

Grade 2 Community Discovery Walk

Stonebridge Area-Teacher Information

(Adapted to grade 2 student friendly language from the Stonebridge Archaeology Report by Stantec.)

NB Bison in the report, are referred to as bison-in this activity they are referred to as buffalo, to be consistent with work in the school. Also note that the numbers on the map are stopping points and do not refer to the numbers in this walking tour.

Vocabulary in bold have links to the definitions and should be taught prior to the discovery walk.

Yellow indicates discussion items

Green indicates markers at the park

Background information to **pre-teach**:

Before houses and businesses can be built in a new neighbourhood, [archaeologists](#) must search the area looking for signs of [artifacts](#) and **human settlements**. They do this by digging holes to check and see if there is anything under the surface. The hole is usually about 40 cm x 40 cm and deep enough to discover life from another time. (Show students the size by using a meter stick) Any artifacts or hints of people having lived there, are recorded, and saved. Small sites are given special numbers called Borden numbers to help people locate the site, bigger sites are given a number and a name. In the Stonebridge area, the names are named after people who had the land when the search was done.

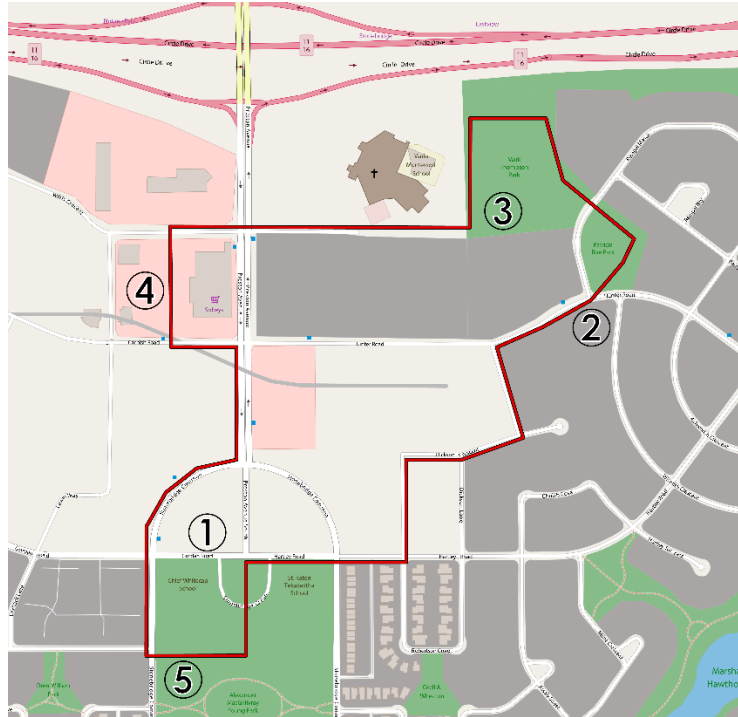
The Stonebridge Community Discovery walk will take you in a circular fashion around a small part of the Stonebridge area.

Hints-

- Walk the walk your self before taking your class.
- At this time, there is no information on display regarding the history of the community before the settlers. You will have to share with the children from this guide. It is important that they understand people lived here long before the settlers came.
- Teacher will need the walking tour guide.
- Students should take a clip board, handout, and a pencil
- Be sure to have adequate supervision as there are some busy roads to cross!
- There are no washrooms for the first part of the walk so be sure students are prepared. On the return, there are washrooms at Sobey's.
- Please contact Neil at Sobey's at least two days before you go to book your snack (Juice and a peanut free granola bar or fruit) neil.hum@sobeys.com

