

Your Guide to Pre-Scheduled Programs

at

Old Fort Western

September 2010 - August 2011



*Old Fort Western, the 1754 National Historic Landmark
fort, store and house on the Kennebec in Augusta Maine*

*Call us today at 626-2385 or go to
www.oldfortwestern.org*

Dear Teacher or Educator

Old Fort Western is the Oldest surviving wooden Fort in North America. We are dedicated to the preservation and protection of this site as well as the continuation of our extensive educational outreach programs. Over the last 25 years a highly qualified and creative group of staff and volunteers have worked with teachers and the community to develop educational programs to meet the needs of students grades K through 12. Much of our programming involves students from public schools, so we have referenced the Maine Learning Result for each program.

We are aware of the needs of learners of every age in every situation including homeschoolers, historical societies, libraries, as well as civic and business groups. Our programs can be adapted to meet your needs and, if you wish, we will travel to you.

We encourage you to visit Old Fort Western, situated since 1754 on the banks of the Kennebec River, to touch and taste the 18th century, to walk alongside our costumed interpreters and to feel that you really can travel back in time. Come to Augusta and see where it all began.

Linda J. Novak, Director/Curator of Old Fort Western

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Program History Time-Line

1628

Pilgrims and Indians at Cushnoc (MLR E1)

The Colonial Era

Grades 3 to diploma

The program is in two parts. Participants will be divided into two groups throughout the first part of the program. Half the students will become "Indians", the other half "Pilgrims." These separate groups will be immersed in Indian or English culture and organizational practices. They will be coached to meet and participate in roll-playing a trade encounter at the 1628 Cushnoc Trading Post. Roll playing will include trading post setting, customs, food, furs, and other trade items. After the play is complete the group will come together to discuss the "others" roles.

"Role playing and authentic artifacts held student interest - all kids were engaged"

*S. Zerbinopoulos
Sea Road School*

1754-
1810

A House of Hewen Timber (MLR E1)

The Colonial, Revolutionary, Nation Building & Development of the Industrial United States Eras

Grades 3 to diploma

This is the basic guided tour of the Historic Site. Participants walk through time and **examine** the periods of the Fort by examining the site, buildings and displays. The tour includes discussion of the geography and development of the Kennebec Valley and an overview of Fort Western's place in the history of Maine and New England.

"I take my children to Boston, Plymouth and Gettysburg. Fort Western sets the stage incredibly well."

*K. Jennings,
The Riley School
Rockport*

1754-
1767

A Day in the Life of a Fort Western Soldier (MLR E1)

The Revolutionary Era

Grades 3 through 8

Using maps and artifacts based on 18th-century originals, participants "become soldiers" to **identify** and **discuss** relations and issues among the nations and people involved in the Seven Year's War, then **march** and **maneuver** using a 1733 drill manual, **perform cannon drill** using replica four-pounders, and **saw wood** by hand as if they were soldiers at the Fort during the 1750s and 1760s. Connections can be drawn and emphasized to the Revolutionary Era.

Going Shopping in the 18th Century (MLR C1/C2)

The Revolutionary & Nation Building Eras Grades 3 through 8

Participants **make shingles** for barter and trade, then “**go shopping**” in person (or virtually in your classroom or where your group meets) in our Howard Store exhibit, **keep accounts** in our counting room, and **follow**, using maps, the typical trade routes that linked Maine and New England to world markets and goods.

“It was great! The children were able to discuss afterwards and brainstorm many items they saw and how they were used. [The program] met all our expectations.”

*B. Williams & M. Merrill,
Clinton Elementary School*

Daily Life in the 18th Century (MLR E1)

The Nation Building Era Grade pre-K through 8

Participants **prepare** food or do other hearth-based chores, **make shingles or do other wood related activities**, and **weave or do some other textile related activities** to help them better understand the nature of daily life among ordinary citizens in post-Revolutionary Maine. Depending upon group size **other typical late 18th-century activities** will be added dependent on the season of the year.

A Day in a Colonial Dame School (MLR E1)

The Nation Building Era Pre-K through 2

Your students “attend” a colonial dame school, either at the Fort (seasonally) or in your classroom or where your group meets (anytime), where they **read** (or are read to), **do simple arithmetic**, **use scissors**, **sing period music**, **perform manners**, and/or **play period games** as they might have done in dame schools in late 18th-century New England to help them understand the nature of history.

“It was a great ‘hands -on’ experience that they will remember for a long time.”

*S. Markowski
Albion Elementary School*

Going to School in Early New England (MLR E1)

(The Nation Building Era) Grades 3 through 8

Participants “attend” three kinds of post-Revolutionary schools where they **recite** reading and arithmetic lessons (*in the rural school*), **practice** penmanship and pronunciation and **learn** geography (*in the village school*), and **perform** a scientific experiment and **practice** elocution (*in the private school*) to help them understand and experience going to school during the Nation Building Era.

