

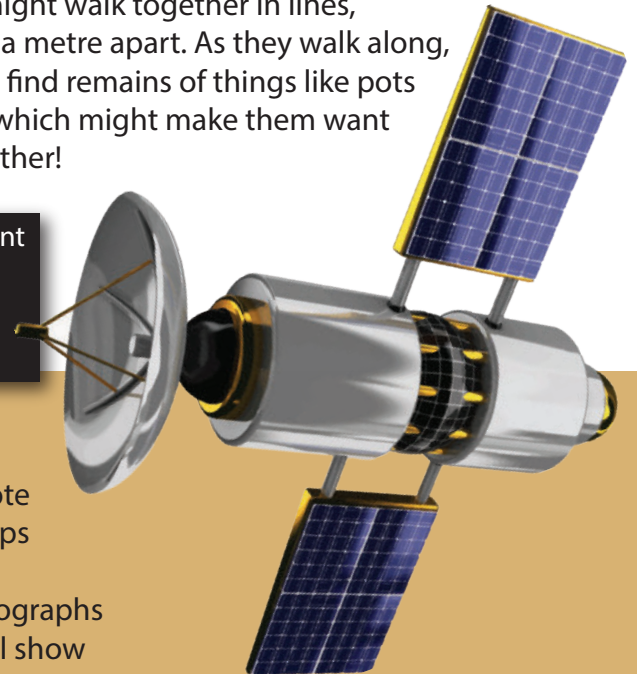


Finding Sites

A very important part of being an archaeologist is finding where history is hidden! Some archaeological sites are just found by accident, but some need careful investigation in order for archaeologists to find interesting objects. Sometimes, a group of people might walk together in lines, standing a metre apart. As they walk along, they may find remains of things like pots or tools, which might make them want to dig further!



Diane carried out her research at the ancient Maya site of San Bartolo, Guatemala. Archaeologists used satellite remote sensing to uncover the ancient city.



Archaeologists sometimes use aircraft or satellites to take detailed photographs of the ground below. This is called Remote Sensing. By looking from above, we can see where grass or crops haven't grown well. This can mean that there are remains underneath the ground! Another technique is to look for photographs where fields have been ploughed. Where lighter patches of soil show up on a photo, these can indicate the plough has uncovered the remains of an ancient site.

Angkor Wat

Look at this aerial photograph of Angkor Wat in Cambodia. Although you can see the main features of this incredible temple, there is much that is hidden by foliage (the leaves of plants and trees). Archeologists used LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) that shines lasers through the dense foliage to detect hidden features underneath. Point your tablet at the aerial picture to see the incredible detail that LIDAR revealed!

