

Old Independence Regional Museum's



2017-2018 Field Trip Planning Guide

Field Trip Planning Guide

Step into History

When you visit Old Independence Regional Museum your group will have the opportunity to explore our region's rich cultural heritage. Your tour will involve 1-7 stops.

In our *Region on the Move* exhibit students will discover how travel in our region has evolved over time. The tour will focus on wagon, train, and automobile travel. It features a 1940s Springfield covered wagon, a 1930s gas station and gravity gas pump.

Shawneetown explores Native American life in our region. This part of the tour examines the culture of the Shawnee who settled in present day Yellville, AR.

Our *Where the Delta Meets the Ozarks* exhibit is highlighted by the Depression Era Back Porch. We discuss what life was like for families in our region during the Great Depression and how people "made do." Attention may also be given to the role of the child in the family.

The tour of the **Civil War** exhibit will feature Batesville's role in the war. In addition, the students will hear about what daily life was like for soldiers and civilians in occupied Batesville. Battlefield medicine will also be discussed.

The temporary exhibit that is currently on view is **Living with the White River**. Students will discover how the river influenced settlement and how people traveled along the river.

Old Independence Regional Museum's **historic toys and games** program gives students an opportunity to experience some of the pastimes of children from the 19th century. Learn how playing taught children skills that they would use throughout life.

A **gift shop** visit may be added to the **Step into History** tour. There students will find a variety of fun and educational items priced for their pocket book. For the teachers' convenience, our gift shop personnel will package and label the students' purchases and keep them at the front desk during the remainder of the tour. Before the group's departure, a teacher will pick up the students' packages and distribute them at a time that suits you.

Because of a generous donation from a private funder, our museum is pleased to be able to offer a limited number of field trip grants to schools in our region. This grant covers the 7-stop Step into History tour. Please contact the museum for more details and for a grant application.

Build your Experience

We will work with you to create and customize a tour to meet the needs of your group, grade level or curriculum. For an additional fee, the museum offers the following 30-60 minute living history, hands-on and/or demonstration programs that may be scheduled alone or in-addition to a Step into History tour. Using this resource you may customize your visit to fit the needs of your class. The target audience for these programs is children; however, some of the programs can be scheduled for teacher in-services or for groups other than schools. These programs are limited to smaller groups and should be scheduled at least two weeks in advance. See program descriptions for fees, group limits, and program length. **Contact the museum, 793-2121, to schedule your experience.**

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Native American Programs

A –Maize—ing – Corn was a very important crop to the Native Americans and early settlers who lived in our region. During this program students will learn about the many uses of corn. They will grind corn using a mortar and pestle, play a round of corn cob darts, and make a corn husk boy or girl to take home. This program is designed for 3rd–6th grade and is limited to 30 participants. The fee for the program is \$3 per person. **Note: This program will take 1 hour.**

In A Pinch– Clay was like a treasure trove for Native Americans. A museum interpreter will discuss several of the ways clay was used and how clay pottery was discovered. Students will create a pinch pot, animal effigy, or pendant out of clay. This program is designed for K–5th grade and is limited to 30 participants. The fee for this program is \$2.

Beyond Arrowheads – Students will examine and discuss a variety of stone artifacts. A museum interpreter will speak about the Mississippian era and the settlement that was located in Greenbrier Bottoms. The group will learn how artifacts tell stories of how people lived in the past and how the “trash pit” is often a treasure trove of information for archaeologists. This program is designed for K–12th grade and is limited to 30 participants and takes 30 minutes. The fee for this program is \$2.

Stories On Stone– Cave paintings were symbols that were used by Native Americans to represent ideas and communicate stories. Students will examine historic Native American pictographs and the materials used to produce them. Students will then use pictographs to write their own story. This program is designed for grades 3rd–6th and is limited to 30 participants. The fee for this 30 minute program is \$2.

