Chapter 1 Lesson 1 The Distant Past

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| **Word** | **Definition** | **Picture** |
| **Prehistory** | The period of time before people began to write; without writing no records could be kept and not stories could be recorded |  |
| **Archeology / Archeologist** | Archeology: the study of things that earlier people left behind  Archeologist: a scientist who studies archeology |  |
| **Artifact** | Objects made by people. Could be: art, clothing, pottery, tools or weapons |  |
| **Fossil** | Remains, such as bones, of once living animals and humans. Could also be footprints preserved in what is now rock. |  |
| **Theory** | Accepted explanations, an idea that people believe to be true |  |

Use the vocabulary words to help you describe how people today learn about the distant past. **Write at least 4 sentences.**

**Archeologists** are scientists who study **prehistory**. They study the period of time before people began to write. **Archeologists** create **theories** to explain what life might have been like a very long time ago. They study **artifacts** and **fossils**. Studying objects that people left behind and the remains of once living things helps archeologists to create **theories** about **prehistory**.