Archaeology at home: Clean your room

When that urge to clean your room strikes, let’s make it into some archaeological fun!

Pretend you’re an archaeologist digging through layers of dirt and your room is an archaeological site.

Let’s make some observations:

Choose an area of your room. What is the tallest thing? A lamp, or a shirt? When did you put it there? Why did you put it there?

Excavate down. The stuff you put there most recently will be on top, and what you put there first will be on the bottom.

   Bonus: now you just learned about superimposition! This because the earliest layers are on the bottom of an archaeological excavations

Place things in their correct place. How do you know what things go in the laundry, the closet, what goes in the kitchen, or under your bed? How did you decide? How do you know what things are yours or others?

   Bonus:

This is how archaeologists excavate sites and sort through artifacts and think about their meaning.

Think about how your room is situated. Would people a 1,000 years from now wonder what the purpose of the room is? For example, if you have a t.v. in your room is it in the center of the room? Would archaeologists think you worship the tv?

If you are really into this activity...map your room in a grid system from an aerial view. What did you discover? What was the hardest part of drawing it?