Finding “Fossils” Lab

Today, we learned about fossils and what they can tell the scientist who study them. We can’t dig up real fossils in our classroom, but we can use archeological techniques to learn about the past. Archeologists dig into the ground in spots they suspect cover up artifacts. After digging deeply into ground and finding the artifacts, they softly bush the dirt from the artifact so they do not damage it. If they can they remove it to further study it in a lab.

You will be given a bucket filled with what we suspect will have “fossils” in it. Use the tools your group has to find it.

1. Explain the process you took.
2. Draw the fossil your group found.
3. Do you know what the fossil is? What could it be used for? Label what you think certain parts of the object do.
4. What could this object tell you about the people in the past?

After every group has completed the first four questions we will come together as a class and your group will present the “fossil” and explain what you think it’s for. I will then explain what each object is.

1. What was you object called?
2. What was it used for?
3. Was your prediction correct?
4. Sometimes scientists have to make predictions and later learn that they are incorrect. Why do scientists and we need to test things multiple times and find out all the information we can?