A Fun and Memorable Day Awaits!

SCHOOL PROGRAMS
AND FIELD TRIPS AT CANTIGNY PARK
Cantigny.org/field-trips

Make “real world” connections to classroom work and lessons. Encourage students to use critical thinking skills to investigate and explore topics while enjoying hands-on activities in the areas of science, nature, social and military history.

For a complete list of School Standards visit:
Cantigny.org/field-trips/standards
SCIENCE & NATURE

AT CANTIGNY PARK

For reservations and more information visit:
Cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve
EXPLORING ECOSYSTEMS | 90 min
Biodiversity and Adaptations in Multiple Ecosystems

Audience: 6–12th grade  
Capacity: 25  

How does energy move through ecosystems? Students will assess and compare life in two or more habitats. Abiotic and biotic properties of each will be explored as well as energy movement through food chains and/or food webs. Students will be able to describe why and how many plants and animals adapt for survival. The diverse populations and interdependent relationships of wildlife in different ecosystems at Cantigny Park will be examined. Programs vary per grade level to include topics of study. The program content varies per grade level.

- Program incorporates STEM principles and supports the three dimensions of Next Generation Science Standards and involve analyzing and interpreting data, problem-solving and exploring science phenomena
- Next Generation Science Standards emphasized align through Common Core State Standards for Math and English Language Arts

THE CIRCLE OF LIFE | 45 min
Exploring Energy Through Cycles

Audience: Grades 1–12th  
Capacity: 25  

Students will explore biodiversity and make connections with life cycles of plants, trees, insects, and animals and will model and demonstrate the movement of energy through food chains in an ecosystem. Students will be able to explain ways animals adapt for survival. Matter, energy and the nitrogen cycle are explored. The program content varies per grade level.

- Program incorporates STEM principles and supports the three dimensions of Next Generation Science Standards and incorporates exploration, use of models, investigation and/or interpretation of data about scientific principles in the natural world
- Next Generation Science Standards emphasized align with Common Core State Standards for Math and English Language Arts

TREE TALK | 45 min
The Tremendous Life of a Tree

Audience: Grades 1–12th  
Capacity: 25  

Students will explore the life cycle of trees from initiation to decomposition and explore ways trees benefit so many life forms. They will explore matter and energy in nature as well as interdependent relationships in standing and fallen trees. They will also examine life in, under and around trees and discuss adaptations, habitats and microhabitats in forest ecosystems. Older students will examine additional concepts and topics including carbon, climate and deforestation. The program content varies per grade level.

- Program incorporates STEM principles and supports the three dimensions of Next Generation Science Standards through exploration, use of models, investigation and/or interpretation of data about scientific principles in the natural world
- Next Generation Science Standards emphasized align with Common Core State Standards for Math and English Language Arts

For a full list visit: cantigny.org/field-trips/standards

FieldTrips@cantigny.org or 630.260.8162  
Or fill out the webform at: cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve

7-2021
WHAT’S THE BUZZ? | 45 min
Pollinators and Plant Adaptations
Audience: Grades 1–8th
Capacity: 25
Come learn how bees, birds, bats, beetles, butterflies and other pollinators sustain plant communities through pollination. Students will examine biodiversity, plant adaptations and traits that attract different pollinators. Students will also learn about the importance of reducing the decline of pollinator populations. The program content varies per grade level.

- Program incorporates STEM principles and supports the three dimensions of Next Generation Science Standards through exploration, use of models, investigation and/or interpretation of data about scientific principles in natural world
- Next Generation Science Standards emphasized align with Common Core State Standards for Math and English Language Arts

PONDER THIS | 45 min
Cantigny Ponds and Human Impact
Audience: Grades 6–12th
Capacity: 20
During this study of life in Cantigny’s ponds, students will explore biodiversity as well as biotic and abiotic factors in an aquatic ecosystem. They will use problem-solving skills and teamwork to develop a system for providing clean water. Topics covered will include the water cycle, native plants and soil erosion, water quality, water sheds, water filtration, and human impact and roles in keeping earth’s bodies of water healthy and clean. The program content varies per grade level.

