

## Layer 1 (bottom layer) Stratigraphy Card

### Dart Point

Native Americans used stone projectile points for thousands of years. Some of the earliest human inhabitants of the Central Plains attached them to hand-held spears which they thrust into game — a dangerous way to hunt. Around 7000 B.C. the atlatl and dart replaced the hand-held spear. A dart hurled with an atlatl had more force than a spear and allowed the hunter to remain a safer distance from his prey. Over the 8,000 years of atlatl-dart use a variety of Native American groups made a variety of dart points. Some of the largest of these dart points probably became used as knives rather than projectile points. For the last 1,000 years of its use in Kansas, use of the atlatl and dart overlapped that of the bow and arrow. Eventually the lighter and more compact bow and arrow replaced the atlatl and dart.

