Vocabulary for Early Native Peoples of Colorado guided program and the Prehistoric Pottery and Ancient Stone Tools workshop

These are words that are commonly used in both the guided program and the workshop. Following the definition for most of the vocabulary words, we have included a sentence that incorporates the word.

- Ancestral Pueblo People (formerly known as the Anasazi) – A Native American culture flourishing in the Four Corners region from around A.D. 500 to 1300, whose descendants are the present-day Pueblo peoples.
  - Archaeologists discover new clues about how the Ancestral Pueblo People lived all the time.

- Anthropology – The science of human beings through their physical characteristics, the origin and distribution of races, their environment and social relations, and their culture.
  - Alex was very interested in how different people lived and wanted to study Anthropology in college.

- Archaeology - The study of past human life as revealed by artifacts left by ancient peoples.
  - Indiana Jones stated “Archaeology is the search facts, not truth.”

- Artifact – Something made or modified by humans usually for a purpose; an object remaining from another time or culture.
Artifacts are one of the clues archaeologists use to understand people that lived long ago.

- **Excavate** – To dig out and remove; to reveal by digging away a covering.
  - Noah carefully excavated the dirt from around the ancient pot.

- **Four Corners Area** – The area where the states of Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah come together; This is the only place in the United States where four states touch.
  - If you go to the Four Corners area, you can stand in four states all at the same time.

- **Nomadic** – People who have no fixed residence, but move from place to place.
  - The Cheyenne were one of the nomadic tribes of Native Americans in Colorado.

- **Pottery** – Dishes, pots, bowls, and other items made from clay and hardened by heat.
  - Pottery is a very important clue to understanding the life of the Ancestral Pueblo People.

- **Pueblo** – An American Indian village of Arizona or New Mexico that consists of flat-roofed stone or adobe houses joined in groups sometimes several stories high. Also, a member of a group of American Indian peoples of the southwestern United States.
  - On a trip to the southwest, visiting one of the modern Pueblos can be one of the highlights.

- **Sinew** – Tendon from an animal used to attach arrow points to arrow shafts, spear points to spear shafts, etc.
  - Sinew is a very strong, sting-like material that was commonly used by Native Americans.