

Your Museum School Experience

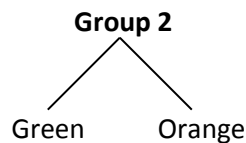
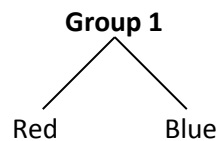
The following is a brief description of what Museum School is about, why your class is coming, and what we hope your students will learn from the experience. We recommend you share appropriate portions of this discussion with your class so that they know what to expect from their Museum School experience and what the goals for the week are.

- For this program 3rd grade classes will attend the museum as their school for one week. The students will be immersed in a museum atmosphere and have the chance to come to understand what museums are about, why we have them, and how the science, history and culture preserved in museums relates to their everyday lives. The focus of the program will be on their community and its history from about 1845-1930. Students will learn how the Cedar Valley changed from small pioneer settlements to a community of education and industry. The program will include the traditional subjects of social studies, science, reading, writing, geography, art, and music, but with a historical and scientific spin. Students will keep a journal of what they learn throughout the week.
- The lessons will progress chronologically, focusing first on Native Americans as demonstrated through a Planetarium show and hands on activity. Museum exhibits will be used to transport students through time to when pioneers settled the area, mills became established along the Cedar River, railroads moved in and commercial industry began to thrive. As the students progress through these milestones in the Cedar Valley's development, other issues will be examined. At the Imaginarium students will discover the science that made these changes possible through activities such as using a working model of a mill, building simple machines and discussing the importance of industry to the growth of a community. At both the Grout Museum and the Rensselaer Russell House Museum the effects of these changes on the lives and cultures of the many different economic, racial, and ethnic groups will be examined. Friday will be a special day when the students tour their community in the Met Transit trolley and participate in a one-room schoolhouse reenactment.
- Thursday evening is Family Night. Students will have the opportunity to share with their family what they have learned. There will be time before and after the 6:00 presentation for students to show their family around the Grout and Sullivan Brothers Iowa Veterans Museum. One student in each class will receive a special coupon book which provides savings on admission, programs and purchases from the Museum Store. This student will be chosen from a drawing of names of those in attendance. The remaining students will receive a \$1 admission coupon that the whole family can use at every museum in the district.

The Grout Museum District staff is very excited to welcome you and your class and to share with you the rich cultural history of our community. We hope the students will have a lasting and enjoyable experience as we ignite their interest and fuel their curiosity in their hometown and history in general.

Preparing Your Class for Museum School

1. Review all the documents and guides found at www.groutmuseumdistrict.org so that you know what to expect during Museum School.
2. **Arrange for busing** so that you arrive at Museum School at 9:15AM and leave at 2:00PM on Mon. Tue. Thu. and Fri. **On Wednesday only**, leave Museum School at 1:00PM.
3. **Students need to bring sack lunches for their week at Museum School. NO COLORED DRINKS, PLEASE!**
4. **WATERLOO TEACHERS: It is your responsibility to make arrangements for food service to deliver sack lunches to the Grout Museum.**
5. Meet with your third grade team and decide how your students will be divided for activities at Museum School to meet the following requirements.
 - You will need **2 groups**: Group 1 & Group 2.
 - Further divide Group 1 & Group 2 **into 2 sub-groups** each, making 4 smaller groups.
 - Each sub-group should be designated by a color so students can easily distinguish their group.



6. **Make nametags for your students.**
 - These should be designed so they can **WEAR THEM ALL 5 DAYS** of Museum School
 - Each student's team color should be indicated on his or her nametag. Note: Mailing labels with colored dots applied work well; print enough labels so they have one for each day.
7. **Discuss the purpose, rules, and expectations for Museum School as many times as you deem necessary.**
 - Before beginning Museum School activities with your class discuss the material from "Your Museum School Experience".
 - Discuss with your students the general plan for getting to and from the Museum (e.g. what time buses leave and arrive) and that there will be a Family Night on Thursday evening at the Grout Museum.
 - Go over the rules and expectations for their behavior while in the Museum District (consult "Museum Behavior Expectations").
 - Remind students on Monday before they come that they cannot touch the artifacts in the Museums, and emphasize appropriate behavior during a planetarium show (they will view the planetarium on Monday).
8. Read over "Recommendations for Your Museum School Classroom".
9. Send home notes to parents. Parent letters about Museum School are provided on our website – one letter to send a few weeks prior to Museum School and the other to send one week before the start of your Museum School week. The letters are available in English, Bosnian and Spanish.
10. **Administer the pre-test included in this guide.** Give these to the staff when you arrive at Museum School, and they will check and score the tests. Post-test copies will be provided for your students on Friday.

