



CHILDREN'S
MUSEUM
— OF VIRGINIA —
PORTSMOUTH

Pre and Post-Visit Activities

Our Community: Then and Now

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Important Information for Teachers

Thank you for choosing *Our Community: Then and Now* for your students! This program will cover the following aspects of your SOL's:

- 2.3 The student will identify and compare changes in community life over time in terms of buildings, jobs, transportation, and population. Key concepts include
- a) Communities change over time for a variety of reasons;
 - b) The way people live today is different from the way people lived long ago; and
 - c) New inventions have led to changes in buildings, jobs, transportation, and populations of communities over time.

Museum Manners

Please review with students and chaperones prior to your visit to the museum.

1. Please plan to arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled time to allow final counts and payment prior to your visit.
2. Remember to use walking feet.
3. Remember to use inside voices.
4. Teachers and chaperones must stay and explore with their students at all times throughout the museum.
5. Remember to share the exhibits and place items back where you found them.
6. Food and drink are not permitted in the museum.

Vocabulary

Architecture- By the simplest definition, architecture is the design of buildings, executed by architects.

Artifact- the material remains of past human life and activities. These include the very earliest stone tools to the man-made objects that are buried or thrown away in the present day: everything made by human beings—from simple tools to complex machines, from the earliest houses and temples and tombs to palaces, cathedrals, and pyramids.

Community- a place where people live, work, and play

History- the record of past events and times, especially in connection with the human race.

Job- the work that a person does regularly in order to earn money

Population- the number of people living in a community

Technology- the process by which human beings fashion tools and machines to change, manipulate, and control their environment.

Transportation – a way of moving people and things from one place to another

Pre-visit Activity:

Try this activity before your visit to the Children's Museum.

UNDERSTANDING KEY TERMS

Objective: To understand the key terms in the vocabulary prior to visit

Materials: Crossword Puzzle

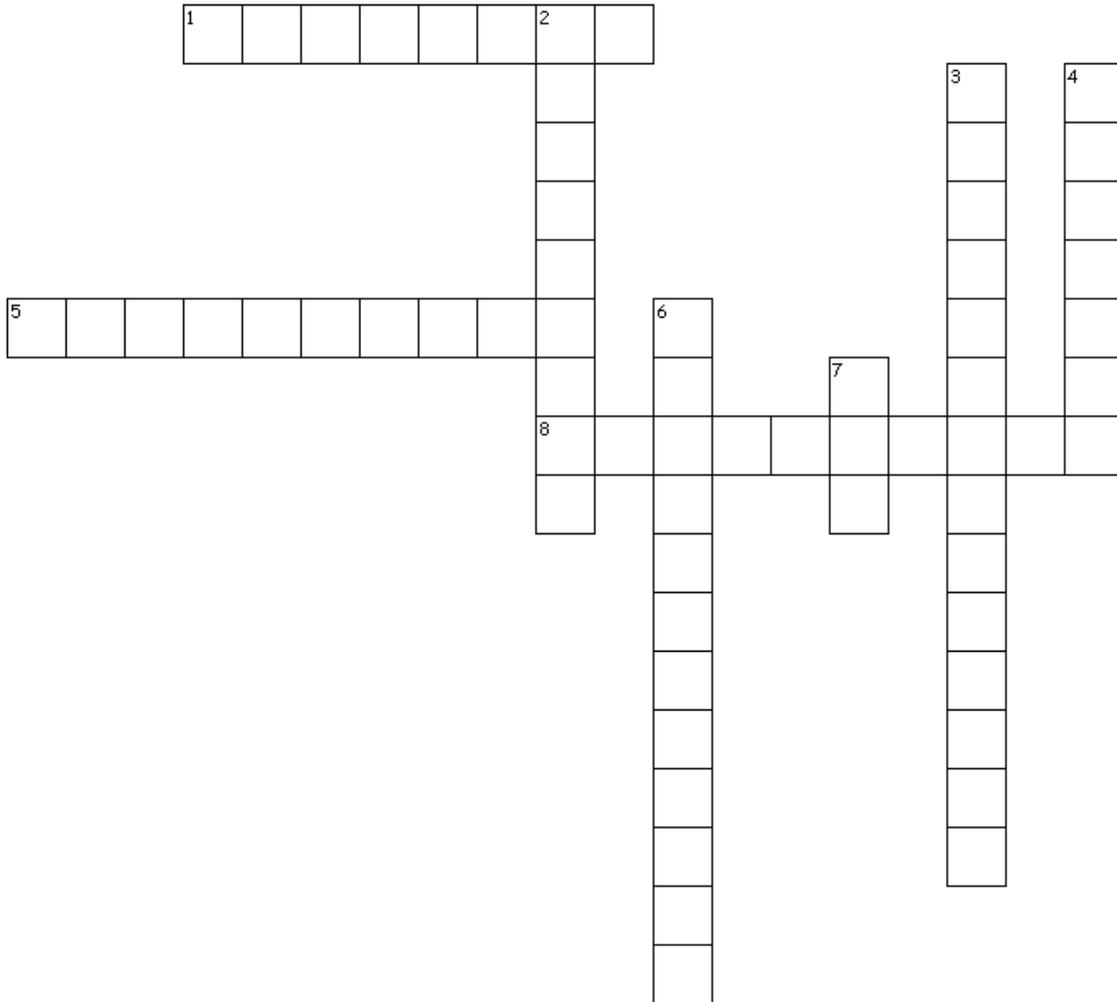
Activity: Students will complete the crossword puzzle either as an individual or in pairs/small groups. They will then discuss with the class how each term may affect them in their daily lives. In their discussion, make sure students note how each term is used all around them, and point out different examples of community, population, technology and transportation, etc.

