into smaller groups)

Description:

Groups are invited to tour the Serpent Mound Earthworks and Museum on their own. Interpretive panels within the museum discuss the background of the earthworks as well as the geological history of the area. There are hiking trails and an observation tower on the park grounds.

Social Studies Academic Content Standards Addressed:

History (Chronology)

4th. Construct time lines with even spaced intervals for years, decades and centuries to show the order of significant events in Ohio history.

History (Settlement)

4th. Describe the earliest settlements in Ohio including those of prehistoric peoples.

People in Societies (Cultures)

4th. Describe the cultural practices and products of various groups who have settled in Ohio over time: the Paleoindians, Archaic Indians, Woodland, Indians (Adena and Hopewell) and Late Prehistoric Indians (Fort Ancient); historic Indians of Ohio (Ottawa, Wyandot, Mingo, Miami, Shawnee and Delaware)

Geography (Location)

4th. Use a linear scale to measure the distance between places on a map.

4th. Use cardinal and intermediate directions to describe the relative location of places.

4th. Describe the location of Ohio relative to other states and countries.

4th. Use maps to identify the location of major physical and human features of Ohio including: Lake Erie; rivers; plains; Appalachian Plateau; bordering states; capital city; other major cities.

Geography (Human Environmental Interaction)

4th. Identify how environmental processes (i.e., glaciation and weathering) and characteristics (landforms, bodies of water, climate, vegetation) influence human settlement and activity in Ohio.

Economics (Scarcity and Allocation)

4th. Identify the productive resources needed to produce a good or service and suggest opportunity costs for the resources involved.

4th. Explain how availability of productive resources in Ohio promotes specialization in the production of goods and services and leads to trade.

Social Studies Skills and Methods (Obtaining Information)

4th. Describe how archaeologists and historians study and interpret the past.

Social Studies Skills and Methods (Thinking and Organizing)

4th. Distinguish between fact and opinion.

Science Academic Content Standards Addressed:

Science and Technology (Understanding Technology)

4th. Investigate how technology and inventions change or meet peoples' needs and wants.

Serpent Mound Glossary:

ACE – An abbreviation that stands for After the Common Era or the time *after* the year “0.” This was also referred to as AD.

Adena people – The people who were part of the Woodland Indian culture.

archaeologist – A scientist who studies the way man lived a very long time ago. They explore ancient sites and objects, then study them to guess how they might have been used.

Archaic Indian – The second known culture of man who lived in Ohio from about 8,000 BCE to about 500 BCE. This culture included the Adena and Hopewell people.

artifact – A product made by human skill or work.

barter – A form of trade in which goods or services are exchanged instead of money.

BCE – An abbreviation that stands for Before the Common Era or the time *before* the year “0.” This was also referred to as BC.

burial (cremation) – To burn a body into ashes prior to burial.

burial (extended) – A burial where the person is positioned lying on the back with his/her arms at the side.

burial (flexed) – A burial where the person is positioned with his/her knees pulled up to the chest and the arms are folded with the hands near the face.

culture – A unique group of people who share like use of resources, beliefs, and behaviors.

Deity – A god or goddess. A belief in something greater.

excavate – To uncover by digging.

extinct – no longer active or existence; having no living descendant.

flint – A type of rock made of quartz used to make various tools

flint (fluted point) – A leaf-shaped point with a groove on one or both sides going from the base toward the tip.

flint knife – A piece of flint that has been knapped or struck into the shape of a knife and used for cutting.

flint point – A piece of flint that has been knapped or struck into the shape of a point or arrowhead and used for hunting.

flint scrapper – A piece of flint that has been knapped or struck into the shape of a blade and used for scrapping.

Fort Ancient People – The people who were part of the Late Prehistoric Indian Culture.

gatherer – A person who gathers or collect food such as berries, nuts, seeds, and plants for eating before farming.

Glacial Kame People – The people who were part of the Archaic Indian culture. They were known for burying their dead in natural hills made from glacial deposits.

Hopewell People – People who were part of the Archaic Indian culture.

hunter. A person who hunts game for food.

