THE PEOPLE OF NEW FRANCE: FORGING RELATIONSHIPS, CHANGING LANDSCAPES

SCHOOL PROGRAM
TEACHER OVERVIEW

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
For settlers in New France, adapting to a new land required a different way of life, as well as new interactions and exchanges. Working with replica artifacts from the Museum’s collections, students will explore some of the ways in which the people of New France adapted to their surroundings, and will learn about some of the interactions between European settlers and First Peoples and how they influenced one another.

MAIN MESSAGE
New France was built on the economy of the fur trade populated by settlers from France with various socioeconomic backgrounds. By examining the clothing and belongings of the settlers and the items used for trade, we can start to understand people who settled New France as well as the complex trading relationships the French settlers establish with the First Nations people.

GRADE LEVELS
ON GRADES 3 TO 8
QC CYCLE 2 TO SECONDARY 2

Best curriculum link to grades 5 to 7 / cycle 2 and secondary 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 people who settled in New France, this program offers your students experiences which will deepen their knowledge and understanding in a number of specific areas.

THROUGH THIS PROGRAM, YOUR STUDENTS WILL:
• Knowledge of the main trade items, and why they were valued, along with a feel for the dynamics of trading.
• An introduction to the fur trade, and the impact of the trade on the lives of both the French and 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?
• Introduce New France to your class
• Explore our virtual exhibition of the Canada Hall and the Virtual Museum of New France online at http://www.historymuseum.ca/virtual-museum-of-new-france/
• Study reproduction maps of New France and compare them to maps of Canada and North America today.

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:

• Research what was happening in your own community or region during the New France period. For example, was it involved in the fur trade? Was it a First Peoples settlement? Was it visited by explorers?
• Take a closer look at the different roles and occupations explored by your students during the program, and compare them to similar occupations today.
• Divide your class into groups of four, and help them create their own trading game cards and trade value posters, based on the objects they value themselves. Have them present their games and posters to other groups in the class, and have them play each others’ games.

RECOMMENDED PAIRINGS
If you are interested in learning more about early European settlement in Canada, consider taking the school program, The Women and Men of the Fur Trade.

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

ON GRADE 5: SOCIAL STUDIES
• First Nations and Europeans in New France and Early Canada

ON GRADE 6: SOCIAL STUDIES
• Communities in Canada, Past and Present

ON GRADE 7: SOCIAL STUDIES
• New France and British North America, 1713–1800

QC CYCLES 2: SOCIAL STUDIES
• Competency 1: to understand the organization of a society in its territory
• Competency 3: to be open to the diversity of societies and their territories

QC SECONDARY 1 AND 2: HISTORY AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION
• Competency 1: examining social phenomena from a historical perspective
• Competency 2: interprets social phenomena using the historical method

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