

Middle School Archaeology Camp

June 16–22, 2019 | Cortez, CO



SAMPLE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

Arrive at the Crow Canyon campus between 2:00 and 5:00 p.m. After settling into your room, you'll meet your counselors, educators, and fellow camp participants, and then have dinner and take part in an introductory program.

MONDAY

Your adventure in archaeology begins with a hands-on introduction to the 12,000-year human history of the Mesa Verde region in southwestern Colorado. Then, using the same techniques used by professional archaeologists, you will participate in a simulated excavation. You'll also learn about the scientific method and how archaeologists formulate research questions. After dinner, the group attends an evening program on an intriguing topic such as rock art.

TUESDAY

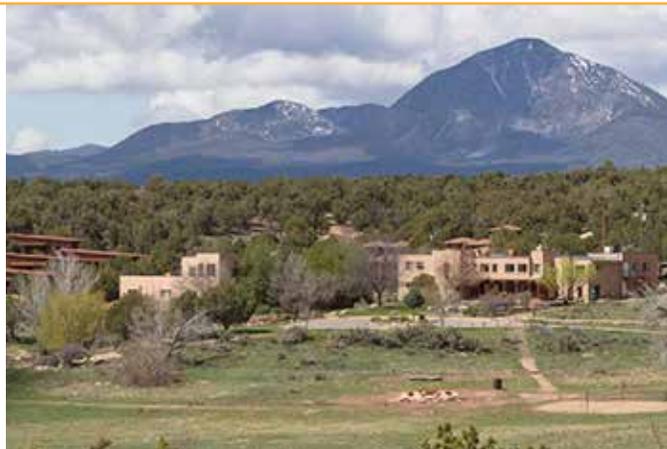
This morning you will tour the current excavation site, then get your hands dirty and participate in a real archaeological dig! Supervised by our professional archaeologists, you'll excavate at an ancient Pueblo village and carefully document your finds. Later in the day you will work in the archaeology laboratory, contributing to Crow Canyon's research by washing, identifying, and cataloging ancient artifacts recovered from one or more Crow Canyon excavation sites.

WEDNESDAY

This day's activities are held at the Pithouse Learning Center and the Pueblo Learning Center, structures that are replicas of ancient dwellings. You'll play traditional American Indian games and try your hand at skills ancient people needed to survive, including spear-throwing with an atlatl and making fire with a bow drill. Your day ends with an evening outing to the Cortez Cultural Center to watch a performance by American Indian dancers.

THURSDAY

This morning, you return to the site for more



Crow Canyon Archaeological Center



Identifying artifacts in the lab



Crow Canyon's Pithouse Learning Center

hands-on excavation. As you dig and document your finds, you'll know that your work is contributing to Crow Canyon's long-term research. After lunch, you'll try your hand at replicating ancient artifacts to understand the processes that the ancestral Pueblo people used to make tools and conduct their activities. A counselor-led activity concludes the day.

FRIDAY

A special full-day tour of beautiful Mesa Verde National Park rounds out your week at Crow Canyon. Touring the park's world-famous archaeological treasures is a great way to review all that you have learned about Pueblo Indian history and culture. This evening, everyone celebrates with a graduation party on campus.

SATURDAY

A self-serve breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m. You must be packed and out of your room by 8:30 a.m. and should plan to leave campus by 11:00 a.m.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Breakfast	7:30–8:15 a.m.
Morning activity	8:30 a.m.–noon
Lunch	noon–12:45 p.m.
Afternoon activity	1:30–about 4:30 p.m.
Dinner	5:30–6:15 p.m.
Evening program	6:30 p.m.
Quiet time	9:30 p.m.–6:00 a.m.
Lights out	10:00 p.m.

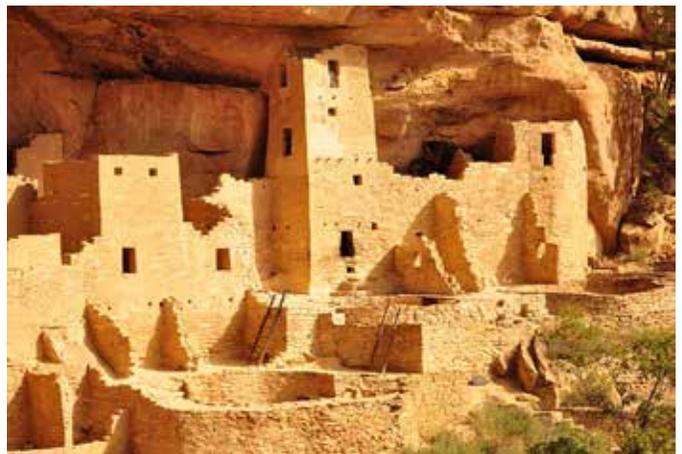
All campus meals are served cafeteria-style in the lodge. Lunches in the field and at Mesa Verde National Park are served picnic-style.



Middle school students excavating



Students working with archaeologists in the field



Mesa Verde National Park

Schedule and activities subject to change. Program activities can be modified to accommodate the cultural concerns of American Indian students.

Crow Canyon Archaeological Center

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