

CONTACT



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The Simcoe County Museum brings history to life with engaging, hands-on programs designed to inspire and educate. With over 20 different curriculum-based programs, students can explore and discover Simcoe County's rich and fascinating heritage.

For further details on these programs, please visit our website at:

museum.simcoe.ca

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PIONEER CHORES

FOR KINDERGARTEN AND GRADE 1





PRIMARY | PROGRAMS |

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Kindergarten to Grade 3

What to Expect:

Students will discover how pioneer children contributed to life on the farm through hands-on activities such as sweeping the log house, hauling water with a wooden yoke, and stacking firewood.

- Demonstrate an awareness of personal interests and sense of accomplishment in drama and dance (e.g. contribute their own ideas to role playing).
- Describe how and why a person's roles, relationship, and responsibilities may change at different times, or in different places and situations.











VICTORIAN TOYS

FOR KINDERGARTEN AND GRADE 1





What to Expect:

Take a peek into our old fashioned tov chest and allow your students the opportunity to play with some of the toys and games that children enjoyed in the Victorian era. Have your students take a turn at marbles, play hopscotch and unfold the magic of a Jacob's Ladder. Each student will make a Victorian tov to take home.



Curriculum Expectations:

- Talk about events and retell stories that reflect their own heritage and cultural backgrounds of others (e.g. traditions and holidays).
- Describe how and why a person's roles, relationship, and responsibilities may change at different times, or in different places and situations.











GROWTH AND CHANGE IN THE NATURAL WORLD

FOR KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 2 STUDENTS



What to Expect:

Your class will discover the diversity of life with an outdoor experience designed to examine the basic needs and characteristics of animals and plants. What makes up a healthy environment? How does nature recycle everything? Students will investigate the similarities and differences between various groups of species. What is adaption and how does it help an individual species survive? Young scientists will investigate these questions in a field study using sweepnets to take a look at life in a field.

Curriculum Expectations:

- Explore patterns in the natural and built environment (e.g. patterns on flowers, on animal's coats etc.).
- Investigate and compare the physical characteristics of various plants and animals.
- Observe and compare the physical and behavioural characteristics of a variety of animals.
- Describe an adaption as a characteristic body part, shape, or behaviour that helps a plant or animal to survive in it's environment.











VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

FOR KINDERGARTEN UP TO GRADE 3 STUDENTS





What to Expect:

Students will discover the origins of Canadian Christmas heritage and learn how families celebrated Christmas in the 1800s. Decorate a Victorian Christmas tree, play with some of the toys that Saint Nicholas left in the parlour, and make a traditional Victorian Christmas gift.

Curriculum Expectations:

- Describe how and why a person's roles, relationship, and responsibilities may change at different times, or in different places and situations.
- Compare ways in which some traditions have been celebrated over multiple generations in their family, and identify some of the main reasons for changes in these traditions.
- Describe some of the similarities and differences in various aspects of everyday life of selected group living in Canada between 1780 and 1850.







FOR GRADE 2 STUDENTS





What to Expect:

Students will examine Christmas celebrations from around the world and discover the international origins of our favourite Canadian Christmas traditions. Each student will make a Christmas craft to take home.











Curriculum Expectations:

- Compare ways in which some traditions have been celebrated over multiple generations in their family, and identify some of the main reasons for changes in these traditions.
- Compare some of the past and present traditions and celebrations of different ethnocultural groups in their local community and identify some of the main reasons for the change.
- Formulate questions to guide investigations into some of the past and present traditions and celebrations in their own family and the communities to which they belong.

CLASSROOM PIONEERS

FOR GRADE 3 STUDENTS



PIONEER CHILDHOOD

FOR GRADE 3 STUDENTS





What to Expect:

Explore early settler life with our costumed interpreters as they visit your classroom. Students will discuss pioneer life, participate in butter churning, carding, and spinning wool, and make a pioneer craft.

Curriculum Expectations:

- Describe how and why a person's roles, relationship, and responsibilities may change at different times, or in different places and situations.
- Compare ways in which some traditions have been celebrated over multiple generations in their family, and identify some of the main reasons for changes in these traditions.
- Describe some of the similarities and differences in various aspects of everyday life of selected group living in Canada between 1780 and 1850.









Note: Second program on the same day costs \$135.00 + GST (Schools outside Simcoe County pay \$215.00 + GST Per class for one program, and second program on the same day costs \$175.00 + GST)

What to Expect:

Students will churn butter and learn about daily pioneer life while touring our heritage buildings. A re-enactment of a 19th century school lesson allows students to travel back in time to experience early school life.

- Describe some of the similarities and differences in various aspects of everyday life of selected groups living in Canada between 1780 and 1850.
- Describe some of the major challenges facing communities in Canada during this time.
- Compare some of the roles of and challenges facing people in Canada around the beginning of the nineteenth century with those in the present day.

