Examples:

- Community: school, neighborhood,
- Population: students, teachers, United States Citizens
- Technology: computers, calculators, cell phones
- Transportation: busses, cars

Crossword

Our Community: Then and Now



Across

- 1. remains of past human life and activities
- 5. the number of people living in a community
- 8. machines to change, manipulate, and control

Down

- 2. a place where people live, work, and play
- 3. a way of moving people and things
- 4. the record of past events and times
- 6. buildings
- 7. work that a person does regularly in order to earn money

Post-visit Activity:

Try this activity after your visit to the Children's Museum.

Rewriting your own history: Write a journal like Elmire Noyes

Objective: To write a journal to understand how children's life in Portsmouth in the early 20th century was different than their own.

Materials: Copies of Noyes' Journal for Reference (for teacher)*, Paper and Pencil.

Activity: If the children do not recall, read the selected copies of Noyes' journal, and ask the children to write their own journal entry with a similar theme in their own period. Ask them to point out their favorite idea, whether it is the weather, transportation, holiday or something else Elmira talked about, and write about how they do it differently.

*Journal excerpt attached at end of document

Virginia Beach, Virginia: July 8, 1896 – Wednesday

It rained off and on in the morning and I copied and rewrote a fairy tale I made up some years ago. Mama decided not to go to the Sunday School picnic as it was so dam and Aline could not go in the water with the whooping cough, but at any rate Mayrea and I had our lunch at 11 o'clock and after lunch I looked out and saw a beautiful butterfly on the house and got my potion bottle and went after him, but he was too high and he flew away, so we went in and put on our bonnet and sailor hat and started for the ferry with a dollar and 1 ferry ticket and 2 tickets to get there (we were going to Virginia Beach). We got the dollar broken at the ferry and went to Norfolk. We walked to the station and walked all around to see where the train went off but could not find any place in that station. But we found out afterwards it was Norfolk and Western RR instead of Norfolk and Virginia Beach Railroad but we found it at last. We had been there but a short time when it began to rain, when it poured. The train went at 1 o'clock and we had about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour to wait. When the train came, we piled on and a dear little train it was. We stopped at 2 or 3 farms. They must have been post offices for we saw a mail bag. When we got there we went right on the pavilion and saw Lillian Grant and Lulu Miller. I spoke to them then went down on the shore. There were quite a few in bathing. We went up on the board walk and saw Mrs. Grant. Then we went to look for Lillian and found her and asked her to go in bathing with us but her mother would not let her so she went with us to hire a bathing suit. Mine had a petticoat and it was rather tight at first but I got used to it. Mayrea's had no petticoats and lots of people took her for a boy. I had lots of fun with the waves, run up against them then jump and they would carry me along one time I went out a little further and tried and I went but soon came to the top. I swallowed a mouthful of salt water and it felt so funny in my throat. Mayrea was afraid to go in any further than just along the edge of the water at first, but after a little while she condescended to go in a little further. I got cold so we came out. We stayed in about 1 hour. When we were dressed we walked around and

watched the people we came home on the 6:10 o clock train. We got on an open car, there were lots of people that wanted to come in on that train that had to stay til the next train.

We walked from the station to the ferry and got there just as the boat was coming into the slip.

When we got home, we ate our supper and went to bed. We both got sun burnt. I wore my brown dress to the picnic, but in the morning I wore Mrs. Wood's dress.

January 23, 1897

There is small pox next door to school again but the case will be removed tonight and there will be no danger so Dr. Hope says after school I took my bike and rode over to New town intending to go and see the 4th district school but I saw Mr. Ruth coming home so went to the Navy Yard instead. I did not try to ride through but got off went up to the watch man and asked if I could go through to the C.E. office, he asked me if I wanted to see him I said. Yes, then he asked who, I told him and he said go along through and I went stayed there a while and had my wheel looked at and I now know what to do to keep it from rattling to keep the cap of the handle far on and to take the rust off.

February 11, 1897

On February 11, it began to snow. It having been very cold for a few days before Sunday the 12 it was still snowing. On Monday and Tuesday, I did not go to school there was so much snow. I don't think they counted them as school days because there were so few present for the next 2 or 3 days. After that the water flooded the street for 15 inches of snow had fallen and in some places the drifts were quite deep. The snow still remains in some places. I went to church and Sunday school Sunday. I have missed 2 Sundays, we had our shorthand class Saturday at 4:00 instead of Friday 8:30. I have not been to any Lenten services.