Bachmann Publick House



Teachers may also wish to visit our 1753 Bachmann Publick House, one of the oldest buildings in Easton, a former colonial tavern, and home to the first courtroom in the county.

Educators in period dress guide groups on a tour of the building, discuss colonial life and customs, as well as some of the famous historical figures who passed through the area. Students will have a chance to try on period clothing and imagine life in a historic setting.

Coming soon: A 19th-century dry goods store stocked with period necessities and affordable luxuries. This interactive exhibit will feature a shopkeeper who will guide children through a historical shopping experience.

Traveling Trunks

Bring the museum to your classroom!

Teachers may request trunks to supplement their own instruction. Each trunk provides educational objects and information that will engage students and enrich their studies. Themes include: Lenape, Early Settlers, Civil War

Contact Us

Education programs can be tailored to meet your class goals. Please contact us to discuss your ideal visit.

Or call to find out if your school district can receive FREE field trips through the EITC (Educational Improvement Tax Credit) program.



Northampton County Historical and Genealogical Society 342 Northampton Street Easton, PA 18042 www.sigalmuseum.org 610-253-1222

Cover Image: Norma Collmar Collection

School Programs





Lenape Exhibit

Grades 1-2 focus on highly visual items like the wikewam (wigwam) and its contents (bunk bed, papoose board, fireplace, food, tools, weapons, and toys). Docents draw the children out, discuss the purpose of each item, and relate it to their experiences today.

Grades 3-4 delve into wikewam construction, tools, hunting, and the process of cooking and obtaining food. **Grades 4-6** explore a day in the life of a Lenape man, woman, and child. What were their duties? What hunting techniques did they use? What did they need and make?

Founding of the Nation

Who were the early immigrants? We'll discuss why they came here, what types of jobs they had in Europe and how those influenced where they settled in America. Learn about their interactions with the indigenous people, William Penn, and his family's influence on Pennsylvania. Students will see the original Great Treaty of Easton and learn how it affected why we speak English instead of French.

Historical Topics & Activities

Colonial Life

How did the settlers live and work in the late 1700s and 1800s? Students will discover how colonists obtained food, water and supplies, and what was needed in the household. They will view a period room, surprised to compare a bed then with a bed now, what they purchase at the supermarket today versus what settlers made. They will understand gender roles of men and women, how they differed from each other, and how they differ from gender roles today.

Colonial Artifacts

Is it a stirrup or a potato masher? This favorite interactive activity asks students to put on their detective hats, handle specific artifacts, and then guess their purpose. In the process they will discover more about the daily lives of their forebears, their jobs, and leisure activities. Objects vary.

Crafts & Apprentices

Students learn the trades and crafts of the 1700s and 1800s, the skills they required, how young people entered those trades and progressed through apprenticeships, and how fine clocks, metal works, clothing, paintings, samplers, quilts, and other items made life liveable and enjoyable.

Activity Period

Children have a hands-on activity period during which they make a craft (such as a Lenape totem necklace) or participate in games or a demonstration.



Colonial Fires

Easton's first fire engine is on display in the lobby of the Sigal Museum. It provides the backdrop for understanding why colonial fires were common (exploring building materials, fireplaces, and cooking practices), how they were fought, and how the invention of the fire truck changed everything. We also discuss how fires start today, how we can avoid them, and protections we can take.