



EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

..... *Making history personal*

## Gallery Program

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### *Voices of the Land: The People of East Tennessee*

Through this signature exhibit, students will explore more than three centuries of life in East Tennessee. They will experience the exhibit through identifying and answering questions about key images and artifacts that will take them from frontier life through statehood, the Civil War, post-war industrial growth, into the modern era of TVA, Oak Ridge, and tourism in East Tennessee. The gallery program can be adapted to focus on specific areas within your grade's curriculum standards.

**\*This museum program is included in every visit.**

This program covers state standards: 3.14, 3.9, 3.26, 3.37, 3.16, 4.2, 4.9, 4.10, 4.20, 4.22, 4.25, 4.34, 4.38, 4.45, 4.51, 4.53, 4.54, 4.55, 4.56, 5.6, 5.7, 5.11, 5.14, 5.15, 5.18, 5.27, 5.37, 5.44, 5.46, 5.47, 5.50, 5.59, 5.65, 5.72, 8.9, 8.12, 8.19, 8.20, 8.21, 8.25, 8.26, 8.29, 8.39, 8.52, 8.54, 8.55, 8.56, 8.75, 8.77, 8.91

## Education Programs

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### *Discovery Boxes: Exploring Early Tennessee's People, Culture, and Trade*

This group activity consists of eight *Discovery Boxes* and one haversack. The *Boxes* program is designed particularly for intermediate grades (3-5) but can be adapted for primary grades. By working together in small groups, students examine each collection of artifacts and work together to discover the identity of a character from the frontier period in East Tennessee's history. The boxes/bag contain artifacts related to individuals such as a slave, a farmer, a long hunter, a Cherokee woman, an educated man—lawyer, writer, etc., a blacksmith, a farmer's wife, a farmer's child, and a trader. To focus their examination, students are asked to answer a few questions:

- Is the person a man or a woman?
- Is the person an adult or a child?
- What is the person's job?
- What culture is represented?

At the end of a designated discovery period (5-10 minutes), the students will be asked to share their findings and reveal the "identity" of the person they have discovered—justifying their conclusions with clues gleaned from the objects. The museum educator will also work with the students' explanations in such a way as to bring out what the objects tell about the person's unique culture and how economic concepts play into how the individuals acquired or sold/traded their objects.

This program covers state standards: 3.9, 3.14, 3.26, 4.2, 4.10, 4.20, 4.53, 4.61



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### *Objects Over Time*

In this program, students are given an unusual collection of objects and “read” them for answers to questions such as: what is it made of, how was it made, what is its function, and, ultimately, when was it used? The students are then asked to place the object within a tabletop timeline based on clues gathered, with the museum educator guiding them through historical, social, economic, and industrial changes over time. The finished product represents a student-developed artifact timeline chronicling three centuries of Tennessee and American history. This program is designed for students in grades 4-8 (and up).

This program covers state standards: 4.10, 4.53, 4.57, 4.59, 5.27, 5.47, 5.61, 5.65, 8.46

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### *Brother Against Brother*

East Tennesseans were fiercely divided over the Civil War. Although strongly Unionist, the region also contained a large pro-secession minority. Politicians stumped the towns and communities, determined to persuade people to their side. With a fast moving script, students engage in an 1861 debate set in East Tennessee. Students role-play Union vs. Secession orators, and by taking their own popular vote, determine how the crowd was swayed.

This program covers state standards: 5.2, 5.6, 5.8, 8.75

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### *Everyday Expressions*

In one of our most requested outreach programs, students will explore the ways in which European, African, and Cherokee cultures blended to create the food ways and styles of early 19<sup>th</sup> century Tennessee. Students will understand how today’s culture is rooted in the traditions of the groups who settled the state. The importance of trade is also discussed. Hands-on items, such as cooking implements, utensils, and examples of foods, are brought into the classroom, as well as reproduction clothing and accessories. This program is only available as outreach in the classroom.

This program covers state standards: 3.9, 3.14, 3.26, 3.37, 4.2, 4.5, 4.10, 4.53, 4.61, 8.9, 8.12, 8.71