- Program incorporates STEM principles and supports the three dimensions of Next Generation Science Standards through analyzing, interpreting, constructing explanations, designing solutions, solving problems, and exploring science principles
- Next Generation Science Standards emphasized align with Common Core State Standards for Math and English Language Arts

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WHAT’S THE BUZZ? - VIRTUAL | 45 min
Pollinators and Plant Adaptations
Audience: Grades 1–8th
Virtual Field Trip

Educator will take students on a virtual ride examining pollinator biodiversity, plant adaptations and traits that attract pollinators. Programs will include an examination of bees, birds, bats, beetles, butterflies and other pollinators that sustain plant communities through pollination. Students will also learn about human impact and our role in reducing the decline of pollinator populations. The program content varies per grade level.

- The program supports the three dimensions of Next Generation Science Standards and involves exploration, investigation and/or interpretation of data about scientific principles or the natural world
- Post-activities will incorporate STEM

THE CIRCLE OF LIFE - VIRTUAL | 45 min
Exploring Energy Through Ecosystems
Audience: Grades 1–12th
Virtual Field Trip

Educator will take students on a virtual ride examining interdependent relationships, the movement of energy through the circle of life, animal adaptations and biodiversity. Students will see and learn about animal specimens from animals at Cantigny. Topics range from life cycles to biomimicry. The program content varies per grade level.

- The program supports the three dimensions of Next Generation Science Standards and involves exploration, investigation and/or interpretation of data about scientific principles or the natural world
- Post-activities will incorporate STEM

TREE TALK - VIRTUAL | 45 min
The Tremendous Life of a Tree
Audience: Grades 1–8th
Virtual Field Trip

Educator will take students on a virtual ride examining tree life from initiation to decomposition. Students will explore interdependence in a tree ecosystem and the myriad of way trees play a role in the survival of living things. Topics covered include adaptations, life cycles and microhabitats. The program content varies per grade level.

- The program supports the three dimensions of Next Generation Science Standards and involves exploration, investigation and/or interpretation of data about scientific principles or the natural world
- Post-activities will incorporate STEM

For a full list visit: cantigny.org/field-trips/standards
CANTIGNY IN THE CLASSROOM SCIENCE RESOURCE BOXES

Enhance your environmental education and science units with the aid of a Cantigny in the Classroom Science Resource Box. Resource boxes can be used by teachers, community centers, camp programs and any adult hoping to educate a group of children about animals and nature.

Themes:
• Pollinators
• Animal Adaptations
• Trees

Boxes include:
• Teacher Guides
• Lessons and activities connected to box contents
• Books, field guides and/or DVDs
• Tree sections and insect and animal specimens
• Magnifiers

Most kits include activities appropriate for students in grades 1-8th.

Cantigny in the Classroom Science Resource Boxes can be checked out for two weeks. They must be reserved for pick up at least one week in advance.

CONTACT

To reserve a Cantigny in the Classroom Science Resource Box or for more information contact the Science Educator at 630.260.8232 or MDavis@cantigny.org
MILITARY HISTORY

AT THE FIRST DIVISION MUSEUM

For reservations and more information visit:
Cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve
FIRST IN WAR EXHIBIT  |  45 min

Walk in the boot steps of America’s 1st Infantry Division as they fought in WWI, WWII and Vietnam. This docent-led tour will share stories about how teamwork and technology helped our soldiers accomplish their missions. The program content varies per grade level.

- Illinois Social Science Standards related to history appropriate to each grade level. Disciplinary concepts: change, continuity and context; perspectives; and causation and argumentation

TEACHER TAKEOVER  |  45 min

Reserve a time slot for your class to take over the First in War exhibit. Your students can explore WWI, WWII and Vietnam at their own pace. We can provide self-guided materials and ideas or you can create something totally new.

SELF-GUIDED DUTY FIRST EXHIBIT  |  30 min

Use the exhibit as a source for inquiry research. In this self-guided experience, students will explore missions related to battle, counterinsurgency, peacekeeping, military assistance and deterrence. Spark a conversation: What can the modern military do? What should it do?

Soldier story pods with male and female soldiers from a variety of ethnic backgrounds talk about the missions they went on and how they felt about their service.

The tank battle recreation allows students to see a mission from the soldier’s perspective.

Artifacts tell a story about the tools used and the exhibit text provides context.

Additional research and a debrief can be done in the classroom.

