School Programs at the Vermont History Museum

Self-Guided Museum Visits: School groups are welcome to visit the Vermont History Museum at 109 State Street, Montpelier, and its award winning permanent exhibit, Freedom and Unity: One Ideal, Many Stories. Admission fee for students, teachers, and chaperones waived on pre-scheduled visits.

Hands-On History Programs: Student groups can explore focused stories in Vermont history through primary sources and artifacts as part of a guided program in the museum classroom. Select from one of these programs to supplement a self-guided visit to the museum. Hands-on programs are $3 per student.

Recommended time - 45 minutes; appropriate for all grades.

- You Be the Historian: Investigating an 1880s Vermont Farm Family - students act as researchers, curators, and archaeologists to discover details about the Wheeler family who lived in Calais in the 1880s.
- Mystery Artifacts: How Museums Help Share the Past - (recommended K through 3) young learners will investigate how museums help share the past through a story time and close looking activity with artifacts.
- From Italy to Vermont: Exploring Immigration through Primary Sources - (recommended grades 6 and up) students investigate census records, photographs, maps and other historic documents to learn about immigrants in Vermont in the early 1900s, with a specific focus on Barre and the granite industry.
- Mapping Vermont History - students investigate a variety of Vermont maps from different time periods to identify the dates of mystery maps and to understand how Vermont has changed over time.
- “Send me a box”: Letters from Vermont Civil War Soldiers - (recommended grades 6 and up) students read and analyze letters from Civil War soldiers, specifically focusing on items soldiers requested or received from home.
- Pandemics Then and Now - students analyze Vermont primary sources from the COVID-19 pandemic and 1918-19 Spanish Influenza pandemic and consider how archives document the experiences of ordinary people.
- Learning from the Past: Town Meeting and the Green Mountain Parkway - students examine arguments from the 1930s Green Mountain Parkway debate and participate in a mock town meeting discussion and vote.
- The Buffalo Soldiers: Life in the 10th Cavalry - (recommended grades 6 and up) students examine primary sources related to the 10th cavalry, the first all-Black regiment stationed at Fort Ethan Allen, to learn more about the impact the soldiers had in Vermont.

To schedule a visit or program in conjunction with a visit to the Vermont State House, contact:
Vermont State House
visit@leg.state.vt.us
(802) 461-9923

Questions about museum tours and programs contact:
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