

THE BEST EDUCATION STUDENTS CAN GET OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum Presents Seminole Archaeology Day

BIG CYPRESS, FLA. (April 12, 2011) - By applying math and science skills in the context of history, students can get outside the classroom, get their hands dirty and learn how archaeologists protect, record and interpret Seminole history at the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum's first Seminole Archaeology Day, May 10-11. Tribal schools are invited to learn from professional archaeologists, Geographic Information Systems specialists, architectural historians and others May 10, while public, private and home school students are invited May 11.

The program, designed for students in fourth through sixth grades (ages 9-11), will teach the importance of preserving archaeological and historical sites through a series of activities while giving a greater understanding of geography and the Seminoles' value of preservation. In small groups, students will be guided through a series of stations where they will participate in activities led by tribal archaeologists and other professionals. Each activity will last about 10 minutes. Activities will be focused on the following stations:

Station 1 Orientation and Mental Maps

Station 2 Chickee Survey

Station 3 Compass Activity and Map Orienteering

Station 4 Salted Dig Site: Setting Up the Dig; Surveying a Site; Artifact Analyses; Artifact Reconstruction

Station 5 Preserving Traditional Cultural Properties

Station 6 Complete Mental Maps and Junior Archaeologist Debriefing

Space is limited, and educators are encouraged to reserve a time for their class by calling Sara Whitehead at 877-902-1113, ext. 12211. Admission for adults is \$9 and for students \$6. Group-rate pricing is available for groups of 10 or more.

About the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum

The Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum is the tribally owned and operated museum of the Seminole Tribe of Florida. Situated in the Everglades on a 66-acre cypress dome on the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation, the museum offers more than 5,000 square feet of gallery space. Exhibits feature rare artifacts and lifelike dioramas that depict Seminole life at the turn of the century. In 2009, the museum became the first tribally governed museum to be accredited by the American Association of Museums. Open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m., the museum is located north of Interstate 75 at Exit 49. For more information, visit www.ahtahthiki.com or call 877-902-1113.