Whose Tracks are These?– During this 30-minute program, a museum interpreter will read a story and lead a discussion about animal tracks and signs. The students will complete various tracking activities. This program is designed for K–5th grade. The fee for this program is \$2 per student. There is a 30 student limit.

My Life with the Shawnee This living history presentation allows students to converse with Abraham Ruddell. Ruddell was an early Batesville pioneer who had been captured by the Shawnee at age 5. He was adopted by the Shawnee and wasn't reunited with his remaining family until he was in his late teens. Learn about his childhood with the Shawnee, his service during the war of 1812 and what life was like in early Batesville. This program is designed for grades 2nd–9th and is limited to 30 participants. The fee for this program is \$2. **Limited Availability -*

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Pioneer Programs

Churn Butter Churn – For families living long ago butter was churned at home once a week and was often a chore for children. It was a time consuming, yet rewarding, process. Students visiting the museum will learn about the science and history of butter making. They will experience first hand the work that went into it. At the end of the program students will be able to sample the result of their hard work. This program is designed for K-4th grade. The fee for this program is \$1 per student and is limited to 30 students.

Say Cheese! – Ever wonder how cheese is made? During this program a museum guide will read a selection from Little House in the Big Woods and will lead a discussion about how cheese was made long ago and the science behind it! The guide will then demonstrate how soft cheese is made. The program will end with a sampling of the cheese. This program is designed for 3rd – 6th grade. The program fee is \$1 and is limited to 30 students.

A Light in the Corner – This program explores various lighting sources used during the pioneer period of Independence County. Learn why candles were the chosen light source for many homes in the earliest days of the county. Children spent time in the fall dipping enough candles to light the dark corners of the family home in the winter. How many dips does it take just to make one candle? Students will learn the answer to this first hand as they make a dipped beeswax candle to take home. This program is designed for 3rd – 6th grade. The fee is \$2 per student and is limited to 60 students.

Headed West—Students will learn about the trials and triumphs of the westward movement during the 19th century. After a brief introduction, students will form families of 5 and plan their trip west. Along the way they may run into accidents, attacks, bad weather, or disease. Each family's survival will depend upon how well they have planned for their trip. This program is designed for 3rd-6th graders and is limited to 40 participants. The fee for this program is \$1.

Wild West's Colorful Characters – Students are introduced to many of the individuals who shaped our view of the "Wild West". From explorers to settlers to outlaws and lawmen, a interpreter will tell stories and facts about their lives and adventures. Each student will receive collectable fact cards at the close of the program. This program is designed for 2nd – 8th graders and is limited to 50 participants. The fee for this program is \$2. **Note: this program can be customized.**

Homestead – Students will be given various materials and will be asked to construct their own miniature version of a homestead. Students will use problem solving skills to trade for needed materials and improvise with existing materials. Students will learn about the basic needs of an early pioneer. The group will discuss their creations which they will take home. This program is designed for 3rd – 12th grades and is limited to 30 participants. The fee for this program is \$2.

Note: This is a one hour program.

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Civil War Programs

Blister, Purge and Amputate – This program will begin with a discussion of common illnesses, injuries, and diseases during the Civil War. Students will learn about what treatments were available and how medicine differed between the North and the South. A museum interpreter will discuss battlefield medicine and how amputation was sometimes the only treatment available. This program is not for the squeamish!!! Students will take a simple quiz about some of the things they learned and will have an opportunity to sample some “cures.” This program is designed for 3rd–12th grade. The fee for this program is \$2 and it is limited to 30 students. **Note: This program may take more than 30 minutes.**

A Soldier’s Life— The Museum is located on the site of a Union encampment. Students will learn about what life was like for a soldier encamped and on the battlefield. The program will end with students taking up their rifles and participating in military drills on the museum’s side lawn. The fee for this program is \$2 and is limited to 30 students. ** Limited Availability*

