

For Creative Minds

This For Creative Minds educational section contains activities to engage children in learning while making it fun at the same time. The activities build on the underlying subjects introduced in the story. While older children may be able to do these activities on their own, we encourage adults to work with the young children in their lives. Even if the adults have long forgotten or never learned this information, they can still work through the activities and be experts in their children's eyes! Exposure to these concepts at a young age helps to build a strong foundation for easier comprehension later in life. This section may be photocopied or printed from our website by the owner of this book for educational, non-commercial uses. Cross-curricular teaching activities for use at home or in the classroom, interactive quizzes, and more are available online. Go to www.ArbordalePublishing.com and click on the book's cover to explore all the links.

Ice Age Sequencing

An ice age is a time when the world's climate is very cold and much of the earth is covered in ice. This ice builds up into large sheets, called glaciers. Glaciers can be thousands of feet deep. Over time, they expand across the land or shrink to a smaller area. Use the dates to put these images in order (from oldest to newest) to spell out the word and find out what happens to a glacier at the end of an ice age.



T
12,000 years ago



M
30,000 years ago



S
6,000 years ago



I
42,000 years ago



E
24,000 years ago



L
18,000 years ago



T
36,000 years ago

Answer: It melts.

Mammoths and Elephants

The last woolly mammoths died 4,000 years ago. When a type of animal doesn't exist any longer, scientists say that animal is extinct. Even though mammoths are extinct, they still have living relatives—elephants. Read about mammoths and elephants below. How are they alike? How are they different?



Mammoths lived in North America, Europe, and Asia. There are two different kinds of elephants: African and **Asian**.



Woolly mammoths had shaggy fur all over their body. This fur kept them warm their whole lives. Elephants have bristly hair. As elephants grow, they lose their hair.



Woolly mammoths were 9-13 feet (2.75-4m) tall. African elephants are 10-13 feet (3-4m) tall. Asian elephants are 6.5-11 feet (2-3.5m) tall.



Mammoth herds were made of related females and their young. The oldest female mammoth led the herd. Elephant herds are made of related females and their young. The oldest female elephant leads the herd.



Woolly mammoths had long, curved tusks. Large males had tusks 15 feet (4.5m) long. African elephants and male Asian elephants have tusks up to 10 feet (3m) long. Female Asian elephants have short tusks or no tusks at all.



Scientists can learn about mammoths by observing elephants. Elephants have wide, flat feet. Their feet feel vibrations in the earth caused by sound from miles away. Mammoths had wide, flat feet. Do you think it is possible that mammoths could hear with their feet, like elephants do today?

Clovis People

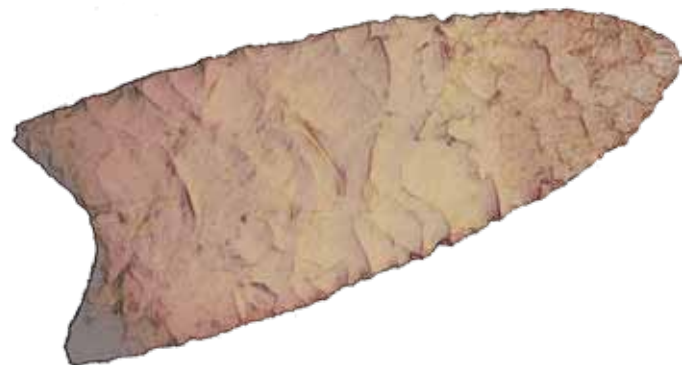
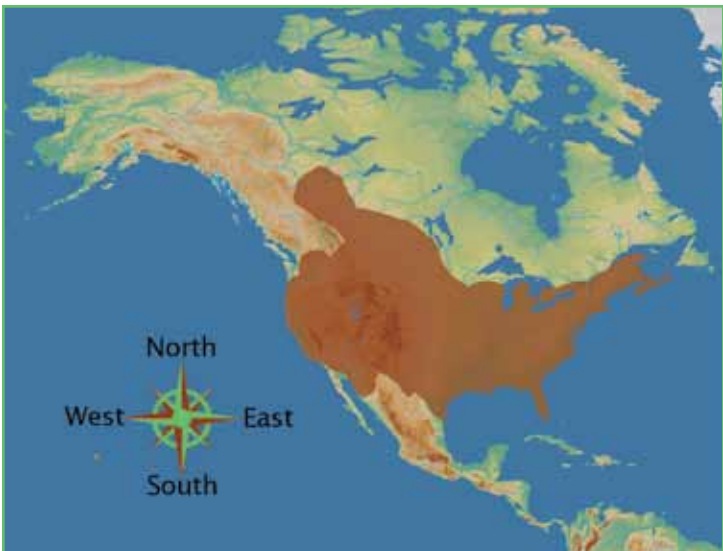


The Clovis people were some of the first humans in North America. We know about the Clovis people because of scientists who study ancient people. These scientists are called archeologists. They study bones and objects made by people who lived long ago. They can tell us what tools the Clovis people used, what they ate, and how they lived.

The Clovis people lived 13,500 to 11,000 years ago. They made spearheads, called Clovis points. When archeologists find these spearheads, they know Clovis people lived in that area. The map below shows where the Clovis people lived.

Some Clovis people hunted and ate Columbian mammoths. Archeologists have found mammoth bones near Clovis villages. They have even found some mammoth fossils that were injured by Clovis points.

Some Clovis people lived in small towns. Hunting parties, like the one in this story, moved from place to place to follow their prey—like a mammoth herd. They lived in round, wooden huts.



Clovis points were 1.5-8 inches (4-20 cm) long and 1-2 inches (2.5-5 cm) wide.

Extinct Ice Age Animals

American lions were one of the largest cats to ever live. They weighed 560-775 pounds (256-351kg). These fierce hunters had long legs and powerful muscles. American lions went extinct 11,000 years ago.



Giant beavers were over 8 feet (2.5m) long. They weighed up to 220 pounds (100kg). Like beavers today, the giant beavers gnawed on trees. Giant beavers went extinct 10,000 years ago.



Modern sloths live in trees, but giant ground sloths spent most of their time on the ground. They lived in both North and South America. Ground sloths ate only plants (herbivores). Giant ground sloths went extinct 13,000 years ago.



Two different kinds of saber-toothed cats lived in North America. Smilodon cats had saber-teeth 7 inches (18cm) long. Scimitar cats' teeth were 4 inches (10cm) long. Saber-toothed cats went extinct 11,500 years ago.



The short-faced bear was the largest meat-eating animal (carnivore) in North America. When they stood on their back legs, they were 8-12 feet (2.4-3.6m) tall. They could run at 40 miles (64 km) per hour. Short-faced bears went extinct 11,000 years ago.



Mammoths were plant-eating animals. Adult mammoths needed to eat 400 pounds (180kg) of food each day! Their tusks grew through their whole life. Scientists can tell how old a mammoth was when it died by the number of rings in the tusks. Mammoths went extinct 4,000 years ago.

