School Programs at the Vermont History Museum in Montpelier

Visit the Freedom And Unity Exhibit: Student groups on self-guided tours use focusing questions to guide their exploration of the museum. Hands-on exhibits engage students as they travel through 400+ years of Vermont history.

Free: admission fee is waived for students, teachers and chaperones on pre-scheduled visits. Recommended time - 45 minutes; appropriate for all grades.

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:

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.

From Italy to Vermont: Exploring Immigration through Primary Sources - 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 - 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.

Hands-On History Program fee: $3.00 per student, no charge for teachers or chaperones. Recommended time - 45 minutes per class; appropriate for grades 3 and up.

To schedule a visit or program in conjunction with a visit to the Vermont State House, contact:
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Questions about museum tours or programs, contact:
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