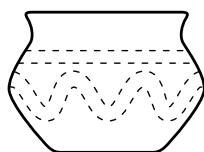
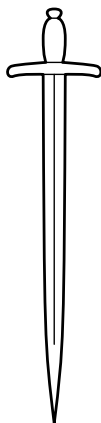


Make a Celtic grave

torc



sword



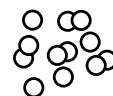
cauldron



pottery bowl



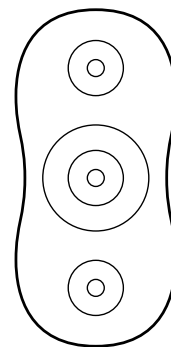
statue of a god



coins



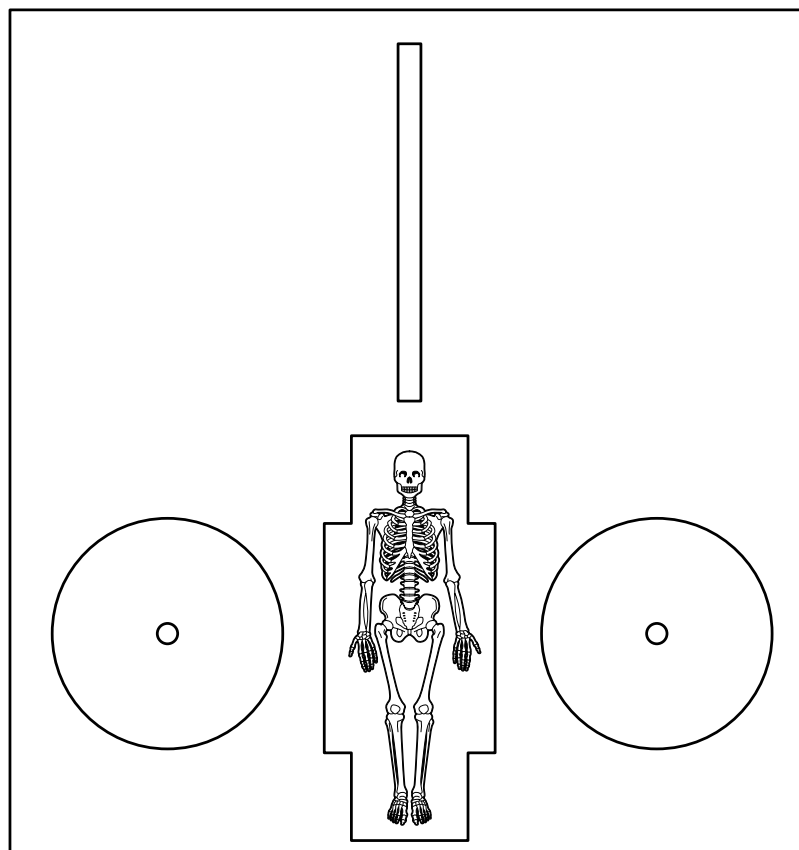
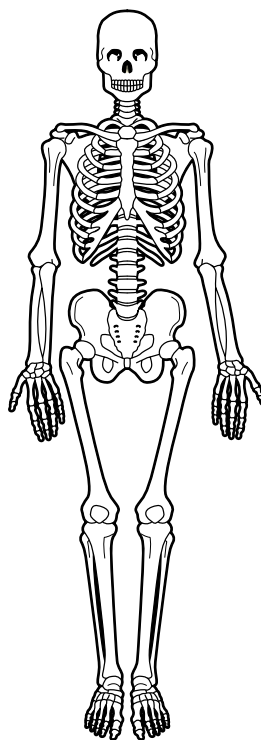
helmet



shield



spearhead



Make a Celtic grave

Objectives

- To understand how Celts buried important people when they died.
- To construct a Celtic grave.
- To assess the accuracy of a plan of the grave made when the grave is excavated.

Cross-curricular links

History

- 2a To learn about ideas and beliefs of men, women and children in the past.

ICT

- 1b Preparing information for development (taking photographs, storing them on a computer, printing off).

Resources

Each child or group will need a copy of worksheet 17 (page 76) a deep tray of sand standing in a shallow tray into which some sand can be placed, scissors, aluminium foil, a small lump of Plasticine, small brushes and spoons, pencil and paper. They will also need the chariot they made in activities 8A and 8B.

You will need a camera to record each grave as it is set out prior to burial. Alternatively, you could let each child or group use the camera and process the image on a computer.

Starter

Tell the children that the Celts believed that people lived on in another world after they died and when they were buried they were given objects, which we now called grave goods, that were thought to be of help in the other world. The more important and wealthy a person, the more grave goods were buried with them. Some people even had their chariots buried with them. Tell the children that they are going to be Celts burying an important person and then they are going to be archaeologists excavating the grave.

Main activities

1. Issue worksheet 17 and go through it with the children. Tell them that the skeleton represents the body of a wealthy man and around him are the grave goods to be buried with him. Look at the bottom picture and say that his chariot is to be buried, too, and the picture shows how the Celts laid out their chariots in a grave.
2. Let the children cut out and colour in the objects or let them use aluminium foil to make metal models of all the items except the bowl which can be made of Plasticine. The coins could be made by cutting up tiny pieces of foil.
3. Give the children their chariots and let them take them apart. They will need to fold down the front and back of the body to place the skeleton in it. Horses have been found in a few graves. You may like to tell a few groups secretly that the Celts sometimes killed the horses and laid them out in the grave. The children could put them on either side of the shaft.
4. When the children have laid out their graves they should photograph them, then cover them. The graves should be swapped between the groups.
5. Each group should then use brushes and spoons to carefully remove the sand and draw a map of the positions of the items in the grave as they uncover them.

Plenary

Each group should then be given the photograph of the grave they have opened and compare it with their maps. The photographs and maps could be displayed on a wall and the children could decide which group was the most careful 'archaeologists'.

Outcomes

The children:

- Understand how Celts buried important people when they died.
- Can construct a model of a Celtic grave.
- Can assess their accuracy at excavating the grave and recording the artefacts.