1767-
1810

Learning to Work (MLR E1)
The Nation Building Era
Grades 6 through 8

Participants **experience** how young people transitioned from school to becoming a contributing member of society by exploring the world of work for men and women in the 18th century. They will visit a Blacksmith, Midwife, Dressmaker, and Lawyer and participate in related activities to help them **understand** how future career decisions were made.

Doing History

The Archaeology of Fort Western (MLR E1)
Grades 4 and 5 (basic concepts)
Grades 6 to Diploma (in-depth concepts and analysis)

Students participate in an archaeological dig-in-miniature. Using archaeological tools and scientific methods they will unearth artifacts from different eras to help them experience and explain how the interpretation of history includes evidence from a variety of sources besides the written record.

Please Note: This program can be successfully presented to **small groups** of 20-24 individuals only.

"The kids were actively involved. They loved it"

*C. Kempton
Farrington School,
Augusta*

Material Culture: An Insight into History (MLR E1)
Grades 6 through Diploma

The purpose of 'Material Culture: An Insight into History' is to introduce the participants to the ways historians use material culture to ask questions of and draw conclusions about the past. 'Material Culture' is strong in hands-on, logical, special, and visual learning styles. Participants examine three-dimensional objects to look for and discuss clues to help solve mysteries involving tobacco pipes, glass bottles, ceramics and works of art. This program is a good companion program to "The Archaeology of Fort Western"

To See if the Town: The History and Functions of Local Government in Maine (MLR B1/B2)

Grades 3 through 8

Participants **elect** town officers and then **role play** a town meeting based on the 1785 warrant for Hallowell, Maine to help them **explain** and provide examples of democratic ideals and **explain** governmental structures and/or the rights, duties and responsibilities of citizens.

The Holidays of Early New England (MLR E2)

The Colonial, Revolutionary, and Nation Building Eras

Grades Pre-K through Diploma

The story of New England's early holidays and their development over time using descriptions, objects, games and music. The program is organized by the date of the immergence of the holiday beginning with "Thanksgiving" and ending with "New Years."



Old Fort Western Pre-Scheduled Programming At-A-Glance

Page	Old Fort Western Programs	Grades				Locations			
		pre-K to 2	3 to 5	6 to 8	9 to 12	F	LG	CR	
3	Pilgrims & Indians at Cushnoc		E1	E1	E1		√	√	G
3	A House of Hewen Timber		E1	E1	E1	√		√	G
3	A Day in the Life of a Fort Western Soldier		E1	E1	E1	√			
4	Going Shopping in the 18th Century		C1/C2	C1/C2	C1/C2	√			G
4	Daily Life in the 18th Century	E1	E1	E1	E1	√		√	
4	A Day in a Colonial Dame School	E1	E1	E1		√		√	
4	Going to School in Early New England		E1	E1		√		√	
5	Learning to Work		E1	E1	E1	√			
5	The Archaeology of Fort Western		E1	E1	E1/E2		√	√	G
5	Material Culture: An Insight into History		E1	E1	C2/E2		√	√	
6	The Holidays of Early New England	E2	E2	E2	E2		√	√	
6	To See if the Town		B1/B2	B1/B2	B1/B2		√	√	

MLR Social Studies Standards

- B1** Knowledge, Concepts, Themes, and Patterns of Civics / Government
- B2** Rights, Duties, Responsibilities, & Citizen Participation in Government
- C1** Economic Knowledge, Concepts, Themes, & Patterns
- C2** Individual, Cultural, International, & Global Connections in Economics
- E1** Historical Knowledge, Concepts & Themes
- E2** Individual, Cultural, International, & Global Connections in History

Some Programs work best in the Fort Setting, Others work better in a classroom setting, and some work well in both.

F Fort

LG Learning Gallery

CR Classroom

G These programs have a strong Geography component

Scheduling Programs at Old Fort Western

Most programs are very hands-on. All programs provide *declarative knowledge, procedural knowledge, and opportunities for students to extend and refine knowledge*. Some programs are better experienced at the Fort itself. **All programs** are designed to succeed **in your classroom** or **where your group meets**, thanks in part to virtual tours developed by Idaat Media Services with support from the **Augusta Kiwanis Club**. Funds from the **Oak Grove School Foundation** have helped to revise Fort programs in support of the revised Social Studies Maine Learning Results standards.

Pre-scheduled programs are available at the Fort from the Monday after April school vacation week to roughly the middle of November only. Programs are available in your classroom or where your group meets anytime of the year.

