

World War I

This program is designed to give learners an immersive experience as students in a one-room schoolhouse during the first World War. This program has been performed multiple times with students from the Grace B. Luhrs Elementary School on the Shippensburg University campus, and is continually improving and changing. It is geared towards elementary-age students, particularly 5th grade students, but can be adapted for other grade levels. It is designed to last about 3 hours.

The first portion of this program will teach students about how learning in a one-room schoolhouse is far different from learning in their elementary classrooms. They will learn about the history of this particular schoolhouse and how schoolhouses were run in the early 20th Century. Students will also use period materials to complete a short reading and vocabulary lesson. They will also examine a report card from a student who attended the Little Red Schoolhouse to discuss how learning differs today based on what subjects are familiar or unfamiliar to them.

The program also allows time for a recess in which students will play games that were popular around the time of World War I. Following the recess, students will have a chance to participate in activities that were common during the time. To simulate the planting and growing of a victory garden, students have the chance to plant vegetables in cups that they can take home and grow in their own garden. There is also a fabric activity, where students can choose between crocheting or using the loom. The final part of the day allows students to come back together inside the schoolhouse and debrief.

Educational Standards

Pennsylvania History Standards:

8.1.6. A

Understand chronological thinking and distinguish between past, present, and future times.

8.1.6. D

Describe and explain historical research.

8.4.6. A

Identify and explain how individuals and groups made significant political and cultural contributions to world history.

8.4.6. B

Identify and explain important documents, material artifacts, and historic sites in world history.

8.4.6. C

Identify and explain how continuity and change has affected belief systems, commerce and industry, innovations, settlement patterns, social organizations, transportation, and women's roles in world history.

8.4.6. D

Explain how conflict and cooperation among social groups and organizations affected world history.