

ANCIENT DOGS

Questions Explored in this Module

What animals were found in ancient Ashkelon?

Archaeology Word Wall

Skeleton: Bones that give a body structure

Plaster: Plaster is the stuff you make casts out of. It is hard and can protect the dog skeletons until the zooarchaeologist can look at the bones.

Procedure

Log Book: Draw pictures of what you think it looked like when the archaeologists discovered the dog burial

Video 1: Intro to Dogs

Log Book: Draw a picture of how you might sort the dog bones if you were a zooarchaeologist.

Video 2: Dog size

Log Book: Draw what you think the dogs of Ashkelon looked like. Remember what their skull looked like!

Video 3: Dog's, but not pets

Log Book: Paula said the dogs were not pets, but lived in the cities of Ashkelon. What sorts of things do you think the dogs did during the day?

Interactive Homework

Have an adult hot glue sugar cubs together in the shape of an animal. Put hot glue between all sides that touch. Put the animal in the bottom of a cup with 3 holes punched in it, and cover it with sand. Pour three cups of warm water over the sand, and let the water drip out the bottom in the sink. When you are done, "excavate" all the hot glue pieces with tooth picks, and try to figure out what the animal looked like based on the bones you found. Draw a picture of all the bones and the animal shape around it.

Junior Archaeology Assignment

In the video Paula talked about how diseases made the bones in the dogs sick and made them weaker. She said she could see the places the bones were sick when she looked at the skeletons. Here is an experiment to see what happens to sick bones. Take 2 chicken bones, put one in a cup of vinegar and watch how it changes compared to the bone that is not in vinegar. The vinegar is like the diseases that the Ashkelon dogs have and makes the bone weaker.

Visit http://www.calacademy.org/exhibits/skulls/animal_match.html to check out other animal skulls.