Fort and Learning Gallery Programs

Location: At the **Fort Programs** utilize the 1754 National Historic Landmark “main house,” restored parade ground, watchboxes, blockhouses, and perimeter palisade. Different programs take place in different parts of the fort; therefore do not expect to visit all spaces within the Fort. Since this is a National Historic Site and the activities require adult supervision, it is important for teachers chaperones to maintain control of their students. If a student becomes disruptive we request that they be removed from the group by a chaperone and sit out the station. The **Learning Gallery Programs** utilize a multi-purpose room within Augusta's City Hall, just east of the Fort. Programs are scheduled there when they do not lend themselves in terms of content or logistics to being sub-divided into smaller activity or interpretive stations done at the Fort. Please note Learning Gallery programs will not include a actual tour of the fort.

Group size: depends on the program(s) you choose and on what other programming has been scheduled on the date and at the time you choose. We have a number of ways of making larger group visits possible, including rotating participants through two programs during a particular time slot, providing two separate programs during a time slot (such as doing one program with the third graders and another with the fourth graders), scheduling multiple time slots on a single day, or scheduling programming over several visits and days. Contact us with questions by phone, fax, or e-mail. Rooms and spaces at the Fort tend to be small so most of the programs that take place require dividing a group into two or more *evenly-sized* sub-groups and then rotating those sub-groups through activity stations. The number of sub-groups varies according to the size of the main group, the program chosen, and what other programming has been scheduled for the same program date and time-slot.

Cost: All programs cost \$3.50 per student and chaperone. Professional educators (teachers and educational technicians) are not charged.

Minimum Fees: If your group is small (15 people or less), a minimum fee of either \$50 (programs requiring only one staff) or \$80 (programs requiring two or more staff) may apply.

Program Length: Programs are usually 90 minutes. We usually schedule our programs to begin at 9:30, 11:00, 12:30 or 2:00. However, we can be flexible and accommodate a different time schedule. This will depend on the size of your group and the program(s) chosen.

Travel Programs

In your classroom or where your group meets means just that. Depending upon the program(s) you choose we may ask you to set up your classroom or meeting space in a particular way and/or limit the number of participants in any one presentation.

Cost: Prices are on a per presentation basis. Programs requiring one staff are \$70 (\$140 for programs requiring two or more staff) for a single presentation, and \$40 (or \$80) for each additional same-day presentation.

Travel Fees: All staff travel is charged on a per mile round-trip basis (Augusta to your location and back as determined by mapquest.com) and by the hour. The per mile rate is what the IRS allows. The hourly rate for travel time is \$10 per hour per person for all staff travel beyond Augusta.

Group Size: For public, private, and home schools we usually request that you combine no more than two classes (about 40 students total) per classroom or other off-site presentation. In the case of "The Archaeology of Fort Western" and "Material Culture: An Insight into History" we are able to present to only *one* class per presentation.

Program Length: Program length is usually one classroom period as defined by you. To insure a positive experience please schedule, at least 75 minutes (90 minutes if possible) for classroom presentations.

Scheduling Logistics

To schedule Old Fort Western programs, phone **626-2385**.

Confirmation: The logistical details for all pre-scheduled programs are confirmed in writing *by e-mail whenever possible* or by regular mail as necessary. Confirmation will have more specific program details as well as any program materials to go over with your students. Duplication of program materials is up to you. Thanks.

Payment: All programs or presentations *must* be paid for on the day of the program or presentation. We accept cash or checks made out to Old Fort Western Fund. If we are traveling to your classroom or where your group meets, we will advise you of the travel charges in our confirmation letter so you may include the travel reimbursement when you make out your check. Schools or groups that require *purchase orders* should be sure to process those orders in sufficient time to make a same-day payment possible.

Feedback: Just as you do, we, too, need to document post-program student learning outcomes in Maine Learning Results terms. Before the start of your program, you will be given a survey

form so you can both quantify and explain how our programs were of value to you and your students or other learners, what may have stood out as particular program strengths, and how we might improve programs in the future. Thanks in advance for taking the time to complete and return

Gift Shop: The Gift shop is not open at this time. We hope to get it up and running for the Spring Programming Season. Please call ahead of time to see if it is available. Sorry.

Custom Programs

Old Fort Western is always willing to work with you to customize programs and presentations that cover other content material (assuming we have the proper content competency) and/or utilize other learning resources or opportunities (such as a program or presentation linked to a book your group has been reading, a theme you have been following, or a series of visits you will be making). We are also happy to help you locate other resources if your program needs are outside our capabilities. Please contact us about custom programming.

*While visiting Old Fort Western in Augusta,
Why don't you visit the Maine State Museum, State House or Blaine House.
To schedule tours, please call 287-2301.*