“I Am Not a Spy”—Students will be visited by Emily Weaver, a teenager from Batesville who was accused and convicted of spying during the Civil War. Although sentenced to death, Emily escaped from prison, eventually making her way home to Batesville. Emily’s story illustrates how many families were divided by the Civil War. Students will also learn about the “social whirl” that took place in Batesville during the war years. Following the living history performance, students will learn the “secret language of the fan”, a code used by ladies to communicate with their friends or suitors. This is a living history presentation and is designed for 3rd–12th grade. This fee for this program is \$2. For an additional fee of \$1 students will make a fan to take home.. This program is limited to 30 students. **Note: The full program will take an hour.** ** Limited Availability*

Freedom Quilts—This program will begin with a discussion of the Underground Railroad and how quilt patterns are thought to have been used to send messages. The museum interpreter will read “Patchwork to Freedom”, and the program will end with students piecing a grade appropriate paper quilt block. This program is designed for 3rd—6th grade. The fee for this program is \$2. **Note: This program may take more than 30 minutes.**

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Great Depression and WWII Programs

Making Music – The Great Depression was a challenging time for most living in the Independence County region. To lift their spirits folks came together to listen to the radio, tell stories, and make music. Many made-do with homemade instruments. While visiting the museum students will learn some ways people entertained themselves during the Great Depression, with focus being given to music. Students will be able to try their hands at the museum's collection of "make do" instruments and make a set of spoons that they will learn to play and take home. This program is designed for 2nd – 7th grade. The program fee is \$3. This program is limited to 30 students.

Mistakes that Worked! – This program explores inventions that happened by accident. In World War II scientists were asked to invent a rubber substitute, since rubber was in short supply. No good product was made, but one fun toy that came out of this process was Silly Putty. Students will learn about Silly Putty and other inventions that were mistakes. In the end students will make their own Silly Putty to take home. This program is designed for 3rd-8th grade and is limited to 30 participants. The fee for this program is \$3.

My Fair Share – During World War II a rationing system was put in place to make sure everyone was able to get their fair share. Students will participate in a game, developed by the museum staff, that explores this system. Students will be divided into families, and they will have to work together to solve a problem using their ration stamps and money. They may also have to work with their neighbors to get what they need, just as people did during WWII. This program is designed for 3rd-12th grades and is limited to 30 participants. The fee for this program is \$2. **Note: This program is one hour.**

From Oklahoma with Love – In the museum's theater students will be visited by Pearl Taylor. Mrs. Taylor moved from Batesville to Oklahoma with her husband and daughters in the 1930s. In this living history presentation, taken from Mrs. Taylor's letters written to her father, students will hear in her own words what life was like for the Taylor family during the Great Depression. **This living history program is designed for 3rd-12th grades. The fee for this program is \$2 and is limited to 60 students. * Limited Availability**

In addition to this living history program, students can learn more about the Great Depression and what kinds of gifts people were giving. Most were homemade from objects found around their homes. Students will create and take home a pressed flower bookmark. **The craft portion of this program is designed for 3rd—6th grades. The fee for this addition to the program is \$1. Note: If you choose to add the pressed flower bookmarker the program will be 45 minutes.**

Hello, Betty Lou – Students will experience a living history visit with Betty Lou Gower. Raised in the Batesville Masonic Orphanage she moved to New York during WWII to take a job as an elevator girl. She was working in the Sear's Tower when it was accidentally hit by an aircraft bomber. Students will hear her adventures and learn how she still holds a place in the Guinness Book of World Records. This living history is designed for 3rd - 12th grades. The fee for this program is \$2 and is limited to 50 students. ** Limited Availability*

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Other Programs

Dyes and Medicines —Students will visit the museum's heritage garden, located on the side lawn. An interpreter will identify plants from our region and will discuss their uses. This program is designed for 3rd-6th grade. The fee is \$1 and space is limited to 30 students. For an additional fee of \$2 students will learn more about the dyeing process. A Museum interpreter will explain the process of extracting color from plants and how wool becomes yarn then cloth. In the end, students will receive a recipe for dyeing with onion skins and will dye a piece of cloth to take home.
Note: This program is one hour. *Seasonal program