Recommendations for Your Museum School Classroom

Every day except Wednesday includes time in which you direct classroom activities. Each day's schedule has a list of tasks to accomplish during that time. The following is a list of recommendations for how to accomplish the tasks and how to structure the time. HOWEVER, you know your class best, and you know how they work and learn. Therefore, modify these recommendations as you see fit. Feel free to develop some of your own activities for accomplishing daily tasks. All we ask is that you accomplish these tasks each morning and afternoon, and that you share your ideas for improvements with us at the end of the week.

- ❑ A large/simplified version of the day's schedule will be hanging on the wall in your classroom. Go over this each day with your students so they know what to expect.
- ❑ Use the dry erase board in your classroom to make a list of tasks the students must accomplish during their hour in the classroom
- ❑ Have students complete projects started on the previous day.
- ❑ If time permits, have a sharing time so that students can express their ideas and reflect on what they learned and how it relates to their lives
- ❑ A review of the main points we want the students to remember is included for each day. You can review these with your class using whatever method is most effective.
- ❑ If you would like to have your students bring individual reading books, feel free to do so.

At the end of each day (except Wednesday) your class will return to the classroom for a few minutes of "wrap up" time. During this time the students should write in their journals. (Journals will be handed out on Monday.) Anything they do not finish can be completed the next morning. Journals are to be left in the classroom at the end of each day. They can take them home on Friday. **Cedar Falls teachers need to take journals with them at end of day on Thursday so they are available for Friday morning in your own classrooms.**

Ask for parent volunteers! They are needed to help pass out lunches, be an extra pair of eyes during recess, and accompany the students when the classes are divided into sub-groups on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We recommend **at least** 1 additional adult per classroom. This would be in addition to Para-professionals that accompany students with special needs. **We find that teachers that come with volunteers experience a smoother, more relaxed Museum School week.**

After your Museum School week, please make sure your class sends a thank-you to the following sponsors:

ATTN: Stacy Van Gorp
RJ McElroy Trust
425 Cedar Street
Waterloo, IA 50701

ATTN: Kaye M. Englin
Community Foundation
425 Cedar Street
Waterloo, IA 50701

There may be other sponsors for your particular week, so please inquire for their addresses, as well.



Museum Behavior Expectations



Touch it. See it. Feel it.

Touch it. See it. Feel it.

Be Respectful

Raise your hand to
speak

Be Responsible

Stay with your group
unless you have
permission to leave

Be Cooperative

Do what your
Teacher/ Group
Leader ask
immediately

Keep hands, feet and
objects to yourself

Follow directions the
first time they are
given

Follow ALL school
rules

Museum School Letters to Parents

Send Out Immediately

Dear Parents,

We are excited to inform you that the **(school name)** 3rd grade will be participating in **Museum School** the week of **(Month/days)**. Please mark this on your calendars. Museum School is an innovative new program that we hope will help bring history and science alive for your 3rd grader.

For one week our class will be bused to the Grout Museum District at 9:00AM and will return to school at 2:15PM. Your student will spend the week learning about the history of our community. Some of the highlights include: a planetarium show about Native American stories, learning about grist mills, a tour through a Victorian home, Family Night, and a pioneer day including a historic downtown bus tour and one-room school house reenactment.

We ask that you make every possible effort to avoid removing your student from school during this week so that your student does not miss any of this wonderful experience. If your student must leave school between 9:00AM and 2:15PM, you will need to pick them up and/or drop them off at the Grout Museum District, 503 South St. Waterloo, 319-234-6357.

