Free field trips and outreaches

Education Programs

Navigating History

Hampton Roads Naval Museum

Teaching World War II During the Great War’s Centennial

Downloadable teacher resources and lesson plans are now available on HRNM’s website at www.history.navy.mil/museum/teacherresources/education.html. These lesson plans focus on different topics to teach World War I to your students. Included are lesson plans related to the North Sea Mine Blaupaukteg propagate during the war, reasons for U.S. involvement, and many other World War I related topics.

Download them for free today!


Civil War Sea Chest

The Civil War Sea Chest is a traveling trunk program that HRNM staff will deliver to your school for one week during the school year. The sea chest contains a variety of Civil War Navy replica artifacts—drills, photographs, newspapers, uniforms, and more—that teachers can use to introduce the Civil War to their students. This gives teachers the flexibility of using the sea chest when it works for their schedule. The sea chest also contains detailed information on how to use these artifacts in the classroom setting. Be sure to book this early—dates fill up very quickly!

SOLs: History VS I, VS II, USE I, USE II, YUS I, YUS II, YUS III.

Free field trips and outreaches are always FREE! All programs listed in this brochure can be conducted as either field trips or outreach programs at your school for no cost. Programs are approximately 45 minutes in length (unless noted otherwise), but can be catered to the needs of your classroom upon request.

BOOK THE TRAVELING SEA CHEST FOR YOUR SCHOOL TODAY!

SHAPING POLICIES: THE U.S. NAVY DURING AMERICA’S CIVIL RIGHTS ERA

Explore a controversial period in our nation’s past—the Civil Rights Era. During the 1960s and 1970s, civil rights activists fought to achieve equal rights. This teacher-led lesson plan engages your students with primary source documents and personal narratives. Explore the reality of integration, struggles to combat institutional racism, and how women and African Americans faced horrors and overcame obstacles in the Navy. These downloadable teacher resources and lesson plans are available on HRNM’s website at www.history.navy.mil.


Located on the second floor of Nauticus on Norfolk’s downtown waterfront, the Hampton Roads Naval Museum offers an exciting look at world events through the lens of local Navy history. With a strong emphasis on teaching through primary resources and artifacts, the museum offers a variety of Standards of Learning (SOLs) educational programs for all ages.

Contact us today to book these free programs! Call 757-322-2992 or email laura.lorr@navy.mil to book your program.

For more information about the museum, call 757-322-2987, visit our website, www.hrnm.navy.mil or visit our education blog at www.hrnmeducation.blogspot.com
Brick by Brick: LEGO Shipbuilding through STEM

This program uses LEGO to teach percentages, surface area, simple graphs, ship buoyancy, and displacement. Additionally, students will learn the history of shipbuilding as a STEM activity. Past participants have also been inspired to build LEGO sites using materials created by SIAM staff. Brick-by-Brick LEGO Shipbuilding is written for middle school, but can be adapted for older elementary school students. This program can be done in one hour, but with appropriate extension.

Secondary

Past and Present

One of the most important lessons young children learn as they begin their education is the distinction between events or objects from long ago and today. Designed for children in Kindergarten and First Grade, students will identify and distinguish roles of the U.S. Navy from past and present times. Educators use virtual objects as teaching tools to help distinguish the evolution of uniforms, ships, and naval terminology. Students learn how to engage in a fun make-and-take pictorial timeline, which pairs objects past and present together.

This program sharpens students’ skills in organization and sequencing.

Women in the Navy

For decades prior to her 1994 inclusion on combat ships, women played a pivotal role in the U.S. Navy. From the earliest days of the American Revolution, the Mississippi River to the Civil War, the first female fliers and on board aircraft carriers, women have taken roles and careers that are as varied as the people in the face of adversity. Students analyze photographs and primary documents in order to understand the history of women in the Navy. This program highlights the spiritual history of women and their relationship to the Navy.

