Explore Chesterfield County History with your Students!

The Chesterfield County Museum Complex, located off Iron Bridge Road in the county government center, offers a variety of educational programs to stimulate young minds. Through tours and specialized programs, students learn about the historic events that happened right in their own backyards.

We focus on “then and now” concepts relating to rural life in the county, Colonial history, the Revolutionary War, the Civil War and more. Content is covered for SOLs in history, geography, civics, economics and geology. We can even bring hands-on learning to the classroom through our unique outreach programs.

All on site and Outreach programs address cross curriculum guidelines and Outreach programs are designed to reinforce problem based learning initiatives.

Cost of Outreach: Pilot program for one year at no cost. Outreach programs are 1 hour in length and are designed for individual classes to maximize students learning and hands on opportunities.

Cost of On-site Programs: $3/student, $75 minimum for on-site programs at the Historic Museum Complex. Teachers, chaperones and bus drivers are admitted free with student groups.

Tour Length: All tours at the Chesterfield Museum Complex are 2 hours and include the 1892 Historic Jail, Chesterfield County Museum and Magnolia Grange House Museum.

Facilities at Museum Complex: Restrooms located at 1892 Jail, County Museum and Magnolia Grange. Picnic area is available on grounds at Magnolia Grange. Please bring trash bags to pack up trash.

Handicap Accessibility: The County Museum is the only site that is handicap accessible.

Reservation Requirements: To reserve a tour for one of our on site or Outreach History programs or for more details, call Bryan Truzzie at 751-4946 or email truzzzieb@chesterfield.gov.

Museum Complex Hours:
On site field trip visits are available Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
HISTORY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS GRDES 6-7

ON SITE PROGRAMS AT MUSEUM COMPLEX

Chesterfield: Birthplace of the American Dream

This program will address the impact of the colonial period on the Virginia colony from religious freedoms and liberties for the colonists, to the industrial achievements from the first iron furnace and the first coal mines in America, to the evolution of mills and life at the turn of the 19th century and how the Great Depression affected families.

Standards of Learning Content:
History and Social Science  VS.6b, VS.9a,b USI.6c,USI.1a, USI.2, USI.4d, USI.6a, VUS.5, VUS.8b

OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Virginia in the Civil War (Grade 6)

Students will have the opportunity to analyze cause and effect of the impact of the Civil War on Virginia by examining what life was like for the common soldier in camp and on the march, analyzing period music to determine soldier's reasons to fight, examine important Virginia battles and learn how armies fought. This program is designed to be held in a classroom for 30 students or less per session. 1 hour program

Standards of Learning Content:
History and Social Science  VS.1, VS.7, VS.8c, USI.1a, USI.9a,e,f  VUS.7a,c  English  Reading Skills 6.5, 6.9, 7.6, 7.9

Falling Creek: The First Iron Furnace in the New World (Grade 6)

This program will utilize artifacts and primary source documents to discuss the impact of the first iron furnace in the English New World, the Virginia Company of London's role to expand trade and the impact of the industrial growth to the colony. This program will reinforce problem based learning skills for students by addressing science to discuss how a furnace functions and how it is constructed. This program is designed to be held in a classroom for 30 students or less per session. 1 hour program

Standards of Learning Content:
History and Social Science  VS.1a,c VS.3a,c VS.4, VS.5, VS.6, VS.7, VS.8, VS.10b,c USI.1a  Geography 3.5, VS.2, Geology 4.8, 5.7

16 Tons: The First Commercial Coal Mines (Grade 6)

This engaging, hands on program will address the impact to coal mining and railroads to the region using primary and secondary source documents and artifacts. Students will learn about the importance of the coal during the colonial period and the American Civil War, the role of railroads to haul coal and the impact coal mining had on the area. This program reinforces problem based learning concepts by addressing preservation of historical landmarks. This program can be followed up with a field trip. This program is designed to be held in a classroom for 30 students or less per session. 1 hour program

Standards of Learning Content:
History and Social Science  USI.1a, USI.5, USI.8d, USI.2b, VUS.8, VS.1a,c VS.4b,VS.8c, VS.10b,c