Community Walk Locations

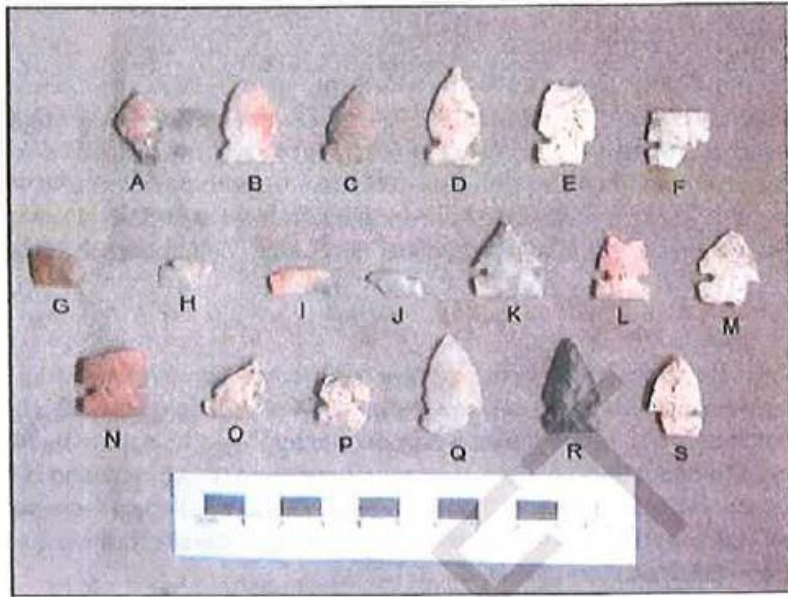
Optional- work your way counter clockwise finishing at #1



1. FaNp-2 The Preston Avenue Site (Now called Chief Whitecap School) you may choose to discuss this location upon your return to the school rather than at the beginning. (stop 1 on map)

Information-The Preston Avenue Site was a large campsite where many buffalo were processed. Since the 1940s many items have been found here including arrow heads were discovered here, both the Avonlea and the Prairie Side-Notched points, as well as hundreds of pot shards and fire cracked rocks. Thousands of bone fragments have been found (raw and burned) from buffalo,rabbit, coyote, beaver, wolf, fox swans and fish. The bison bone and pottery shards found, are now kept at the University of Saskatchewan. It was a big area and was eventually divided into the Hartley Site and the Bill Richards Site

Discussion- what man-made object could last long enough to tell someone in the future, about you and your life? Does your family have anything from your grandparents or older? (Give a personal example to help the conversation along)



It is approximately a one kilometer walk from the school to Mark Thomson Park. (15 minutes)

Take Hartley Road until you reach Dickson Crescent. Turn Left on Dickson. Follow Dickson all the way to Hunter Road (you will see the cream coloured apartment complex.) Turn right on Hunter and you will arrive at Patricia Roe Park.

Give the children time to play in the park. Then share the information for this stop.

2. FaNp-35 Patricia Roe Park (stop 2 on map)

- This was a large site. We know that because the site has a name and not just a number. Patricia Roe Park was determined to be a **buffalo processing (or butchering) site** because many bones were found here. Some of the bones the archaeologists found were a jaw bone, back and rib [fragments](#). Some of the bones had been burned, telling us that there were fire pits to prepare the buffalo. This site was probably used as long as 6000 years ago! (See Stantec Report)
- **Discussion**-*what did the buffalo give the Dakota and other indigenous people? Students may draw something in their discovery book.*
- Proceed through the park following the trail. Notice the bridge like markers to indicate the Moose Jaw Trail. Stop at the first marker. **"The Lordly bison grazing quietly-**
- **Discussion**- Look at the image of the bison skulls on the first marker of the Moose Jaw Trail -*what impact might all the dead buffalo have had on the Dakota and other indigenous Plains people?*

- Look across the street at the statues made to look like wagons travelling on the trail.
- Cross Hunter Road to the entrance to Mark Thomson Park. Proceed up the ramp to the first marker with the map of the Moose Jaw trail.

3. FaNp-14 Mark Thompson Park (stop 3 on map)

([The Moose Jaw Trail](#)) ([Stonebridge Moose Jaw Trail](#))

(you may wish to download these links before leaving-there are several markers to read)

“History abounds in this little park!”

- Part of this raised trail was found in 1987. It was a cart trail that was used to travel from Moose Jaw to Saskatoon. In 1883 settlers began to arrive in Moose Jaw by train. They then traveled 240 kms to what is now Saskatoon. They came on foot, by wagon and on horseback. The first group of settlers took a month to get to Saskatoon. It was a difficult journey. Later, people could travel more quickly, but it still took 4-8 days.
- The Whitecap Dakota community used this trail to travel to Wood Mountain and Fort Qu’Appelle to visit with their Dakota and Lakota relatives.
- Look at the **map on the next marker**-show students where Saskatoon is.
- **Discussion**-Which method of transportation would you have wanted to travel if you had been a settler? Why?
How would you have felt if you were living here and saw these strangers beginning to arrive?
How long would it take us to travel 240 KMs today? How long ago was 1883?

