**THE BODY GAME**

This game is good for developing an understanding of what materials might survive from the past to become part of the archaeological record.

Instructions

1. Divide your class into smaller groups.

2. Select a volunteer in each group to be a skeleton. Ask them to lie on the floor.

3. Tell the rest of the group that this is a 2000 year old burial that they are going to excavate (dig up).

4. Get them to think about what will survive and what will rot away over time.

5. They need to think about what happens to the body - processes of decomposition - and also to clothing.

6. What will survive apart from bones? Eg. buttons/shoe buckles/belt buckles/zips/hair slides/jewellery/items in pockets. What clues do these give to the identity of the corpse? Can you tell if it is a girl or a boy from these items?

7. Thinking about items placed in the grave, ask the group what treasured possession they would want to be buried with and why. Would the item they chose survive if it was buried for 2000 years?

What additional materials do we use today that the ancient Greeks did not have?