Sincerely,
(Your names)

Dear Parents,

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Sincerely,
(Your names)

Museum School Letters to Parents

Send Out 1 Week Prior to Museum School

Dear Parents,

As you know your child will be participating in Museum School the week of **(Month/days)**. Your child will remember this unique and exciting experience for years to come, and we want you to share in the magic. The **(school name)** teachers and the Museum School staff invite you to a **Family Night on Thursday evening, (date)**.

Family Night will be held at the Grout Museum. Students should arrive no later than 5:45.

5:00 South Street doors open for Family Night

6:00 Student Presentation

6:15 Drawing for prizes, students tour Grout Museum with guests

7:00 Grout Museum Closes

Students may dress in a **period costume**. The time period they will be studying is from 1825 to 1930. The Grout Museum District will have some costumes available, also. A few simple ideas for costumes would include any one of these:

Girls - an apron, old style dress, hair bandana, bonnet, and/or shawl

Boys - a neck bandana, hat, suspenders, rope belt, and/or vest

Be sure to put Family Night on your calendar immediately so you don't miss out on the fun and prizes!

Sincerely,

Museum School Staff

(Your names)

Dear Parents,

As you know your child will be participating in Museum School the week of **(Month/days)**. Your child will remember this unique and exciting experience for years to come, and we want you to share in the magic. The **(school name)** teachers and the Museum School staff invite you to a **Family Night on Thursday evening, (date)**.

Family Night will be held at the Grout Museum (refer to map on back of this page). Students should arrive no later than 5:45.

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Be sure to put Family Night on your calendar immediately so you don't miss out on the fun and prizes!

Sincerely,

Museum School Staff

(Your names)

➤ **Send out immediately**

Estimados Padres,

Estamos entusiasmados de informarle que los estudiantes de 3er. Grado de la Escuela _____ estarán participando en **Escuela en el Musco** la semana de _____. Por favor marque esto en su calendario. Escuela en el Museo es un nuevo programa innovador que esperamos ayude a traer la historia y ciencia como si estuvieran vivas a su estudiante de tercer grado.

Por una semana extraemos viajando en autobús al Distrito del Museo Grout a las 9:00 AM y regresaremos a la 2:15 PM. Su estudiante pasará la semana aprendiendo sobre la historia de nuestra comunidad. Algunas de las cosas a resaltar incluyen: una exhibición en el planetario sobre las historias de Nativos Americanos, aprender acerca de molinos para trigo, un recorrido a través de un hogar Victoriano, la Noche Familiar, y un día como pioneros que incluye un paseo en una tranvía tirada por caballos y una representación de una escuela de un solo salón.

Para que su estudiante no pierda nada de esta experiencia maravillosa, le pedimos que haga todo su esfuerzo posible para evitar que su estudiante sea sacado de clases durante esta semana. Si su estudiante tiene que salir de clases entre 9:00 AM y 2:15 PM, usted necesita recogerlo y/o dejarlo de nuevo en el Distrito del Museo Grout, 503 South St, Waterloo, 319-234-6357.

Sinceramente,
(Your Name)

➤ **Send out immediately**

Estimados Padres,

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Sinceramente,
(Your Name)

➤ **Send out week before Museum School**

Estimados Padres,

Como usted sabe su hijo va a participar en Escuela en el Museo la semana del _____.
Su hijo va recordar esta única y excitante experiencia por años y queremos que usted comparta esta magia. Las maestras de la Escuela _____ y el personal de Escuela en el Museo le invitan a usted y su familia a la Noche Familiar la tarde del jueves _____.

La noche familiar se llevará a cabo en el Museo Grout (ver el mapa al reverso de esta hoja). Los estudiantes deberán llegar a las 5:45 p.m. y seguir el siguiente horario:

6:00 Presentación de estudiantes

6:30 Rifa de premios, los estudiantes recorrerán el Museo Grout con los invitados

7:00 El Museo Grout Cierra

Los estudiantes pueden vestirse con un **traje de época**. La época que vamos estar estudiando es de 1825 a 1930. El Distrito del Museo Grout tendrá algunos trajes disponibles, pero el número es limitado.

