

Educator's Guide

YOUR TOOL FOR TEACHING LOCAL HISTORY



Midway Village Museum
Rockford's
HISTORY MUSEUM

Welcome to Midway Village Museum

Educators will find we have many immersive opportunities to add to your classroom learning. Each year we offer Hands on History Days, featuring the Civil War in May and World War II in September. Our unique Living History Tours in the Victorian Village and our Gallery Tours in the Museum Center are both great ways to bring Rockford's rich history to life. If you can't make it out to see us, we also offer history talks, and outreach trunks for use in your classroom.



Students learning from a costumed interpreter in the Old Stone School.

<u>Program*</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Tour Length</u>	<u>Availability</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>
General Museum Tour	1st - 12th	1.5 hrs.	All year	80 max.
General Village Tour	1st - 12th	1.5 hrs.	Seasonal	No min. or max.
Immigration Tour	1st - 12th	2 hrs.	All year	10 min.
Old Stone School	1st - 8th	1 - 5 hrs.	Seasonal	12 min.
Old Stone School	K - 8th	1 - 5 hrs.	Seasonal	12 min.
Living History Tour	1st - 12th	3 - 5 hrs.	Seasonal	80 min.
Hands-on History Days	3rd - 12th	All day	Seasonal	No min. or max.
History Talks	1st - 12th	45 - 60 mins.	All year	30 max.
Traveling Trunks	1st - 12th	2 weeks	All year	No min. or max.

** Museum and Village Tours can be combined or added to other, select programs. Tours are available in Spanish; contact Museum Educator at educator@midwayvillage.com to arrange.*

General Museum Tour

Interpreters dressed in turn-of-the-century attire guide students through hands-on exhibits examining Rockford's history of immigration, industrialization, and culture.

General Village Tour

Historically dressed interpreters lead students through a tour of our Victorian Village, providing an immersive, first-hand look into home life, technology, and the pastimes of Illinois residents from 1890-1910.

Immigration Tour

This interactive tour promotes critical thinking and historical analysis as students examine similarities and differences of Rockford over time. The focus includes the roots of intolerance, and how children can personally combat these influences in their personal lives.

Old Stone School

History comes alive as students experience life and learning in a turn-of-the-century one room schoolhouse. Options include leading your own class with recommended activities, or having our costumed school teacher use historic materials to teach the students as they spend a day in the past.

Living History Tour

Costumed interpreters bring all facets of Northern Illinois history to life in the Victorian Village, and engage students through a variety of hands-on activities, including early medicine, vintage printing presses, police and fire stations, a blacksmith shop, food preservation, square dancing, and more. Each tour consists of six or more activities, depending on the number of students and your available time. Contact staff for details.



Hands-on History Days

These award-winning educational events are specifically designed to meet the curriculum standards of students. More than 5,000 children participate annually in the program, but space is limited and **advance registration is required**. Our campus makes an exceptional setting, with 25 historic buildings and over 40 different interactive living history sites offered each day.

Civil War History Days take place each May, with groups visiting the stations they choose. Examples of the famous people they will meet include President Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, General U.S. Grant and many others. Students will experience being a soldier with marching and drilling, they will sing and dance to music of the times, and hear first-hand accounts of the Underground Railroad.

World War II History Day is the Friday before our popular World War II Days re-enactment in late September. Educators and students enjoy a self-guided tour of the re-enactors as they set up for the activities in the Village and the woods camps. Groups will meet and talk with soldiers from the Allied and Axis combatants, learn about homefront activities, and see many types of authentic vehicles and tanks used in the war.

History Talks and Traveling Trunks

History talks allow students to learn through interactive lectures. Topics include the Rockford Peaches, Pledge of Allegiance, local aviation pioneer Bessica Raiche, and Sock Monkey history. Traveling trunks are full of artifacts available for a two-week rental, each geared toward specific grade levels. Topics include the Civil War, Immigrants and Culture, Victorian Life and Games, and Creating Community.

“I appreciate the hard work and the efficient coordination of the events... I hope Midway Village Museum will continue to provide these enriching experiences. They are a wonderful example of interactive, experiential learning.”

*— Barbara Iteen, Social Studies teacher,
Immanuel Lutheran School, Batavia, IL*

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I register? To register for any of our programs, please use our online registration form by visiting midwayvillage.com and clicking Learn. For more details on registration, curriculum standards, or if you have other questions, please contact us by email at educator@midwayvillage.com or call 815.397.9112, ext. 106.

Do your field trips meet educational standards? Yes. Details on how our programs meet both National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies (NCSS) and Illinois State Standards (ISS) are available at midwayvillage.com. Click on the Learn menu for a download link. For more information, please email or call.

What are the costs? Our educational programs are a great value, and are priced according to the number of students and the length of the activity or event. Bus drivers and teachers receive complimentary admission. Details of program costs are available at midwayvillage.com under the Learn menu.

What types of payment are accepted, and when is it due? Payment is due on arrival unless prior arrangements are made. We accept cash, checks, and Visa, MasterCard and Discover.

What about lunches? If eating on site, please bring sack lunches and drinks. You can store them inside or on your bus, and eat in one of our picnic areas or in the Museum Center in case of bad weather.

Where do buses park? Bus and other vehicle parking is free in the Museum Center parking lot at 6799 Guilford Road.



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