

1. Title / Content Area:	Paleo Peoples: What did We Find There?
2. Historic Site:	Lindenmeier and Lamb Spring Site
3. Episode:	https://video.rmpbs.org/video/paleo-indians-smdxb2/
4. Developed by:	Sally Purath, Poudre School District Century Middle School Team, Adams 12 School District
5. Grade Level and Standards:	<i>Grade Level: 3rd – 5th</i> <i>Standards: Colorado Social Studies Standards 1-4</i> <i>Prepared Graduate Competencies:</i> Content in this Document Based Question (DBQ) link to Prepared Graduate Competencies in the Colorado Academic Standards 3 rd : PGC 1-5, 7 4 th : PGC 1-5, 7 5 th : PGC 1-5, 7
6. Assessment Question:	Why are archeological sites such as the Lindenmeier and Lamb Spring sites important in our understanding of early people, animals, and places?
7. Contextual Paragraph	The Colorado Encyclopedia gives an excellent succinct overview of Paleo Indians and states, <i>“The Paleo-Indian period is the era from the end of the Pleistocene (the last Ice Age) to about 9,000 years ago (7000 BC), during which the first people migrated to North and South America. This period is seen through a glass darkly: Paleo-Indian sites are few and scattered, and the material from these sites consists almost entirely of animal bone and stone tools. Available information from Paleo-Indian times documents hunting of several animals that became extinct in North America at the end of the Pleistocene, spectacularly skilled stone working by artisans who made beautifully crafted stone tools (especially spear points), and the beginning of a reliance on bison hunting that persisted on the Great Plains for 10,000 years.</i> <i>Although Paleo-Indians were more than just flintknappers and big-game hunters, those have been the most visible aspects of their lives since</i>



archaeologists first recognized this period in the early twentieth century. From animal kill sites to tool caches, some of the most important clues to the Paleo-Indian past have been found in Colorado.

Additionally, “Located in Douglas County southeast of Chatfield State Park, the Lamb Spring Archaeological Site is the only major site with Paleo-Indian (before 6000 BCE) deposits in the metropolitan Denver area. First excavated in 1961–62, the site contains bison and mammoth bones from the Paleo-Indian period, including evidence of human activity at the site during the Clovis period (11,050–10,750 BCE) or possibly even earlier. The site is now owned by the Archaeological Conservancy and operated by Lamb Spring Archaeological Preserve.

Additional information is located at:

<https://coloradoencyclopedia.org/article/paleo-indian-period> and <https://coloradoencyclopedia.org/article/lamb-spring-archaeological-site>

8. Connection to Historic Preservation

Colorado has some of the oldest archaeology sites in America and some of the most famous. The History Colorado Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation works diligently under the guidance of state and federal regulations and the state archaeologist to preserve, document, and protect archaeology sites that are both big and small. The sites are protected, and many are listed on the National Register of Historic Places such as the listing the Lindenmeier site received in 1966. With the assistance of volunteers, archaeologists, and others, several sites are open to the public including the Lamb Spring site which can be visited with parents in the Denver Metro area.

Critical to the preservation and study of the sites is that they remain intact. As with any historic or archaeological site, care should be taken not to damage or vandalize historic sites, and items can be observed but should be left behind without moving or touching them. Resources to support Archaeology education in the classroom can be found at the Project Archaeology website and materials (<https://projectarchaeology.org/>) , or through the Bureau of Land Management (<https://www.blm.gov/teachers/>).

Document Based Question (DBQ)

Lindenmeier Folsom Site	GUIDING QUESTIONS: 1. The Lindenmeier site is considered to be the first Folsom campground found. Why was this site discovery important to archaeologists? 2. Considering the significance of the Lindenmeier site – why is it important to preserve it? 3. What was found at this site that was significant or important to archaeologists and historians?
	
https://coloradoencyclopedia.org/article/lindenmeier-folsom-site *recommend using the 4 th grade version of the article	

Lamb Spring Archaeological Site	Guiding Questions: 1. What was found at the Lamb Spring site? 2. How do the items found here give us clues to what was here before now? 3. What can these findings tell us about the past in the metro Denver area? 4. How are archaeologists and local citizens working to protect and preserve it?
	
http://www.lambspring.org/history-of-lamb-spring/	

Assessment Question

Why are archeological sites such as the Lindenmeier and Lamb Spring site important in our understanding of early people, animals and places?

Response