- This field trip offers an opportunity to work on Illinois Social Science Standards related to inquiry skills
- Illinois Social Science Standards related to history; specifically, change, continuity and context; perspectives; and causation and argumentation

TANK TECH  |  45 min

From WWI to the present day, the technology of tanks is constantly evolving. This unique program allows students to have fun while learning about tanks. This experience includes a short tour of the Tank Park paired with games and activities to facilitate student learning about these incredible titans of technology. We will run this outdoor program as long as there is no lightning. Please wear appropriate clothing and footwear!

- Illinois Social Science Standards related to history; specifically change, continuity and context; and causation and argumentation

STANDARDS

For a full list visit: cantigny.org/field-trips/standards

RESERVE

FieldTrips@cantigny.org or 630.260.8162

Or fill out the webform at: cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve
Democracy relies on people’s responsible participation. Your students will step into the shoes of WWII-era school children to explore what kids their age were doing to contribute to the war effort, including recycling drives, rationing and food gardening. Students will work with propaganda posters to learn different ways that citizens contributed on the home front. They can compare the efforts of individuals in the past with current opportunities for civic involvement.

• Illinois Social Studies Standards related to history and civics
• Common Core Standards related to reading informational text

This version of the Artifact Adventure focuses on WWII and is designed just for upper elementary historians. Students will analyze photographs and letters to answer historical questions. They will learn about new inventions, uniforms and make decoders to decipher codes.

• Common Core Standards related to reading informational text

For a detailed list of school standards visit cantigny.org/field-trips/standards
MISSION READY: TECHNOLOGY AND WWI
30-45 min
Gear up and explore some of the terrifying technology of the first “modern war.” Students will discover how modern technology in WWI changed the way the war was fought and the experience of the soldiers in the war.

MISSION READY: TEAMWORK AND WWII
30-45 min
Explore some of the US Infantry’s toughest missions: Operation Husky, D-Day and the Battle of the Bulge. Your guide will share lesser-known tales of the teams and people who accomplished these missions.

VIETNAM VETERAN INTERVIEW
30-45 min
Explore Vietnam through the eyes of Sergeant Tom Brown, who served with the 1st Infantry Division in Vietnam in 1966. A recipient of the Combat Infantry Badge and the Purple Heart, Tom will take you with him as he recounts his experiences during the Vietnam War, from basic training, to the day he was wounded, to his homecoming. As he speaks, he will show you what he carried with him during his service. Be prepared – Tom loves to answer questions!

GROUNDBREAKING WOMEN OF WWII
30-45 min
Celebrate the hard-working women of WWII. Join us in a variety of activities to learn how women stepped into new jobs and helped the war effort.

SOLDIERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
30-45 min
Join us for 3 interactive activities using art, artifacts, and technology to learn more about the military and soldiers during the American Revolution. The room where it happens can be your virtual classroom!

ILLINOIS AND THE CIVIL WAR
30-45 min
Explore the gear soldiers carried and the contributions of IL soldiers and civilians to the Union war effort.

For a detailed list of school standards visit cantigny.org/field-trips/standards

FieldTrips@cantigny.org or 630.260.8162. Or fill out the webform at: cantigny.org/field-trips/virtual-visit

• Virtual field trips address C3 Standards related to history; specifically, change, continuity and context; and perspectives.
IN-CLASSROOM RESOURCES

HISTORY TRUNKS

History trunks offer a hands-on supplement for teachers to use within their own classroom curriculum. The trunks provide an opportunity for students to handle uniforms and field gear used by soldiers in a specific war. A teacher’s guide is included in each trunk to provide descriptions and interpretation of the equipment, music from the time period, and activity ideas for the use of the history trunk items.

- American Revolution
- War of 1812
- Civil War (Union and Confederate)
- World War I
- World War II
- The Vietnam War
- The Gulf War
- Operation Iraqi Freedom
- Operation Enduring Freedom
- Women in the Military

History trunks can be checked out for two weeks. They must be reserved for pick up at least one week in advance.

HISTORY TRUNKS ADD-ONS

We are opening our artifact closet to teachers! Add-on gas masks, specialty uniforms and equipment, or objects to tell stories about women and diverse groups to your history trunk.

See our artifact list online or contact our Educator with requests at: FDMuseum.org/educators/history-trunks

ONLINE RESOURCES

Resource packets featuring WWI letters home, D-Day, and the Battle of the Bulge are available. They include reproductions of documents, photographs, newspaper articles, maps, letters, oral histories, and other primary sources. Packets also contain classroom activities for middle and high school students.

