



# CLEANING THE ARTIFACTS ACTIVITY

## Materials

smocks  
plastic tarp  
large bin or several small tubs filled with water

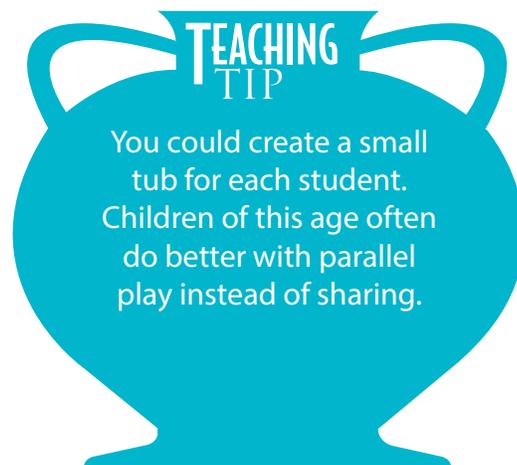
artifacts (shells, action figures, toy dishes, strings of beads, plastic toys, pretty rocks)  
tools (paint brushes, small cloths)

## Before Class

Lay out a tarp on the ground. On the tarp, place two large bins next to each other: one filled with artifacts that have been dug from the sand and another with water. On the other side of the tarp, lay out a large towel. You might want to string the **Work Zone Caution Tape** around the Dig Site to keep students out of the area until you are ready.

## Game Play

Help the children put on the smocks to protect their clothing from the sand and water. Show the children the dig site and the tools. Say: **This week we are learning to be archaeologists. This is our Cleaning Workstation. Today we are going to be cleaning up the artifacts that we have found.** Show the children how to use the brushes to brush sand off of the artifacts. When they are clean, show the children how to dip the artifacts in the water and clean them with small rags. When the artifacts are clean, have the students wipe the artifacts with a dry cloth. Then have them carry the dried artifacts across the tarp and lay them to finish drying on the large towel. Say: **These artifacts looked dirty before. They didn't look very valuable. But we are looking beneath the surface and cleaning them up. Now we can see how valuable they are. Jesus looks beneath the surface and into our hearts. What kinds of treasures does Jesus find in our hearts?**



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1 Samuel 16:7

**“For man looks at the outward appearance,  
but the Lord looks at the heart.”**