Moose Jaw Trail

“About 600 metres of wagon wheel ruts ran through Stonebridge as part of the Moose Jaw Trail, a route used in the 19th Century by early settlers coming to Saskatoon. Some of the trail and remaining ruts were preserved as part of a park, which includes interpretive stations and sculptures by artist Jill Anholt. An archeological dig along the Preston Avenue extension revealed bison bones and other artifacts dating back to pre-settler times. Armstrong said work is underway to determine how to commemorate the indigenous history of the area.” [Excerpt from Star Phoenix article](#)

<http://thestarphoenix.com/news/local-news/a-neighbourhood-marks-an-anniversary-stonebridge-is-basically-finished>



The next marker **"My own darling sister"** ...Read this and then follow the path keeping to the right of the loop.

- **Discussion:**
How many types of grasses grew here? (18)
Name some animals that lived here. (prairie dogs, bison, coyotes, gophers, prairie chicken, birds, frogs, pronghorn antelope...
- As you are walking along the path, observe the plants in the area. You should be able to spot Saskatoon berries, rosehips, wolf Willow and aspen. All the plants have been here for many hundreds of years and were important to the indigenous people. Have students draw their favourite plant taking note of details such as berries, leaf shape and colour. Do NOT pick the plants.
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The next marker is **"The air was singularly exhilarating"**.
Proceed to next marker

The next marker is **"An experience never forgotten"**.

- **Discussion:** *The plaque mentions shop keeper Gerald Willoughby. It fails to mention that Willoughby and Chief Whitecap were friends and Willoughby spoke the Dakota language. When Chief Whitecap was wrongly arrested and taken to Regina, Willoughby travelled there to defend his friend and bring him back home.*
- *Who is your friend? Would you defend them if they needed you?*
- *Draw a picture of friendship.*

Keep walking on the trail, keep to the right

- **"made by Ordinary Traffic"** *The photograph of the diagram of a Red River Cart which was made and used by the Métis people. Sometimes the carts were pulled by oxen, but sometimes the Métis people pulled them themselves. How much could a Red River Cart carry? How fast could they travel?*

Proceed to final marker **Upside-down Forest**

- **Discussion**- Look at the image of the plants. Why do you think they called it the upside-down forest?

Stay on the path and cross the road over toward the yellow gate near Circle Drive Alliance Church. Walk between the church and the condos to the Preston Avenue Crosswalk. Stay on the right-hand side by the trees. Once you have crossed the street and are beside Sobey's have the children sit on the grass. Explain sites



4FaNp-21 3120 Preston Ave S (stop 4 on map) (Now Sobey's Liquor Store Parking Lot)
Many bones were discovered on the surface in this area.

5. FaNp-20 (Shoppers Drug Mart)

Artifacts from this site included Prairie Side-notched projectile points (arrow heads), bones, pottery, and fire cracked rock.

Discussion-how do we know it wasn't a big site?

6. FaNp-9 Bill Richards Site (now is Parking lot North of Starbucks and Press'd)

- This site was re-discovered in 1985. The Bill Richards site was a camp and processing site before contact. A hearth was discovered here with artifacts like check stamped pottery. It had [debitage](#), bones, 77 Plains Side-notched points, 6 plains triangular points, 1 Avonlea point and broken pieces of check stamped pottery. Because of this discovery we know that people lived here at least 1500 years ago! This was a site for processing meat mainly buffalo.

- **Discussion**- Have the children consider what it must have looked like as a campsite with tipis and buffalo processing, how did the area change when the settlers came and think about what the land is used for now. Have the children draw a time line picture indicating the major changes in this, their community.

7. FaNp-11 (is now 116 Willis Street)

- This area was used so many times for farming, that there was really nothing else discovered. Archaeologists decided there was nothing more they could discover.
- **Discussion**-how could farming make it difficult for archaeologists to find artifacts?

**8. FaNp-19 The Hartley Site (Now Alex MacGillvray Park) Behind the school
(stop 5 on map)**

In 1990-1995 students from Ecole Victoria School and other schools in Saskatoon were allowed to work with the university to find artifacts. More than 100 projectile points were found here. The last of the excavations were done in 2003. This area behind Chief Whitecap school was part of the campsite where buffalo were processed.