Visit: fdmuseum.org/educators/online-resources

MUSEUM ON THE MARCH

The First Division Museum is ready to deploy to your classroom!

For those who want the field trip experience right in their own classroom, we bring museum artifacts and presenters to you! With an emphasis on the 1st Infantry Division of the U.S. Army, our educators bring history trunks to the classroom and tell the story of the Division and its individual soldiers, creating a more personal picture of war. Using activities, maps, PowerPoint and tactile elements, the presenters strive to augment the lessons learned in school. We have versions for late elementary, Middle School or High School.

- American Revolution
- Civil War
- WWI
- WWII

VETERAN SPEAKERS BUREAU

- Vietnam
- Persian Gulf
- Afghanistan

The Presentation

The veteran will speak about his or her service for 40–45 minutes followed by a 15–20 min question-and-answer period with the audience.

The Interview

Students or guests should be prepared in advance to ask questions of the veteran speaker. Due to the sensitive topics being discussed we ask that students’ questions are reviewed prior to the interview. Please remind students and guests that veterans have often experienced more trauma in their lives than most civilians.

RESERVE

To reserve a history trunk, request a program or speaker, or for more information contact the Museum Educator at 630.260.8274 or MTyer@FDMuseum.org
In Person Programs: Available Fridays at Cantigny Park 10 am - 2 pm

A FAMILY OF SERVICE  |  45 min

Audience: Grades 4-12th  
Capacity: 10 min-50 max  
10-10:45 am, 11-11:45 am, 12-12:45 pm, 1-1:45 pm  
Also available as a Virtual Field Trip with capacity of 250 max

Colonel Robert R. McCormick wasn’t the only member of his family who believed in service. Learn about his family’s connection to Abolition, the American Civil War or the Suffrage movement. Our Educator(s) will present focused lessons about members of McCormick’s family using primary source documents and reproduction clothing and touchable items. We will utilize guided inquiry to help students make connections between local Illinois history and national events. Each topic has differentiated lessons for Elementary, Middle and High School. Because of the Illinois connections many of our stories are great introductions to National History Day!.

- Illinois Social Science Standards related to primary and secondary sources in history and civics  
- English Language Arts Standards related to close reading skills and political cartoons

Kitty Medill  
A Woman on the Home Front During the American Civil War

Holding down the home front during the Civil War was no easy task. Find out how Katherine “Kitty” Medill managed her family and her volunteer work with the Sanitary Commission. We will examine family letters, a reproduction outfit, and see what she would have used in her volunteer work. Then we’ll compare her service to other women helping the war effort. Our educator(s) will lead the class in examining objects and learning how they were used.

William Medill  
Abolitionist and Union Soldier

William Medill joined the 8th Illinois Cavalry to help defend the Union and end slavery. Students will examine reproductions of family letters to learn about William’s anti-slavery views and his hardships. We will also examine a reproduction uniform and saddle. Then we’ll peek in his saddle bags to find out what other things a soldier might carry and why they might be helpful.

STANDARDS

For a full list visit: cantigny.org/field-trips/standards

RESERVE

FieldTrips@cantigny.org or 630.260.8162  
Or fill out the webform at: cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve
Ruth Hanna McCormick
An Illinois Lady Fighting for Suffrage

Women didn’t always have the right to vote. We’ll take a look at the 1913 suffrage parade and see how that influenced Illinois women to pick-up the cause. Then we’ll compare the efforts of Ruth Hanna McCormick to pass suffrage laws in Illinois along with other influential women like Ida B. Wells. Ruth didn’t just want women to vote, she wanted to be able to run for office and make a difference in her community- that is why she fought for the 19th Amendment.

The Transatlantic Slave Trade, Abolition, and Joseph Medill

Did you know that Joseph Medill moved to Illinois and bought into the struggling Chicago Tribune in order to help further the abolitionist cause? He even joined forces with Abraham Lincoln to start the Republican Party; convincing more people to take a stand. Using hands-on objects and primary sources, investigate the transatlantic slave trade and discover why Medill and others felt they needed to help put an end to slavery. We will compare and contrast Medill to some other well-known abolitionists to bring in diverse perspectives.

