

## **School During the Great Depression**

This program has been designed to give learners an immersive experience as students in a one-room schoolhouse during the time period of the Great Depression (1929-1939). Students will partake in lessons using period textbooks on a variety of subjects and learn what life was like during this time in history. The program targets upper-level elementary and early middle school students (approximately 4th through 6th grade), but can be adapted for older or younger learners. It has been designed to last 4 hours.

Before visiting the schoolhouse, students will complete some pre-activities in the classroom. These include a short lesson on rural, one-room schoolhouses in the 1930s. Also included are short videos on the Great Depression, including a Crash Course, for teachers to show. Additionally, there is a food and clothing guide for students if they want to dress in period attire or pack period appropriate lunches.

While at the schoolhouse, the emphasis of the day will be placed on period lessons in reading, math, and character development. Students will also rotate through learning stations that deal with specific topics surrounding the Great Depression such as period gardening, corn husk doll making, and a bingo game covering the major people and events of the 1930's. Throughout the day, there will be time for two recesses and lunch.

Included in the packet are also a list of suggestions for post-visit activities for teachers. On the following pages, the education standards are listed, which cover up to 8th grade.

## **Educational Standards**

The Great Depression program encompasses the following Pennsylvania Academic Standards for English (Grades 4 & 5), History (Grade 8), & Mathematics (Grade 5):

### **English Standards:**

**CC.1.1.4.E:** Read with accuracy and fluency to support comprehension: • Read on-level text with purpose and understanding. • Read on-level text orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression on successive readings. • Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary.

**CC.1.2.4.B:** Refer to details and examples in text to support what the text says explicitly and make inferences.

**CC.1.2.4.F:** Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in grade-level text, including figurative language.

**CC.1.1.5.E:** Read with accuracy and fluency to support comprehension: • Read on-level text with purpose and understanding. • Read on-level text orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression on successive readings. • Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary.

### **History Standards:**

**8.1.6.A:** Understand chronological thinking and distinguish between past, present and future time.

**8.1.6.B:** Explain and analyze historical sources.

**8.1.6.D:** Describe and explain historical research.

### **Mathematics Standards:**

**CC.2.1.5.B.1:** Apply place-value concepts to show an understanding of operations and rounding as they pertain to whole numbers and decimals.

**CC.2.1.5.B.2:** Extend an understanding of operations with whole numbers to perform operations including decimals.

**CC.2.1.5.C.1:** Use the understanding of equivalency to add and subtract fractions.

**CC.2.1.5.C.2:** Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to multiply and divide fractions.

**CC.2.3.5.A.2:** Classify two-dimensional figures into categories based on an understanding of their properties.

CC.2.4.5.A.1: Solve problems using conversions within a given measurement system.

CC.2.4.5.A.2: Represent and interpret data using appropriate scale.