

SCHOOL PROGRAM TEACHER OVERVIEW

AN ANCIENT BOND WITH THE LAND

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Over the centuries, Canada's First Peoples have adapted to a vast array of climates, landscapes and environments. Working in small teams, your students will explore the First Peoples Hall to identify ways in which First Peoples met their needs for food, clothing, shelter and transportation using traditional technologies and life-ways. Your students will also draw parallels between these adaptations and their own lives.

MAIN MESSAGE

Since the land took its current form, the First Peoples of Canada have depended on their environment and each other to provide for their distinct ways of life. While much has changed, First Peoples are still closely connected to the land and its creatures.

GRADE LEVELS

ON GRADES 2 TO 6

QC CYCLES 1 TO 3

Best curriculum link to grades 2 and 4 / cycles 1 and 2

DURATION AND PROGRAM TIMES

- 45 minutes
- Start times: 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 1 p.m.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

In addition to providing a general appreciation of the ways in which First Peoples have adapted to life in a wide range of climates and environments, this program offers your students experiences which will deepen their knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal life and the continuing contributions of First Peoples to Canadian society.

THROUGH THIS PROGRAM, YOUR STUDENTS WILL:

- An introduction to Canada's First Peoples.
- Knowledge of how First Peoples were able to sustain themselves using the land and its resources.
- Knowledge of how artifacts can provide valuable clues about the past, as well as experience in interpreting them.
- An understanding of basic survival needs, and the difference between needs and wants.

- An understanding of natural resources and how to classify them.
- An opportunity to compare and contrast their own lives with the lives of Canada's First Peoples.

DELIVERY APPROACH

The Canadian Museum of History strives to tell the stories of Canadians through collected objects and the information these objects can share. Our school programs aim to foster a creative learning environment for students, through hands-on and minds-on activities in which they feel free to take risks, ask questions and participate without being judged. By facilitating constructive collaboration with their peers, and respect for one another's contributions, we encourage students to make personal connections with the past and develop a historical imagination, while making learning FUN!

PREPARING YOUR CLASS

To ensure that your class gets the most out of this unique educational experience, we encourage you to consider the following pre-visit activities below.

- Build anticipation for your visit:

Get your students excited about history! Initiate a classroom discussion, and ask a series of questions to spark students' imaginations. This will engage your students in thinking about the Museum, encourage inquiry, and help students to anticipate the field trip in a positive way.

Suggested Questions:

What is a museum?

Why do we have museums?

Why is it important to visit museums?



Where do you think all the items in a museum or exhibit come from?

Have you ever been to a museum? Which one? What was your experience like?

- Learn about Canada's First Peoples by visiting the Museum's website at <http://www.historymuseum.ca>.
- Discuss the differences between needs and wants, and what all humans need to survive.
- Learn about natural resources and discuss the concept of living off the land.

POST-VISIT ACTIVITIES

To help reinforce the lessons your students have learned during their Museum program, you may want to consider some of these follow-up activities:

- The Gateway to Aboriginal Heritage offers great post-visit resources for your Aboriginal school program. http://www.historymuseum.ca/cmhc/exhibitions/tresors/ethno/index_e.shtml
- Prior to the arrival of Europeans, First Peoples lived entirely off the land. In a world in which we are constantly reminded to be eco-conscious and make "green" choices, what lessons can we learn from Canada's First Peoples?
- Have students research an object they can't live without in their daily lives. Where do the materials come from? Where is it made?

RECOMMENDED PAIRINGS

If you are interested in learning more about Canada's First Peoples, consider taking the workshop *History in Your Hands* or *Think Like a History*. To learn more about the First Peoples of the Northwest Coast and the Grand Hall, register your class for the Grand Tour.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

In order to support Ontario and Quebec curricula, this program has been tailored to enhance your classroom content.

ON GRADE 2: SOCIAL STUDIES

- Global Communities

ON GRADE 4: SOCIAL STUDIES

- Early Societies, 3000 BCE- 1500 CE

QC CYCLES 2 AND 3: SOCIAL STUDIES

- Competency 1: to understand the organization of a society in its territory

EVALUATION

To ensure that our programs remain helpful and relevant to your curriculum and to your students, we encourage all teachers to send in a post-program evaluation. Evaluation forms will be provided onsite, and we hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to provide us with important feedback on your Museum experience.

RESERVATIONS

To make a reservation, please call 819-776-7014, or email us at information@historymuseum.ca

CANADIAN MUSEUM OF HISTORY

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