

Jamestown Rediscovery

HISTORIC JAMESTOWNE

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Explore the Ed Shed at Jamestown: Archaeology for the Whole Family

JAMESTOWN, Va. (June 16, 2022) –

The Ed Shed is open for the summer! Budding archaeologists of all ages can experience the moment of discovery and investigate artifacts from actual excavations when they visit Historic Jamestowne.

Reopened for the first time since 2020, Ed Shed activities include sorting through 17th-century food remains like oyster shells to discover what people ate on the island, using advanced geographic technology to map archaeological features, identifying artifacts, and more. Visitors can touch and examine projectile points, beads, wine bottle glass, pipe stems, and European and Virginia Indian ceramics, all excavated from Jamestown Island. Recently, a young visitor found a mussel shell bead, a relatively rare artifact. The artifacts that visitors interact with at the Ed Shed are real pieces of Jamestown history!

Over the last year, Staff Archaeologist Natalie Reid developed a new master plan for children's programming at the Ed Shed that incorporates pandemic safety measures. "We're so excited to open the Ed Shed again this summer after being closed since March 2020. Jamestown's youngest visitors love exploring the active dig sites and seeing artifacts in the museum and now they have a chance to handle real artifacts and support our research into life on Jamestown Island," said Natalie.

Programs and activities at the Ed Shed will focus on teaching archaeological research and scientific methods, including STEM-based topics like geomorphology, remote sensing technology, surveying and mapping, and photogrammetry. The hands-on activities provide a richer learning experience for visitors of all ages.

The Ed Shed is generously supported by funding from the Donna J. and James C. Reagan Fund for Educational Programs and a grant through the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Ed Shed is open from 9:00-4:30 Tuesday through Saturday, through August 6.

Photos of the Ed Shed, with captions and crediting, can be found [at this link](#).

About Historic Jamestowne/Jamestown Rediscovery

Historic Jamestowne (HJ) preserves the original site of the first permanent English settlement in America and is jointly administered by Jamestown Rediscovery and the National Park Service. Entrance tickets are available at the

HJ Visitor Center from 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., and the grounds remain open until dusk. General admission is \$25.00 per adult (which includes both Historic Jamestowne and Yorktown Battlefield for seven consecutive days). Children 15 & under are free. National Park Passes and Preservation Virginia Memberships are accepted; however a \$10 per person fee may apply. Entrance tickets and passes include admission to the archaeological site, the Memorial Church, the Voorhees Archaearium Archaeological Museum, as well as scheduled daily walking tours and public programs. For opening hours of the Dale House Café and information about special events, please visit www.historicjamestowne.org or call (757) 856-1250.