

The Museum Attic

Grades: 3rd-8th

Objectives:

- To understand the way individuals, families and communities live and work together, now and in the past
- To make connections between material from non-print sources and his or her prior knowledge, other sources and the world
- To discuss the various patterns of culture in the U. S.
- To explain how physical and human characteristics of places influenced human migration and settlement
- To analyze settlement patterns to explain why people settle in various areas
- To summarize the changes in communication, transportation, agriculture and manufacturing and their effects on the U. S. during this period
- To discuss how humans and their use of technology have changed the physical environment and describe the consequences of these changes in each world region
- To compare different production methods and illustrate how productivity is affected by technological change

Pre- and Post-Visit Activities:

1. Review vocabulary list and the Inventor's Time Line.
2. Read excerpts from children's literature of the 19th century. Possible choices are Tom Sawyer and Alice in Wonderland. Discuss how past literature differs from more modern writings.
3. Complete the worksheet "Great Moments, Great Messages," also found on-line at <http://teacher.scholastic.com/lessonrepro/reproducibles/profbooks/moments.pdf>
4. Complete the worksheets "Bicycle Built for Technology," found on-line at <http://teacher.scholastic.com/lessonrepro/reproducibles/profbooks/biktech.htm>
5. Read a book of historical fiction. Lists can be found at these websites: <http://www.scottodell.com/sosoaward.html#top> and at <http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/library/reading/ya/jeffcup.htm>
6. Read brief summaries about inventors and their inventions at <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/inventors>
7. Get useful and detailed explanations of how things work, from computers to cell phones at <http://www.howstuffworks.com>
8. Play "History Mystery" on-line. Guess the mystery subject. Students can use on- and off-line research resources to help them identify the person, place, event or object in history. Possible themes are: Colonial Life, 20th Century Inventions, How Cities Grow. <http://teacher.scholastic.com/histmyst>

Vocabulary:

19th Century: the 100 year period that spans 1800-1899

Stereopticon: a type of viewer made for double photographic pictures

Victorian: the era when Queen Victoria ruled England (1837-1901)

Antique: of olden times; not new or modern

Family Tree: a “map” to show the generations of a family; it gives names, dates and relationships

Penmanship: unlike block printing, this involves using graceful and precisely formed handwriting styles

Slate: an early chalkboard made from this type of rock; used when paper was expensive or hard to obtain

Reproduction: a copy or exact likeness often an older object, toy or building, a replica of the original

Apprentice: a person who agrees to work for a craftsman in order to learn a skill

Quill: the hollow shaft of a feather used for writing

Community: a group of people with common interests living in a particular area

Settlement: a place where people established their homes

Artifact: an object created by people used for a practical purpose

Transportation: a way of traveling from one place to another

Chamber: a room, especially a bedroom