School & Youth Programs

Our inquiry-based programs for students use Litchfield's rich history as a window to explore national historical themes. Created to align with the Connecticut Elementary and Secondary Social Studies Frameworks, our programs use primary sources from our archives and artifact collection to help you meet your classroom, homeschool, and

youth group needs while making history fun and accessible.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Early American Classroom

Step into an Early American classroom and experience how students learned in the past with a colonial lesson. Photos and stories help tell the story of how our modern school system developed.

Time Period: Colonial, Early Republic

Growing from Village to Town

Using clues from maps, paintings, and letters, we will discover what Litchfield looked like from before European settlement through the 1800s.

Time Period: Colonial, 19th c.

At Home in History

This OFFSITE PROGRAM brings the museum to you! Compare your daily routine to the everyday lives of people living hundreds of years ago through stories, objects, and demonstrations.

Time Period: Colonial, 19th c.

ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL

Washington's Spies: The Culper Spy Ring

Meet Washington's spy master, Benjamin Tallmadge. During the Revolution, he organized the Culper Spy ring and collected information about the British Army in New York. Decode Tallmadge's letters while trying your hands at the skills needed to be a spy in Washington's army.

Time Period: Revolutionary War

Sarah Pierce: Women's Education Pioneer

What role did women play in the new Unites States? Learn how Sarah Pierce's Litchfield Female Academy educated a new nation and meet some of the boys and girls who attended her pioneer school.

Time Period: Early Republic

How Did They Get Here?

The movement of people and goods shapes communities. Experience how people traveled before cars - what it felt like and what they brought with them.

Time Period: Colonial, 19th c.

We have more to offer!

We are happy to custom design a program to meet your classroom needs.

Contact us to discuss options







MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

Party Spirit: The Federalists and Anti-Federalists of Litchfield

Active participation and political debate is at the heart of American democracy. During the years of the Early Republic, the Litchfield Law School brought together future leaders from all political viewpoints and created the ideal environment for debate. Students will engage in political discourse as they debate contentious issues between the Federalist and Anti-Federalist parties.

Time Period: Early Republic

Moot Court Case: The Amistad

Become a lawyer or witness in the United States
Supreme Court case resulting from the rebellion of
Africans on the Spanish schooner La Amistad in 1839.

Time Period: mid-1800s

Hour of Conflict: Civil War in CT

Learn about the soldiers in the 2nd CT Heavy Artillery and how new technology changed the way action on the battlefield was shared with those back home.

Time Period: Civil War

Be a Better Historian

Come with compelling questions and let the Historical Society show you how to use and study primary sources as students search for information,

study artifacts, and read historical documents.

This program can be tailored to any grade and held independently or as part of a larger unit.



Walking Tours

Step into history with a themed walking tour. Tailored to fit most grade levels.

Heroes of the Revolution: Lawyer, loyalist, solider, spy! Discover the many ways ordinary townspeople contributed to the Revolutionary War.

Time Period: Revolutionary War

William Grimes' Litchfield: Explore CT's complicated history with slavery through the life of William Grimes, a man who escaped slavery and found work in town.

Time Period: 19th c.