

## SOURCES TASK SHEET

# Artefact 2 – Wolf

[www.dublinia.ie/onlinelearning](http://www.dublinia.ie/onlinelearning)

Name ..... Class .....

Study **Artefact 2** in the **Sources** section and fill out this task sheet.

### QUESTIONS

1. What do archaeologists think killed the wolf?

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2. What evidence is there on the skull for this theory?

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3. There is evidence from written documents that wolves killed many people in Ireland. Look at the teeth of the wolf. What evidence is there that a bite from a wolf would hurt?

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4. These wolf remains are called an artefact. An artefact is an object that is man-made. Can you say why it might be wrong to call these remains an artefact?

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5. In the image there are two skulls, a wolf skull and the smaller skull of a cat. Many different types of animals have been uncovered but what other type of 'remains' might you find on a site?

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### CLASS DISCUSSION – What animal remains can tell us.

Discuss as a class for 5 minutes how this wolf skull may help us understand more about life in medieval Dublin. Use these topics:

- Wild animals like wolves lived in forests. What does this tell us about life in the countryside during the middle ages?
- Many people were killed by wolves. Discuss other ways it may have been dangerous to live in medieval Dublin.
- Wolves also killed other animals. What do you think the consequences were for medieval peasants who had animals on their farms?
- Lately there have been discussions about re-introducing the wolf back into Ireland. Now that you know about wolves in medieval Ireland, do you think this is a good idea?

## CLASS DEBATE

Read the statement below then split into two teams and consider the debate issues. Each team should spend 10 minutes in preparation for the debate. A team leader should be appointed to introduce the teams' cases. At least three team members should make different points.

Each team should speak for 10 minutes.

### **Debate Title: Archaeology for the Future**

Archaeology helps us understand our future. Without it we would have difficulty understanding today's world and how times have changed. We would not understand how objects were made, important events that occurred or a chronology of our past. However, archaeologists often come under criticism. Rescue archaeology can take time as archaeologists need to excavate carefully and slowly. When archaeological sites are discovered, it can cause delays to the construction of important buildings and add to the cost of projects.

### **Split into two teams and debate the above statement.**

#### **Team 1**

Debate the benefits of finding and excavating archaeology. Consider:

- Excavating archaeology reveals more about our past.
- Museums that display artefacts help people understand their past and who they are.
- Understanding our past improves tourism. Visitors come to Ireland to see ancient sites and visit museums.

#### **Team 2**

Debate the negative aspects of excavating archaeology. Consider:

- Rescue archaeology delays building works.
- The cost of archaeology is expensive. We should look to the future, not the past.
- Museums are dull and boring.