Late Prehistoric Indian – The third culture of people known to have lived in Ohio between about 900 ACE to 1550 ACE. These included the Fort Ancient, Whittlesly, Sandusky, and Monongahelia people.

migrate – To move from one place to another.

mound – A manmade heap of earth. Earthworks.

mound (burial) – A large amount of dirt that forms a small hill that is heaped over a deceased person.

mound (conical) – A cone shaped man-made pile of dirt.

mound (effigy) – A large amount of dirt that has been piled up and is in the shape of an object such as an animal. Serpent mound is an example of an effigy mound.

Mound (fortification) – An area that has a fortified perimeter for protection. Prehistoric people built forts by piling dirt into mounds.

mound (geometric earthworks) – A manmade earthen enclosure in the shapes of squares, circles, and octagons that were probably used as places or centers of social, ceremonial, or burial purposes.

Paleo Indian – The first known culture of people known to have lived in Ohio between about 13000+ BCE to 7000 BCE.

pipe stone – A flinty clay found in Scioto County north of Portsmouth that was used to make effigy pipes.

prehistoric – Times and events that happened prior to the time when events were written down.

quarry pit – A place where stone is dug up or cut.

radiocarbon dating – A method of measuring the age of an object by measuring its radioactive carbon content.

sacred – Worthy of reverence or respect..

shaman – A person who dressed in animal skins and teeth who was believed to have certain ceremonial powers.

society – A groups of persons joined together to meet human needs.

supernatural – Something beyond the natural world or understanding.

terrain – The natural features of land such as hill, valleys, rivers, etc.

trade – To give something in exchange for something else.

trail – A beaten path, usually in the wilderness.

village site – A place we know where a town existed because of the discovery of debris of shelters and everyday living.

Woodland Indian – The third known culture known to have lived in Ohio from about 800 BCE to 1200 BCE. This culture included the Adena and Hopewell people.



Pre/Post Visit Classroom Activity: (On following page)
Create a Community

Resources:

Fort Ancient Cultural Dynamics I the Middle Ohio Valley. Gwynn Henderson. Prehistoric Press. Madison, WI. 1992.

Ohio's Prehistoric Peoples. Martha A. Potter. Ohio Historical Society. Columbus, OH. 1968.

Serpent Mound: Ohio's Enigmatic Mound. Bradley T. Lepper and Robert Glotzhober. Ohio Historical Society. Columbus, OH. 1994.

Timeline. "The Serpent Mound Disturbance." Bradley T. Lepper. Ohio Historical Society. Columbus, OH. September-October 1998.

Serpent Mound is operated by the Ohio Historical Society, a nonprofit organization that serves as the state's partner in preserving and interpreting Ohio's history, archaeology, and natural history.

Pre/Post Visit Activity: Create a Community

- ◆ Let's go back in time....

- ◆ Imagine you are living 1,000 years ago. The community hunts, gathers nuts and berries and also grows a garden for some of the community's needs. This is an agriculture-based society.
- ◆ The class may work together or divide into smaller groups. The group(s) will decide what they will hunt and eat, including berries and vegetables from the garden. The garden will also have some flowers and the group should decide on how these would benefit the community (e.g., food, oil for the hair, etc.). Community members will also determine which natural materials will be used for making clothing and which for homes.
- ◆ Living 1,000 years ago, many cultures had effigy mounds. Your community will too. The effigy will represent an animal. Community members will decide the size (i.e., height, length, and width) and create a scale model of the effigy. Each community will decide what the effigy's purpose is – ceremonial gathering area, a visual marker to identify sites around the area (it could point to something), etc. (Groups) will decide the building material (e.g., soil, rocks, trees) and do they want to cover it up with something.
- ◆ If the time allows, the group(s) may name their community and decide where they will live. This allows for discussion of other topics, including food sources, water, cover and defensive measures (if necessary).
- ◆ Remember that there weren't any superstores a 1,000 years ago to find materials!

Teachers: You may have some other ideas that you would like the community to consider; add and delete to meet your curriculum needs

Serpent Mound is operated by the Ohio Historical Society, a nonprofit organization that serves as the state's partner in preserving and interpreting Ohio's history, archaeology, and natural history.