

## **Prehistoric Indian Vocabulary**

**History** - The study of recorded past events, particularly in human affairs.

**Prehistory** - The period of time before written records.

**Archaeologists** – a scientist who studies artifacts to learn about the lives of early peoples.

**Anthropologists** – A scientists who studies artifacts, cave drawings, well-traveled pathways, and oral history to learn about the culture of a group.

**Artifacts** – Items such as pottery shards, weapons, tools, and jewelry that were made by humans; could also include fossils.

**Culture** – The beliefs, traditions, music, art, and social institutions of a group of people who share common experiences.

**Clan** – A group of people who believe themselves related by blood.

**Tribes** – A group of people who share a common ancestry, name, and way of living.

## **Prehistoric Indian Cultures**

**Paleo** – 10000 B.C. – 8000 B.C., nomadic hunters, used knives, scrapers and points for spears, invented the atlatl, lived in groups of 25 to 50, lived in Savannah, Ocmulgee and Flint river areas.

**Archaic** – 8000 B.C. – 1000 B.C., nomadic hunters, choppers, drills, chipping tools, grooved axes, fishing hooks made from deer antlers, moved from season to season, traded with other groups of Indians, ate berries, nuts and fruits, moved to good fishing areas, established small camps, saved seeds for planting, used pottery, lived in coastal areas and Augusta area, Coweta county and Fayette County.

**Woodland** – 1000 B.C. – 1000 A.D., lived in tribes, had dome shaped huts, developed bow and arrows made pottery last longer, religious ceremonies, burial mounds, ate squash wild greens and sunflowers

**Mississippian** – 800 A.D. – 1600 A.D., highest prehistoric civilization, grew most of their food, Maiz (corn), beans, pumpkins, squash, grew tobacco. Used stone or bone hoes and digging sticks, wore beads and ear ornaments, painted or tattooed their bodies, wore feather headdresses. Lived in villages, built centers for religious ceremonies, moats and palisades protected villages, around 1600 they disappeared,