What to Expect:

Students will experience early pioneer life as they dress in period-style clothes and participate in activities from the mid-1800s. Students will take part in a pioneer school lesson, experience life in a pioneer log house, and help out in the dairy by completing chores.

Curriculum Expectations:

- Describe some of the similarities and differences in various aspects of everyday life of selected groups living in Canada between 1780 and 1850.
- Describe some of the major challenges facing communities in Canada during this time.
- Compare some of the roles of and challenges facing people in Canada around the beginning of the nineteenth century with those in the present day.

AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES:

In the afternoon, students will participate in three different workshops. You can chose your afternoon activities using the list below:

Blacksmithing Demonstration:

Enjoy a blacksmithing demonstration to see what life was like for the local blacksmith.



Beeswax Candle-Making:

Each student can dip a beeswax candle to take home.







Pioneer Games:

Play old fashioned pioneer games that would have been enjoyed by children during early settlement.



Spinning Wool:

Try carding fleece and then spinning the fleece into wool.









WHO'S WHO IN THE HABITAT?

FOR GRADE 4 STUDENTS



What to Expect:

Take a closer look at habitats, natural communities and the interrelationships between plants and animals that live within them. What are the components of habitat and how do human activities affect them? Students will look at forest, field and aquatic habitats and investigate their components as well as their human influences. Students will be able to conduct a field exercise by dip-netting for the rich diversity of aquatic life in a healthy stream environment.

Curriculum Expectations:

- Demonstrate and understanding of habitats as areas that provide plants and animals with the necessities of life (e.g. food, water, air, space, and light).
- Demonstrate an understanding of community as a group of interacting species sharing a common habitat (e.g. the life in a meadow or in a patch of forest).
- Identify animals that are carnivores, herbivores or omnivores.









JUNIOR | 02
PROGRAMS

Grade 4 to Grade 6

ROCKS AND MINERALS

FOR GRADE 4 STUDENTS







What to Expect:

Students will examine the characteristics of igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks and learn the differences between the major rock classes. A field study will examine various types of fossils. Environmental impacts will be assessed resulting from human mining and construction activities.

- Use a variety of criteria (e.g. colour, texture, luster) to classify common rocks and minerals according to their characteristics.
- Describe how igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks are formed.
- Describe the characteristics of these three classes of rocks and explain how their characteristics are related to their origin.
- Describe the difference between rocks and minerals, and explain how these differences determine how they are used.













THE WENDAT AND THE WINDS OF EUROPEAN CHANGE

FOR GRADE 4 TO GRADE 6 STUDENTS





What to Expect:

Students will gain an understanding of precontact Wendat (Huron) life and examine the changes brought about by the arrival of French missionaries and traders. Students will visit a native longhouse (Ganonchia), grind corn, and participate in a clay workshop.













Curriculum Expectations:

- Compare aspects of the daily lives of different groups in an early society and explain how differences were related to the social organization of that society.
- Describe some of the positive and negative consequences of contact between First Nations and Europeans in New France and analyze their significance.
- Formulate questions to guide investigations into different perspectives on the historical and/ or contemporary experience of two or more distinct communities in Canada.

CULTURE CONTACT: THE WENDAT- FRENCH

EXPERIENCE

FOR GRADE 4 TO GRADE 6 STUDENTS

What to Expect:

Enrich your student's understanding of culture contact between the Wendat and French Europeans in the 1600s with a hands-on program designed to illuminate the shared experience of these two peoples.

Immerse your students in the challenging questions and conflicts resulting from contact. Participate in various activities including snowshoeing and snowsnake (Jan - Feb) or a choice of small group activities including lacrosse, native games, and use of plants workshop (May - June, September - November). The program will involve students in a traditional storytelling lesson.

- Compare aspects of the daily lives of different groups in an early society and explain how differences were related to the social organization of that society.
- Describe some of the positive and negative consequences of contact between First Nations and Europeans in New France and analyze their significance.
- Describe interactions between communities in Canada between newcomers and groups that were already in the country.















ORIENTEERING AND SURVIVAL FOR GRADE 4 TO GRADE 6 STUDENTS





What to Expect:

Unravel the mysteries of orienteering and survival by examining the technologies and techniques used by European explorers and First Nations. Learn how to orient and navigate by practicing map reading and basic orienteering skills. Compare human efforts to those of the natural world and the phenomenon of migration. Put your skills to the test in an exploration of the Museum and grounds.



OUTDOOR

Curriculum Expectations:

- Identify factors that affect the ability of plants and animals to survive in a specific habitat.
- Identify animals that are carnivores, herbivores, or omnivores.
- Describe the relationship within species, between species and their environment and explain how these relationships sustain biodiversity.

