



MITCHELL PREHISTORIC
INDIAN VILLAGE

Explore ancient secrets at
South Dakota's only archaeological
site open to the public

KIDS DIG FOR FREE ARROWHEAD!

Archaeology Awareness Weekend
July 5th & 6th
Join Archaeologists and Primitive
Technologists from around the world
as they introduce us to the mysteries
of the past!



Open Monday—Saturday 8:00 am to 7:00 pm

Sunday—10:00 am—6:00 pm

Mention this ad for 1 Free Adult Admission!

3200 Indian Village Road, Mitchell, South Dakota

605-996-5473

www.mitchellindianvillage.org



Experience Native American History & Culture

The Prehistoric Indian Village was discovered by a student at Dakota Wesleyan University in 1910 and has been preserved by the Mitchell Prehistoric Indian Village Preservation Society since 1975.

The Mitchell Prehistoric Indian Village is the only archaeological site in South Dakota open to the public. It is a National Historic Landmark and on the National Register. Each summer archaeologists come and excavate the site, and each summer we learn more about the first settlers who lived here in the Northern Plains. Guests can watch as the archaeologists uncover artifacts in the comfort of the Thomsen Center Archeodome and tour the Boehnen Memorial Museum to see a reconstructed lodge and many of the 1.5 million artifacts found over the years. The Shoppe Antiquary, the finest gift shop in Mitchell, has an extensive collection of Native American, indigenous and regional art, jewelry, pottery, books and more.

A special site has been created for children to practice their archaeology skills and dig for a FREE arrowhead. Children of all ages can also learn how to throw a spear using an atlatl. Picnic tables are set up along the lake and on the bluff overlooking the lake for visitors to use.

Much of the information learned at the village dates back to previous inhabitants who lived at the site 1,100 years ago. The site was a major bison processing center, as people extracted bone grease from the animal to produce pemmican, a mixture of fat and protein which provided nutrition during the era. The people who lived at the site lived in earthen lodges, which were circular mounds that provided homes in a time before teepees could easily be built.

