

Program Offerings 2021-2022

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania is proud to offer a variety of virtual learning opportunities for all grade levels. All programs feature selections of archival material from HSP's vast catalogue and engaging, targeted activities for your students. Please read the descriptions below of sample programs to find which best suits your needs. If you have a different topic that you want your students to explore through HSP's primary source documents, contact Katie Clark (kclark@hsp.org) to discuss the possibilities!

Field Trip Details: Virtual field trips at the Historical Society are free, and last between 60-90 minutes. The students will get a "tour" of the archives (including the vaults) and interact with images of the primary source material from the subject of choice.

When: Mondays and Thursdays, 9:30am – 4:30pm

Where: Held virtually via Zoom*

How: Fill out an interest form [here](#)

Sample Programs:

1. **Colonial Times:** This program will focus on William Penn and the early years of the colonies. Documents can include articles from the Pennsylvania Gazette, letters by William Penn, Treaties with the Native Americans, and some of our earliest maps. (Grades: 4 – 8)
2. **Abolitionists:** This program focuses on various abolitionists from William Still to the Grimke Sisters. Students will have the opportunity to read fugitive slave interviews, view political cartoons, and see a children's book created by the Pennsylvania Abolition Society to teach students in the 1850's about the fugitive slave act. (Grades: 4 - 8)
3. **Civil War/Reconstruction:** This program engages students in all aspects of the Civil War and its aftermath with political cartoons, diaries, and maps. Students will analyze multiple perspectives and see how average Philadelphians were affected by war. (Grades: 6 - 8)
4. **Yellow Fever:** With the letters of Dr. Benjamin Rush as the focus point, this program allows students to read the actual letters written to Dr. Rush during the Yellow Fever epidemic of 1793. Students will play the role of the Doctor as they analyze the letters of fever patients. In addition, they will also see primary sources by Richard Allen, as well as view poetry on the epidemic by Philip Freneau. (Grades: 4 - 8)

5. **20th Century:** This program uses propaganda, scrapbooks, and personal letters/diaries to show students what life was like during WWI, WWII, and Vietnam. The sources include scrapbook of Anthony Drexel Biddle, Ambassador to Poland during WWII, and a scrapbook of WWI Red Cross Army nurse, Edith Madeira. (Grades: 6 - 8)

*The Historical Society of Pennsylvania is closely monitoring the continuing issues presented by Covid-19. We cannot host students in-person yet, but we greatly look forward to the day when we can! For the most up-to-date information regarding HSP's in-person field trip availability and policies, contact Katie Clark (kclark@hsp.org)