

Exploring Historical Thinking

Grades 4-8, Available Year Round

OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

This interactive and hands-on program will explore the six historical thinking concepts brought to life through archaeology and the museum's collections. This program focuses on concepts of bias, time, perspectives and how we understand the past.

COMPONENTS

1. Grade-specific gallery tour
2. Quill writing
3. Historical perspectives
4. Artifact handling and "future artifacts"
5. Craft
6. Museum wide scavenger hunt
7. Pottery

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

For a 4 hour - Full Day version:

Time:	Activity:
10:00	Grade-specific gallery discussion (Incorporated in all programs, this component will be tailored to the grade as well as the focus of the chosen program and introduces students to Ontario's Indigenous people as well as the plants, animals and other resources available over time).
10:30	Historical perspectives – The goal of this workshop is to connect ideas about bias and different perspectives to the students' own lives through various activities.
11:00	Quill writing – The goal of this workshop is to introduce students to the origins of written history and the varying points of view and biases between the Jesuit missionaries and the Indigenous people they encountered.
11:30	Lunch

12:00	Artifact handling and future artifacts – Includes an introduction to archaeology and how it works. Students will conduct archaeological interpretations on present-day items to explore how archaeologists make sense of artifacts from the past.
12:30	Craft – students will have the opportunity to create a craft related to the theme of historical thinking.
1:00	Pottery – Students will make their very own pinch pots and will learn about First Nations pottery and patterns.
1:30 - 2:00	Museum-wide scavenger hunt – Students will have the opportunity to explore the entire museum premises while completing a scavenger hunt centered on historical thinking and archaeology.

(For a 2 hour - Half Day program teachers can choose 4 of the above components. If combining classes, please choose the same components).

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Grade 4: Social Studies - Heritage and Identity: early societies, 3000 BCE - 1500 CE

Grade 4: Social Studies - Ways of life relationships with the environment

Grade 4: Social Studies - Characteristics of early societies

Grade 5: Social Studies - Heritage and Identity: interactions of Indigenous peoples and Europeans prior to 1713, in what would eventually become Canada

Grade 5: Social Studies - Perspectives on interactions

Grade 5: Social Studies - Understanding context: significant characteristics and interactions

Grade 5: Social Studies - Differing perspectives on social and environmental issues

Grade 6: Science - Understanding life systems: biodiversity

Grade 6: Social Studies - Diversity, inclusiveness, and Canadian identities

Grade 6: Social Studies - The perspectives of diverse communities

Grade 7: Science - Understanding life systems: interactions in the environment

Grade 7: Social Studies - From New France to British North America

Grade 8: Social Studies - CREATING CANADA, 1850–1890