American Africans in the Navy

Since the American Revolution, African Americans have served in the U.S. Navy with distinction and dignity in the face of discrimination and conflict. During the course of the program, students will learn about stories of heroism, courage, and commitment, as well as equity issues and obstacles that African American sailors have faced. This program provides insight into African American heritage and allows students to read one of the few accounts of African Americans in the Navy onboard during their naval service.

Underwater Archeology

Using methods from history, historical archaeology, and primary source studies, students will use the mysterious xerography of a ship to explain the sequence of ship-related underwater archeology. Putting these various disciplines in action, each class is prompted to build together a three-dimensional model of a ship and archeological documents received at the wreck site. This is an excellent team-building activity for individual groups of students of any level. Each student plays a vital role in a joint underwater archeological discovery in this discovery and recovery exercise. This program is completed in 45 minutes, but is best extended to 1 hour.

Spouter Card Identification School

During the Second World War, both the military and civilians used spouter cards to identify aircraft or ships. Students will learn why spouter cards were so essential to the soldiers in the Second World War. Students will participate in their own group card authentication tests, learning quickly whether the aircraft or ship belongs to Brand or not.

Discovery of the Enigma Code

In 1942, German U-Boats slangraked in the Atlantic Ocean, disrupting over 60,000 tons of Allied merchant shipping. In an effort to curtail their losses at sea, the Allies launched hundreds of boats and most brilliant minds to help break Germany’s secret Enigma Code. This program immerse students in the fight against the German Enigma machine. Emphasis is placed on the history of cryptography development. Allied attempts to break the code, and the history-changing codes once broken. Students apply the basic principles behind the Enigma Machine in a hands-on activity. Students will learn about the history of cryptography to decipher simple coded messages. This program highlights the spiritual history of women and their relationship to the Navy.

Road to Tokyo

This is a joint program offered between the MacArthur Memorial and the Hampton Roads Naval Museum. Students will learn about the importance of the Second World War Pacific Theater, focusing on major battles and turning points, experiences of war, and major roles in the war. Through interactive activities and the use of historic artifacts, this program will discuss both the United States Navy and Navy participation in the Pacific Theater, from the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 through Japan’s surrender in 1945.

Allied and Axis Propaganda in World War II

During the Second World War, United States citizens employed every available resource to define the Axis Powers. From weapons manufacturing to scrap metal drives, every American answered the call to use sheet and wooden ships during the American Civil War. This program reinforces knowledge in americanism and Civil War history, while strengthening research and comprehension skills. Each student has a role, and the team works together to discover the mysteries that this time capsule holds.

The Battle of Hampton Roads

Reading from a first-hand account of the Battle of Hampton Roads, students will recreate the battle on an overhead floor map, visualizing what it was like to battle on land and wooden ships during the American Civil War. This program reinforces knowledge in americanism and Civil War history, while strengthening research and comprehension skills. Each student has a role, and the team works together to discover the mysteries that this time capsule holds.

Exploration and Navigation

In this program, students will learn about the effect that the European explorers had on the age of exploration, along with the improvements in navigation tools and maps. This program teaches the students the maritime history and knowledge behind such a complex, nocturnal, and extensive endeavor. Exploration and Navigation is designed for older elementary students.

Elementary

Life at Sea

Find out what life was like for common sailors during the Age of the Discovery. Discover what motivated them to risk their lives exploring unchartered seas. Students will actively participate by encountering clothes, reenacting chores, and using replicas of 18th-century artifacts. Students will learn about the ways of life on board a full ship during the Age of Sail.

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Overview: US Navy Propaganda Posters of World War I

Propaganda posters were an effective tool to capture the American public during the early 20th century. The outbreak of the First World War brought the form of political persuasion to the forefront. Propaganda posters helped the United States join the fight “over there” by making a poignant appeal to the patriotism of the home front. With emphasis on the need for accurate source analysis, students will use these posters to comprehend the key causes and effects of the First World War. They will then work in small groups to see what they learned to develop their own World War I propaganda posters. Students will collectively engage in reading comprehension, historical analysis, and writing skills.