

9

Go inside the **Red River Basin** house and read the information in the center display. Based on your reading, describe a typical house on the Red River Basin.

Red River Basin houses were made of wattle and daub (sticks and clay), supported by poles and covered in vines and brush. Houses were rectangular and about 15 to 25 feet on one side. They had a central hearth and two center posts. The entrances faced south or southeast.

10

Find the display case on Wichita People in Early History. Who were the **Wichita** people? What changes were happening in their culture 250 years ago?

The Wichita encompass the Tawakonis, Iscanis, Waco and Wichita tribes that dominated the southern plains from about 1400 to the 1800s. By 250 years ago, Wichita people were trading goods with Europeans and abandoning their old tool technologies such as flint knapping and pottery making.

11

Find the large mural titled *Removal to Oklahoma*. What are some of the reasons Native people in America were displaced and settled in Oklahoma?

Native people have been removed from their lands and sent to Oklahoma due to the settling of former slaves and native people from western regions, land loss to other tribes and to establish states.

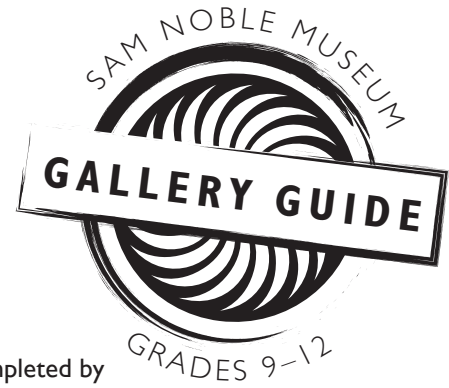
12



Find the panel *We Cherish Our Children*. Children are important to all of the western tribes and babies often receive special treatment. How is their place in the community shown?

Children's place within tribal communities is shown by the decoration of items made for them. Beaded bags, decorated cradles and moccasins are all traditional items made and decorated for children.

HALL OF THE PEOPLE OF OKLAHOMA



Welcome to the Sam Noble Museum!

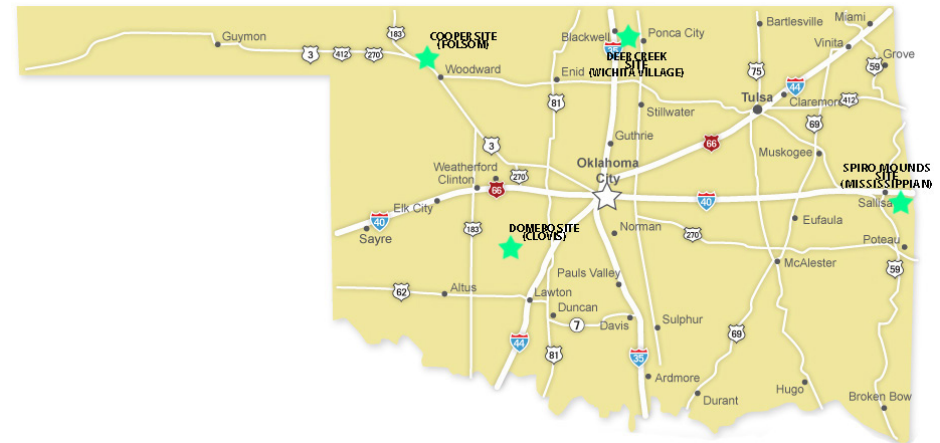
These gallery activities are designed to be completed by a student or group of students.

Gallery Guides are available for each of the museum's three permanent galleries.

The Hall of the People of Oklahoma takes you through the 30,000-year history of the Native people of the state. The gallery displays artifacts and objects made and used by people from cultures past and present. These artifacts provide scientists with evidence of how these cultures lived.

Gallery highlights include stone spear points and tools used by the Clovis and Folsom people; the "Cooper Skull;" a cedar canoe from the Mississippian culture; and clothing, jewelry and pottery that illustrate the Native American experience in Oklahoma in the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries.

Before you begin your journey, look at the map below to discover some archaeological sites around Oklahoma!



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1. Begin at the Hall of the People of Oklahoma, located on the second floor. The gallery entrance is covered with hand prints.
2. Explore the gallery together to find the answers to the questions below.
3. Start your journey at the map across from the man holding a spear.

1

Describe some **dating methods** scientists use to learn when people of different cultures inhabited a site?

- **Stratigraphy, or studying rock layers, helps scientists determine which artifacts at a site are older and which are younger. Older artifacts are deeper in the rock layers while newer artifacts are towards the surface.**
- **F-U-N measures flourine, uranium and nitrogen ratios in objects. Ratios vary according to the length of time something as been buried.**
- **Electron Spin Resonance (ESR) dating is a non-destructive method which measures radiation induced particles in solids.**
- **Carbon-14 dating measures the rate of decaying carbon molecules in organic materials such as wood.**

2

At what site do scientists think the earliest Oklahomans might have lived? What evidence do they have that people were present at this site?

Scientists think the earliest Oklahomans might have lived at the Burnham site. Scientists have found evidence of ice age animal bones and tools, which suggests that people inhabited the Burnham site. as long as 12, 500 to 30,000 years ago

3

What are the four types of **Clovis** sites found in the Americas? What archaeological evidence is found at these sites?

Animal kill sites: animal remains, hunting and butchering tools
Camp site: food debris and tool making debris
Workshop site: stone flakes, unfinished or broken tools
Stone cache site: chert or tools found in pits.

4

The Folsom people primarily hunted bison. Describe the difference between the seasonal kills of the Folsom people.

During the spring, the Folsom people would kill one to two bison and butcher them completely, taking meat for food, bone for tools and hide for clothing and shelter. During the summer and fall, they killed between 30 and 50 bison and only select portions of meat were taken.

5



Find the panel titled *Modern Techniques and New Conclusions*. How can scientists determine in which season a bison kill took place? What does the data from the **Cooper Site** indicate about which season hunts on the southern plains took place in?

Scientists can examine the teeth and jaws of hunted bison to determine their age at the time of death. Data from the Cooper site indicates that most hunts took place here during the late summer and early fall.

6

In the next area of the gallery, look for the section *Using Tools*. What kinds of tools would a **Dalton** tool kit include and what were these tools used for?

Spear points and knives for hunting; grindstones for food processing; scrapers for cleaning hide; adzes for wood working; burins for cutting grooves in bone; sandstone abraiders for smoothing tools.

7

Most spear points found at the **Packard Complex** are lance shaped, but a unique, side-notched point has also been found. What does this new type of point indicate about the Dalton people at this time?

Side-notched points indicate that people at this time were experimenting with different tool styles. Scientists think this is a result of the pressures put on people by a changing climate at the end of the ice age. After mammoth and large bison went extinct, large lance points were not necessary.

8



What are **exotic status goods**? Find three examples of exotic status goods in the Spiro Mounds artifacts display area.

Exotic status goods are objects owned by the elite of a society that display their prestige. Exotic status goods at Spiro include engraved shell cups, copper ornaments, quartz effigies, beads and stone pipes.