Algunas ideas sencillas para disfraces pudieran incluir algo de estos:

Niñas- un delantal, vestido antiguo de la época, pañuelo o mascada para el pelo, y/o chal.

Niños- un pañuelo para el cuello, sombrero, tirantes, un cinto de correa, y/o chaleco.

¡Asegurase de marcar la Noche Familiar en su calendario de inmediato para que no se olvide y no se pierda la diversión!

Atentamente,

Personal de Escuela en el Museo

(Your names)

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Atentamente,

Personal de Escuela en el Museo

(Your names)

➤ **Poslati odmah**

Poštovani roditelji,

Drago nam je da vas obavijestimo da će učenici trećeg razreda (*ime škole*) škole imati nastavu u **muzeju** (*mjesec/dani*). Molim vas zabilježite ove datume u vaš calendar. Program održavanja nastave u muzeju je novi program za kojeg se nadamo da će dočarati istoriju i nauku učenicima trećih razreda.

U toku te sedmice učenici našeg razreda će biti prevezeni u muzej "Grout Museum District" u 9:00 prije podne i biće vraćeni u školu u 2:15 poslije podne. Vaše dijete će provesti sedmicu učeći o istoriji našeg područja. Neke od najinteresantnijih stvari biće: šou u planetariju gdje će učenici čuti priče o Indijancima, zatim će učiti o mlinovima, obilaziti viktorijanski dom, provesti noć sa svojom porodicom, voziti se u kočijama i imati nastavu u jednoj učionici.

Mi od vas tražimo da se potrudite tokom ove sedmice da šaljete svoje dijete redovno u školu kako ne bi propustilo ovo prekrasno iskustvo. Ako iz nekih razloga vaše dijete treba da napusti nastavu između 9:00 prije podne i 2:15 poslije podne, vi ćete trebati da dođete po njega i/ili da ga vratite u Grout Museum District, 503 South St. Waterloo, 319-234-6357.

S poštovanjem,
(*vaše ime*)

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S poštovanjem,
(*vaše ime*)

➤ **Poslati jednu sedmicu prije početka nastave u muzeju**

Poštovani roditelji,

Kao što znate vaše dijete će prisustvovati nastavi u muzeju (mjesec/dani). Ono će se sjećati ovog unikatnog i uzbudljivog iskustva u narednim godinama i mi želimo da i vi budete dio svega toga. Učiteljice (*ime škole*) i osoblje muzeja vas pozivaju da provedete večer u četvrtak (*datum*) sa svojom porodicom u muzeju.

Ovo večer za porodice će biti održano u muzeju "Grout Museum" (pogledajte mapu na pozadini papira). Učenici treba da stignu u 5:45 poslije podne i da prate sledeći raspored:

6:00 Učeničke prezentacije

6:15 Izvlačenje za nagrade, učenici i njihovi gosti obilaze muzej

7:00 Muzej se zatvara u ovo vrijeme

Učenici mogu obući **kostime iz vremenskog perioda** o kome budu učili, a to će biti period od 1825 do 1930. Muzej će imati na raspolaganju ograničen broj kostima. Evo nekoliko ideja za kostime:

Za djevojčice- kecelja, haljina u starom stilu, marama za kosu, ženski šešir i ogrtač

Za dječake- marama oko vrata, šešir, tregeri za pantalone, kaiš od konopca i prsluk

Budite sigurni da zabilježite ovo večer odmah u svoj kalendar kako ne biste propustili zabavu i nagrade!

S poštovanjem,
Osoblje muzeja
(*Vaša imena*)

➤ **Poslati jednu sedmicu prije početka nastave u muzeju**

Poštovani roditelji,

Kao što znate vaše dijete će prisustvovati nastavi u muzeju (mjesec/dani). Ono će se sjećati ovog unikatnog i uzbudljivog iskustva u narednim godinama i mi želimo da i vi budete dio svega toga. Učiteljice (*ime škole*) i osoblje muzeja vas pozivaju da provedete večer u četvrtak (*datum*) sa svojom porodicom u muzeju.

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S poštovanjem,
Osoblje muzeja
(*Vaša imena*)