Note: This program is an ideal fit with the Museum's snowshoeing program to create a full day experience for your students.

Note: Students outside of the County pay \$7.00

IF ELECTED...

FOR GRADE 5 STUDENTS





What to Expect:

This program offers a unique exploration of the different systems of government with a focus on the County of Simcoe municipal system. Participants will have the opportunity to vote in a mock election and witness County Council proceedings at the County of Simcoe Administration Centre.

Curriculum Expectations:

- Assess the effectiveness of actions taken by one or more levels of government to address an issue of national, provincial/territorial or local significance.
- Describe key actions taken by different levels of government to solve some significant national, provincial/ territorial or local issues.











Note: Although If Elected... Is available year round at the Simcoe County
Museum, the program must be booked on days when County Council is in session
(Generally the 4th Tuesday of each month)

Note: Students outside of the County pay \$7.00



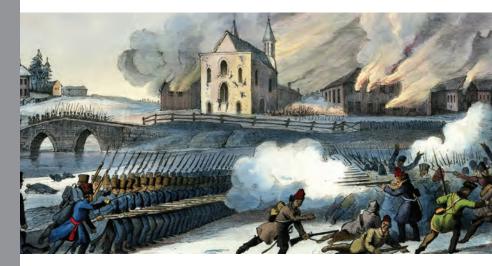
OF 1837

FOR GRADE 7 STUDENTS





Grade 7 to Grade 10



What to Expect:

Students will gain an understanding of the factors and events that led to the Rebellion of 1837. The program will investigate the influence of the Family Compact and the clergy in Upper Canadian society as well as the impact of Crown controls, which fanned the fires of dissent. The events and outcomes of the Rebellion are discussed as students participate in a re-enactment of the trial of Simcoe County native Samuel Lount.

Curriculum Expectations:

- Analyze some of the challenges facing individuals and groups in Canada between 1800 and 1850 (e.g. limited political rights).
- Analyze the displacement experienced by various groups who were living in or who came to Canada between 1800 and 1850 (e.g. Rebellions of 1837-38).





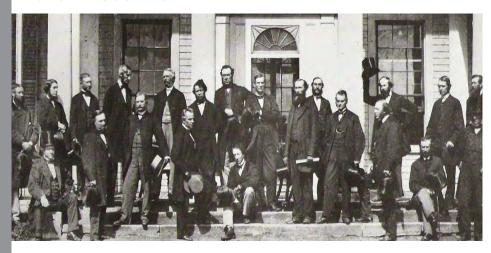




CONFEDERATION AND THE SIMCOE COUNTY CONNECTION



FOR GRADE 8 STUDENTS



What to Expect:

Meet Sir James Gowan-Barrie resident. lawyer, youngest appointed judge in the Commonwealth, Senator and confidante of the Prime Minister. Sir John A. MacDonald. Students will examine the issues facing Upper and Lower Canada in the Confederation debate of the 1860s. Students will be given the opportunity to role-play key political figures of the period and explore the motivations and obstacles to Confederation. Participation in a simulated Quebec Conference will allow students to determine the future of British North America!

Curriculum Expectations:

- Evaluate the importance of various internal/external factors that played a role in the creation of the Dominion of Canada and the expansion of its territory.
- Formulate questions to guide investigations into perspectives of different groups on some significant events, developments or issues that affected Canada between 1850 and 1890.









Note: \$7.00 fee for students outside of the County.



FOR GRADE 10 STUDENTS



What to Expect:

Examination of WW1 artifacts, archival resources and use of WW1 reproductions bring to life the trials and tribulations of the Great War. The reproduction of a 60-foot trench provides an opportunity to experience life on the front line in a manner unattainable in anv classroom. Students will learn about the recruitment process, don actual WW1 gear, demonstrate their skill in basic training and experience trench

life before 'going over the top' and out into no man's land. Students will also study the contributions made by Simcoe County during the war years, discover the true impact of WW1 on Canadian soldiers and those serving on the Home Front, and they will connect with local soldiers and nurses through personal stories and belongings.











SNOWSHOEING

FOR KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 8 STUDENTS





What to Expect:

Experience this historic winter sport with your class! Students will be given a brief history of the First Nation origin of snowshoes and discuss winter transportation in the time of the Wendat, early French traders and missionaries. A short obstacle course will orient novices before a hike among the historic buildings and the Museum's 130 ha (327 acres) of property.

Curriculum Expectations:

- Participate actively in creative movement and other daily physical activities.
- Actively participate in a wide variety of program activities according to their capabilities.
- Describe some key aspects of life in selected First Nations including the roles of men, women and children.















