



LITCHFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MUSEUM | IN RAHAM LIBRARY | TAPPIN REEVE HOUSE LITCHFIELD LAW SCHOOL

Programs for Schools & Youth Groups

Our inquiry-based programs use Litchfield's rich history as a window to explore national historical themes. Using primary sources from our archives and artifact collection, our programs are created to align with the CT Elementary and Secondary Social Studies Frameworks and your classroom, homeschool, or youth group needs.

- Price : \$8/ student for 1 program
\$12/ student for 2 programs
- Chaperones free
- 1 chaperone for every 10 students required
- Minimum group size is 6 students
- All programs last 45 mins - 1 hour
- Facilities are wheelchair accessible

WE ARE A RESOURCE FOR YOUR CLASSROOM

With over 20,000 objects and 2,500 feet of archival material, there are many stories we can help tell. Call Kate Zullo, Head of Education, to brainstorm programs we can tailor for your classroom.

Examples of other classes we have developed programs for:

- CT History Day Students
- Photography
- Global Studies: Civilizations



To Schedule a Program:

Contact the museum with the program(s), preferred dates and times, and the number of students

EMAIL education@litchfieldhistoricalsociety.org
or CALL (860) 567-4501



Hands-on History for Elementary Students

Perfect for grades 1-3, students use play and participation to make connections between their lives today and the lives of children in the past. Book individually or together for a fun, hands-on experience. These programs can also be held at your school.

Playing in the Past

What did children do for fun in the 1800s? Learn to play historical games - like graces, rolling hoop, and quoits.

Learning in the Past

Step into an Early American classroom and experience how students learned in the past with a 1800s lesson.

Children, Clothes, & Change

How can we use portraits and historic objects to learn about clothing? Try on reproduction clothing learn how fashion has changed.

Goods Grown & Gathered

This outdoor program introduces young learners to the history of food and farms with a story, activity, and craft in our teaching garden.



Washington's Spies: Uncover the Story of Litchfield's Benjamin Tallmadge and the Revolution!

Student Favorite!

Ready for your students to become spies? Combine multiple programs to fit your classroom needs and discover how American spies helped win the Revolution.



Spy Skills 1: Codes & Ciphers

To protect written information, Tallmadge used an elaborate code. Students decode one of Tallmadge's letters and create their own cipher.

Spy Skills 2: Info & Invisible Ink

By 1779, the Culper Spy Ring was using invisible ink to share spy information. After uncovering evidence of invisible ink in Tallmadge's letters, students will write their own messages in invisible ink.

Washington's Spies: The Culper Ring

Meet Washington's spy master, Benjamin Tallmadge. Incorporating objects from the collection, see how the Culper Spy Ring collected information and discover why it was so successful.

Heroes of the Revolution Walking Tour

Step back in time on a walking tour of Litchfield's Historic District. Discover the many ways men, women, and children in town contributed during the Revolution.

Step into History with Walking Tours of Litchfield's Historic District

Discover the power of place as students are immersed in the historic landscape on one of our themed walking tours.

Slavery Here: The Life of William Grimes

Explore CT's complicated history with slavery through the life of William Grimes, a man who escaped slavery and wrote his autobiography in Litchfield.

American Trees

Trees shape our landscape. From 200 year old sycamores to newly planted American Chestnuts, explore the interdependence between people and trees throughout history.



Politics and Political Action

Held in America's first law school, these programs combine civics, government, and history while exploring the creation of our nation and the impact of social and political movements.

Educating a Nation: America's First Law School and a Pioneering School for Women

Take on the identity of students at the Litchfield Law School and the Litchfield Female Academy. Discover the ways politics and society impacted education and how the students would go on to shape America.



Party Spirit: The Federalist and Anti-Federalists of Litchfield

Active participation and political debate are at the heart of American democracy. Engage in political discourse as you learn how the Litchfield Law School brought together future leaders from all political viewpoints.

Ballots for Both: the Fight for the 19th Amendment

Women and men in Litchfield and across America fought for decades to win the right to vote for women. Analyze letters and flyers from the archives to explore how grassroots movements can change America.



Litchfield Historical Society School Program Details

Be A Better Historian

Grades: Elementary, Middle, High
Themes: Research Skills, Databases, Analyzing Sources
Time Period: 1700s-Present

Museums 101

Grades: Elementary, Middle
Themes: Museum Literacy, Community, Communication
Time Period: Present

Playing in the Past

Grades: Elementary
Themes: Children's Lives, Play and Recreation
Time Period: Colonial, 19th c.
This program is also offered OFF SITE.

Learning in the Past

Grades: Elementary
Themes: Education, Community Building
Time Period: Colonial, 19th c.
This program is also offered OFF SITE.

Children, Clothes, & Change

Grades: Elementary
Themes: Clothing, Jobs, Children's lives
Time Period: Colonial, 19th c.
This program is also offered OFF SITE.

Goods Grown & Gathered

Grades: Elementary
Themes: Farming, Trade, Seasons
Time Period: 19th c.

Settlement Patterns: Maps and America

Grades: Middle
Themes: Settlement, Maps, Westward Expansion, Travel
Time Period: 1600s-1720s

Washington's Spies: The Culper Ring & Spy Skills

Grades: Elementary, Middle
Themes: Revolution, Espionage, Communication
Time Period: 1770s-1780s

Party Spirit: Federalist & Anti-Federalists

Grades: Middle, High
Themes: Political Parties, Media, Nation Building
Time Period: 1790s-1850s

Hour of Conflict: The Civil War

Grades: Middle, High
Themes: Civil War, Technology and Communication
Time Period: 1860s

Ballots for Both: the 19th Amendment

Grades: Middle, High
Themes: Suffrage, Activism, Communication
Time Period: 1870s-1920s

Educating a Nation

Grades: Middle, High
Themes: Higher Education, Law, Nation building, Women and Society
Time Period: 1790s-1830s

Mock Trials at the Law School

The Amistad

Grades: Middle, High
Themes: Slavery, Law, Foreign Relations
Time Period: 1830s

Prudence Crandall

Grades: Middle, High
Themes: Race, Law, Activism
Time Period: 1830s

Walking Tours of Historic District

Heroes of the Revolution

Grades: Elementary, Middle
Themes: Revolution, Community, Perspectives
Time Period: 1770s-1780s

Slavery Here: The Life of William Grimes

Grades: Middle, High
Themes: Slavery, Self-determination, Writing
Time Period: 1820s

American Trees

Grades: Middle, High
Themes: Ethnobotany, Forest Pathology
Time Period: 1770s-Present