Benton County Historical Society & Museum

Education Program Resources-2011-12

The Benton County Historical Society is a nonprofit corporation that operates museum facilities for the preservation of history and culture. Its mission is to:

1. **Preserve the material and intellectual culture of Benton County, Oregon, by acquiring and caring for significant collections that illustrate and interpret the history of the area and its relationship to the world;**

2. **Enrich people’s lives through exhibitions and educational programs.**

To fulfill our mission as an educational institution, the Benton County Historical Museum develops support materials for educators in our region. Our Docent Guild actively supports this program by bringing our History Trunks and other educational materials to the classroom by appointment. Listed below are the materials currently available:

**History Trunks**

**Architecture as a Basic Curriculum (ABC)**-Students will discover how to identify basic architectural styles and be able to find examples of those styles in their community
When School bells Rang: Teachers can recreate a day in the life of an Oregon pioneer school child’s day in a one-room schoolhouse, using the textbooks, information and supplies in this trunk, including McGuffy readers, slates and slate pencils, an abacus and more.

19th Century Games: Sixteen replicas of artifacts children used in the 19th century to play the most popular games of the time: marbles, jacks, tops, Bilbo-catcher, nine pins and more. Many games require math, cooperative skills and/or hand-eye coordination.

Victorian Parlor Amusements: Introduce elementary kids to life before electricity. Amusements from the Victorian parlor can supplement a science segment with optics lessons. Stereoscope and cards, Victorian viewing jar, kaleidoscope and zoetrope included.

Quilts & Quilting: Quilt making has been recognized as a uniquely American craft. Introducing kids to quilts and quilt patterns can easily support a math lesson, arts and crafts.

19th /20th Century Children’s Clothing: Compare and contrast modern life in social studies units and history lessons with clothing. This trunk includes historic photographs of children, replicas of historic clothing.

Oregon Trail: Pack your wagon and prepare for the historical trip of a lifetime. Replica Conestoga wagon and all the gear are ready to go! Kids learn about the history of the Trail, what people took along to survive and what they had to live without.

Early Settlers-O! Pioneers! An endlessly fascinating chapter of American history is the westward expansion and settlement of the West in the 19th century. This trunk contains artifacts just like the ones used by emigrants creating a new life in Oregon.

Taking a Picture: This trunk contains six, almost life-sized, enlargements of historic photos of children. The photos represent different historic photo processes including daguerreotype, tintype, and carte-de-visite, cabinet card and paper prints. Supplementary material for the teacher’s manual will include information about the development of the photographic process and how it relates to the photos in the trunk, the process of taking and posing for pictures as photographic technology evolved, and commentary on clothing and fashion worn by children in the 19th century, and how clues about dating photos can be gleaned from clothing styles.

Kalapuya: Learn about Benton County’s first residents through replicas of artifacts used by Native Americans.

See these trunks online at www.bentoncountymuseum.org

For more information about the Benton County Historical Society & Museum educational resources please contact the museum at info@bentoncountymuseum.org or call 541-929-6230