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MULTI-DIVISIONAL

PROGRAMS

Kindergarten to Grade 8

THE OUTDOOR WINTER CHALLENGE FOR KINDERGARIEN TO GRADE 8 STUDENTS





What to Expect:

Put outdoor recreation back on your winter calendar! Join us at the Simcoe County Museum for a combination of traditional winter activities. Challenge your class or group to hurtle a wooden 'snake' down an iced track in the Iroquoian game of snowsnake, strap on the blades and experience a turn on an open-air ice rink, or experience the magic of walking on snow with a guided snowshoeing experience. Choose two activities for a half-day (either snowshoeing, snowsnake, lacrosse or skating) or do all four over an entire day.

Curriculum Expectations:

- Actively participate in creative movement and other daily physical activities.
- Actively participate in a wide variety of program activities according to their capabilities.
- Describe some key aspects of life in selected First Nations including the roles of men, women and children.

Note: Students outside Simcoe County pay \$7.00 for regular program, and \$14.00 for Full Day Program: (10:30am-2:30pm)

Note: activities subject to change please call for details.

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What to Expect:

The Wendat, named the Huron by European explorers, were the First Nations people who lived in Simcoe County until the mid-17th century. Discuss Wendat life in our reproduction longhouse, create your own clay piece, grind corn, and have the unique opportunity to examine Wendat artifacts.

Curriculum Expectations:

- Identify some ways in which heritage is passed on through various community celebrations and events.
- Describe and compare some key aspects of life in the selected First Nations communities in Canada during this period, as well as different group in an early society.
- Describe some significant interactions among First Nations before contact with Europeans (e.g. trade, alliances and treaties).













THE POWER OF COMMUNICATION

FOR GRADE 2 TO GRADE 6 STUDENTS



What to Expect:

How have communication technologies changed society since the days of oral stories? Find out with a hands-on program that takes your class on a journey tracing the steps from quill pens to Morse code and the invention of the telegraph, radio and television. Take a closer look at the role of communication technology in the shift from an agrarian society to an increasingly urban culture.



Curriculum Expectations:

- Demonstrate an understanding of appropriate listening behaviour by using active listening strategies in a variety of situations.
- Write short texts using several simple forms (e.g., friendly letter).









04/WOLIT-DIVISIONAL PROGRA

VOYAGEURS AND THE FUR TRADE



FOR GRADE 5 TO GRADE 7 STUDENTS



What to Expect:

Unfold the story of Canada's unsung heroes, the coureurs des bois and the voyageurs. Learn more about their lifestyle and the development of the fur trade through a simulation game. Do not miss the opportunity to explore the maps, routes and furs that define the country's early commercial lifeblood.

Note: This program is an ideal fit with the Museum's snowshoeing program to create a full day experience for your students.

Note: Students outside Simcoe County pay \$7.00

- Describe some of the positive and negative consequences of contact between First Nations and Europeans in New France and analyze their significance.
- Describe significant events or developments in the history of two or more communities in Canada (e.g. First Nations, arrival of European explorers and settlers, the fur trade).
- Analyze the displacement experienced by various groups who were living in or who came to Canada between 1713 and 1800.









ONE TRADE, TWO CULTURES: THE STORY OF THE EARLY FUR TRADE











What to Expect:

Examine interrelationships of two distinct cultures. the Wendat and the French, in this full-day program.

Students will play a fur trading game and test their negotiation skills in a trading activity. Outdoor orienteering will help students understand some of the physical and environmental challenges encountered during the development of the Fur Trade. Book this program in the winter and your class can experience snowshoeing (conditions permitting).

Note: \$14.00 fee for students outside of the County.

- Describe some of the positive and negative consequences of contact between First Nations and Europeans in New France.
- Analyze aspects of early contact between First Nations and Europeans in New France to determine the ways in which different parties benefited.
- Describe interactions between communities in Canada, between newcomers and groups that were already in the country.
- Describe some significant aspects of daily life among the different groups living in Canada during this period.











EARLY SETTLEMENT IN SIMCOE COUNTY

FOR GRADE 6 AND GRADE 7 STUDENTS



What to Expect:

Why did immigrants settle in Simcoe County? What were the influences of these groups on the culture and development of Upper Canada? Who were the Loyalists and how did their immigration affect the character of English Canada? What were the everyday challenges that faced pioneer settlers in carving out a life from the wilderness? Take a look at these and other questions in a program combining historical vignettes and hands-on learning.

Curriculum Expectations:

- Identify the main reasons why different peoples came to Canada (e.g. political or religious freedom, available land, family ties, poverty or famine).
- Analyze some of the main challenges facing individuals or groups in Canada between 1713 and 1800 and ways in which people responded to those challenges.











COME VISIT US!

Have an idea for a program?

Give us a call and let us know.

We may be able to create a custom program just for you!