Herb Woman— Students will visit the herb garden and learn about Herb women. Herb women were well versed about local plants and their uses. They will learn about common ailments of the past that were treated naturally with teas, tinctures, and poultices made from local plants with the students. The fee for this program is \$1 and space is limited to 30 students. For an addition \$1 fee, students will be able to grind herbs and try an herbal remedy or mint tea. These program additions will be dictated by which plants are in season. *Seasonal Program

What do you see? – Optical illusions trick the brain into thinking it sees something different from what is actually there. Toys that produced optical illusions became very popular in the 19th century. Students will learn about the science behind some optical illusions and will make a thaumatrope and will design a wooden top to take home. This program is designed for 3rd—6th grades and is limited to 30 participants. The fee for this program is \$3

Arkansas or Arkansaw – Museum interpreters will lead students in a study about Arkansas. Students will learn how the state got its name, the meaning behind the colors and symbols on the state flag, and about the other state symbols. Students will listen to songs about Arkansas and will create an advertisement for the state. This program is designed for K-4th grades and is limited to 30 participants. The fee for this program is \$2. There will be an added craft available for an additional fee.

Local Disasters – Museum interpreters will introduce students to a variety of natural disasters that happened within our region including: earthquakes, floods, tornadoes and fires. Students will explore different primary and secondary accounts of these events and the aftermath. Students will use a shake table as they test their design and construction skills. This program is designed for 3rd-12th grades and is limited to 30 participants. The fee for this program is \$2.

Traveling By River – Students will learn about different types of boats used for river travel, how travel has changed and how river trade and travel has influenced settlements. Students will study primary and secondary sources of information as well as artifacts. Students will be given materials to engineer their own boat and will test their design. This program is designed for 3rd - 12th grades and is limited to 30 participants. The fee for this program is \$3.

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Let's Play – This interactive program explores the history of games and toys. Students will learn about different time periods including Native American, Victorian, and WWII. The program includes parlor games, play parties, outdoor games and the different styles of games for boys and girls. This program is designed for 2nd—9th grades and is limited to 30 participants. The fee for this program is \$2. For additional fees students can make homemade marbles, decorate tops or other activities. **Note: This is a one hour program.**

Food Preservation – In this interactive program students will sample foods that were preserved using a variety of methods. Food Preservation has existed in all cultures since the beginning of time. The students will explore different preservation methods and how climate, technology, human ingenuity and pure accident played a role in its discovery. Students will also learn about some of the health benefits and hazards of different preservation methods. This program is designed for 3rd —12th grades and is limited to 30 participants. The fee for this program is \$2.

Influenza – Students will learn about the 1918 worldwide Influenza outbreak. They will participate in a simple science experiment that shows how contagion is spread and moves through the population. This program is designed for 4th – 12th grades. This program is limited to 30 participants but requires at least 15 participants. The fee for this program is \$3. **Note: For older students the program can be extended to one hour as the students learn how to track the contagion back to patient zero.**

Local Historical Research – Students will work in the museum's research library. They will become familiar with some of the documents and research tools the museum has to offer. This program is designed for 7th – 12th grade and is limited to 15 participants. This program can be directed to a particular area of study. The fee for this program is \$3. **Note: This is a one hour long program.**

Museology: Behind the Scenes Tour – Students will take a behind the scenes tour of the museum. They will learn about museum professions and discover what it takes to preserve our region's past. This program is designed for 7th -12th grade and is limited to 30 participants. This fee for this program is \$1. **Note: This is a one hour long program.**

School Tour Grants and bus stipends are sometimes available.

Please check with the Museum at 870-793-2121 for eligibility requirements and forms.

This humanities program is made possible by local support from Independence County and the City of Batesville, as well as by Challenge Grant Endowment funding from the National Endowment of the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.