

Scientific activities in primary education: taphonomy explained in close contexts

M. Muñoz®

Universidad Isabel I, Burgos,
Spain

C. Precioso

Universidad Isabel I, Burgos,
Spain

M. Ferrando

Universidad Isabel I, Burgos,
Spain

O. Veiga

Universidad Isabel I, Burgos,
Spain

D. Arceredillo

Universidad Isabel I, Burgos,
Spain

R. Blasco

Centro Nacional de
Investigación sobre la Evolución
Humana, CENIEH, Burgos, Spain

The emergence of active methodologies in education has revolutionized science teaching. The use of elements of scientific work such as the science notebook, databases or field trips, facilitate the development of critical thinking, the basis of scientific knowledge. The selection of Eirós Cave (Triacastela, Lugo) is due to its important lithic and faunal remains of the middle and upper Paleolithic periods.

The intervention is aimed at the fourth year of Primary Education. The proposal has been divided in five sessions following the scientific method: 1) Observation, 2) Formulation and prediction, 3) Experimental development, 4) Conclusions, and 5) Dissemination.

In the experimental development, students' groups will choose a certain group of identified animals in the cave — carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. Subsequently, they will make a plasticine mold (safe material for students) of that group and place a methacrylate over the piece. Later, with their eyes closed, they will walk over the methacrylates — representing the passage of time — and describe the changes produced posteriorly. Some small bites and cuts will be applied in several animals to study the difference between human intervention and other predators.

The use of active methodologies allows students to develop procedural and attitudinal aspects through the research and the cooperative work. The fact that students face the definition of the concepts and write their science notebook allows them to organize their own research work in their group.



Primary education
Eirós Cave
Taphonomy
Scientific method
Active
methodologies



monica.munoz.rodriguez@alumnos.ui1.es