The Founding Fathers, the First Amendment, and a Revolution

This all outdoor field trip will help you and your students take a walk back in time. We’ll check out the architecture of the McCormick House and talk about why Colonel McCormick admired the Founding Fathers- George Mason and Patrick Henry- whose names are inscribed on his home. Hint, hint, it’s their connection to the First Amendment! Then we’ll visit one of Cantigny’s camp sites to examine a mini- Revolutionary war camp to see how George Rogers Clark and Daniel Morgan would have lived as they took a stand to free the colonies from British rule.

**This program will run in the rain, but will not run during a lightening or storm warning. Please ask students and teachers to dress accordingly. Offered September-November.

CUSTOM PROGRAMS

PROBLEM BASED LEARNING

The Robert R. McCormick House staff has helped several local schools with Problem Based Learning (PBL) units. Students investigate a local problem, work in small groups to propose solutions, then meet with experts to see which solutions should be formally proposed. PBL units can touch on school issues, community issues, or even problems that an organization in the community is having.

OUTREACH

The staff at the historic house museum is happy to help with outreach programs related to history fairs and career fairs, and we’ve even done a few small scale STEM programs because of Robert McCormick’s interest in inventing and engineering.
**MCCORMICK HOUSE VIRTUAL TOUR**

**45 min**

**Audience:** Grades 4-12th  
**Capacity:** 250 max

The McCormick House is closed for renovations, but we’re giving a virtual tour in the Visitor Center Theater that we think you’ll enjoy! Narrated live by an expert guide, the tour offers a “classic” look at the first floor of the McCormick House and has a fun peek at some primary and secondary sources along the way. If you have always wanted to see the upstairs and the kitchen, we can add those on! This is your last chance to see the McCormick House as it was— the renovated and refreshed museum opens in late 2022.

**This program is available on Fridays at the Visitor Center or as a virtual program.**

**Zoom Programs:** Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays  
9 am-1 pm

- Illinois Social Science Standards related to primary and secondary sources in history and civics  
- English Language Arts Standards related to close reading skills.  

**Had On, Took With Her- Kitty Medill** | 30 min  
This short program shows the clothes, carpet bag, and a few objects that a lady in the Civil War Sanitary Commission would have used. It is based on reproduction clothing and objects.

**Had On, Took With Her- Ruth Hanna McCormick** | 30 min  
This short program shows the clothes and sash a lady in the American Women’s Suffrage Movement might have worn. It is based on reproduction clothing and objects, but will include a few primary source photos of suffrage parades.

**Had On, Took With Him- William Medill** | 30 min  
This short program highlights William Medill’s abolitionist leanings and shows the clothes and gear a Union Cavalry Soldier would have carried. It is based on primary source documents, reproduction clothing and objects, including a saddle.

[FieldTrips@cantigny.org](mailto:FieldTrips@cantigny.org) or 630.260.8162. Or fill out the webform at: [cantigny.org/field-trips/virtual-visit](http://cantigny.org/field-trips/virtual-visit)
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
AT CANTIGNY PARK

For reservations and more information visit:
Cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve
THE WONDERS OF NATURE  |  45 min
Audience: 3-6 years-old (Preschool/Kindergarten)
Capacity: 20 max

Engage your student’s natural capacity for wonder at Cantigny Park with a customized nature-based field trip program.

- Developmentally appropriate and engaging hands-on activities and crafts are offered in addition to creative play and movement in the park’s natural spaces. Nature programs can be customized to fit your group’s needs and interests

- Early Childhood nature based programs at Cantigny Park align with the use of Creative Curriculum and support many literacy, mathematics, communication/language and scientific standards

VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP  |  30 min
The Wonders of Nature is also available as a Virtual Field Trip!

Engage your student’s natural capacity for wonder with a customized nature-based field trip program. (Full description above)

RESERVE

Please contact Cantigny Park Educator, Edith Roman at 630.260.8166 or ERoman@cantigny.org
Or fill out the webform: cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve
ARE YOU READY TO BOOK YOUR FIELD TRIP?

1. Gather the following information:
   - SCHOOL NAME
   - CONTACT NAME
   - EMAIL
   - SCHOOL PHONE
   - DAY PHONE
   - # OF STUDENTS
   - # OF CHAPERONES
   - ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES
   - TOURS/PROGRAMS REQUESTED
   - DATES REQUESTING

2. Email: FieldTrips@cantigny.org, call 630.260.8162 or visit Cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve

NOTES