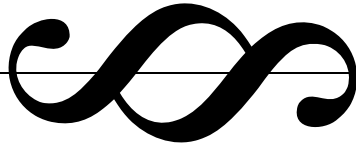




Enrichment Programs At Rock Castle



For more information, call (615) 824-0502,
Tuesday – Saturday 9-5; Sunday 1-5
Or visit our website: www.historicrockcastle.com

Dear Teachers and Parents,

As a nationally registered historic site, Rock Castle provides you with a unique opportunity to enhance students' learning and understanding of Tennessee history as well as pre and post colonial culture.

Our educational objective is to cultivate a healthy curiosity and interest in historical events by exploring the home and life story of Daniel Smith and the 18th century frontier. By conceptualizing these historic events we are elevating and expanding the world view of our future leaders.

Rock Castle's education program is designed to engage students in a variety of hands-on activities that will enrich their learning and their lives. Activities are available for all grade levels. Check it out and call us today to book your historical experience!

Educational Programs

Frontier Fashion

Grades 1-4 35 minutes

Description: A Rock Castle interpreter dressed in late 18th century attire will lead students through a clothing activity that compares the common fashion of 200 years ago with what we see and wear today.

Discussion: How men and women dressed, how clothes were manufactured, changing styles and personal hygiene.

Objective: Students learn to recognize differences in early American style dress between men, women and children and are able to compare today's trends with those found on the frontier.



Archaeology

Grades 3-6 35 minutes

Description: Students will work with a Rock Castle interpreter, learning techniques used to examine 'above-ground' archaeology and the man-made environment.

Discussion: Defining architecture and archaeology. Assessment and interpretation of building materials, style and architectural details.

Objective: Students learn how early settlers contributed to the cultural heritage of Tennessee by examining and interpreting the architecture of Historic Rock Castle.

Soap & Candle Making

Grades 4-6 35 minutes

Description: As students dip candles over an open fire, a Rock Castle interpreter describes in detail how candles were made 200 years ago. Students also participate in the process of making lye soap, the beginning of which is started during this activity.

Discussion: The role of the frontier wife and mother, the role of slaves, how technology has evolved over the years and the functional aspects of everyday life in the 1790s

Objective: Students will familiarize themselves with the process and components involved in soap and candle production in addition to its cultural significance.



Cemetery Investigation

Grades 3-6 35 minutes

Description: Working with a Rock Castle interpreter, students examine and analyze the Smith family cemetery containing four generations. Students will also learn to make gravestone rubbings.

Discussion: Define and understand the term genealogy, Smith family history, funerary art and tombstone shapes, family names and epitaphs.

Objective: Students will learn to analyze and interpret tombstone characteristics and labels making genealogical connections between individuals.

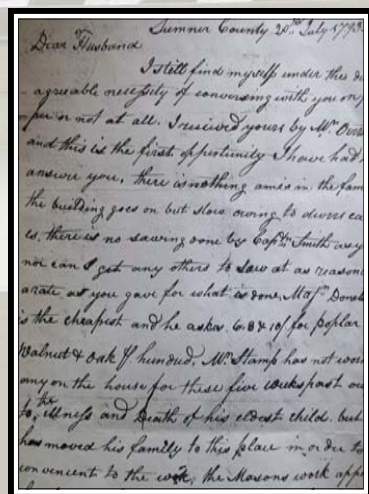
Mystery Artifact Box

All Grades Time Varies

Description: Rock Castle's Artifact Box is filled with a variety of mysterious items commonly used on the Tennessee frontier in the early 1800's. The Artifact Box allows students to handle and examine up close historical items significant to the time period. Artifacts may vary.

Discussion: What constitutes an historical artifact? What the artifacts were used for, how they differ from their modern day equivalents and how these items have changed over time.

Objective: Identifying and analyzing an historical artifact, determining its use and function.



Interpreting Historic Documents

Grades 7-12 35 minutes

Description: Using a series of primary documents, students work in teams to complete worksheets.

Discussion: Areas of concentration include Smith's surveying career using Smith's journal and maps of Tennessee and Virginia; Smith's political career using original maps and correspondence with William Blount; Rock Castle as an established plantation during the Civil War using original Smith family correspondence.

Objective: Students learn to read and interpret primary historical documents.

Carding to Weaving

Grades 5-12 35 minutes

Description: Working with a Rock Castle interpreter, students examine and compare freshly shorn wool with wool that has been cleaned and carded. Students will learn to card and dye wool, spin wool using drop spindles and weave on small looms.

Discussion: The process of shearing, cleaning and dyeing wool, spinning and weaving.

Objective: Students learn the process of carding, spinning and weaving, their significance in early American culture and the role they played in the lives of frontier women.



Cooking and Food Preservation

Grades 5-12 1½ Hours

Description: Students learn the techniques of 'fireplace' cooking and food preservation while also recognizing similarities and differences in modern day equivalents.

Discussion: How the development of more efficient food preservation methods contributed to stabilizing the growth of post revolutionary communities. The chores and responsibilities required of frontier children compared with today's household expectations.

Objective: Students will learn how food preservation technologies improved the chance of survival for those populating the frontier.



Scheduling Your Visit:

All tours and programs must be prearranged and scheduled AT LEAST two weeks in advance. Call (615) 824-0502 to schedule your visit.

Fee: \$3 per person. All teachers and chaperones free when accompanying a class of 30 students or more. Cash or check for the full amount is to be paid on the day of the visit before the start of the program(s).

Class Size: A maximum of 3 classes (90 students) can be accommodated. You may schedule up to 3 activities per visit.

Chaperones: A minimum of 1 adult per 10 students is requested.

Picnics: If you plan a picnic during your visit, trash cans are located in the pavilion behind the Visitors Center.

Confirmation: Approximately one week before your visit, you will receive a confirmation packet via email with the date, time and program(s) for which you are scheduled as well as additional information regarding preparation for you visit.

Cancellation: Notify us immediately if you must cancel your visit. We will work with you to reschedule.

