

Connect with Transform Rockford!

You can be a part of a larger community effort!

Transform Rockford is an organization created solely by community volunteers to re-imagine, re-engage, and transform Rockford into a city that thrives on peace, cooperation, inclusiveness, and creativity.

Each of these tours concludes with an introduction to Transform Rockford's Shared Values.

Practice these values in your classroom, and encourage students to practice them outside of school. If we take a moment to examine how we live our own lives, every person can make a difference within our community, whether they are six, sixteen, or sixty-four!

We meet National and State Standards:

National Social Studies Curriculum Standards:

- 1: Culture
- 2: Time, Continuity, and Change
- 5: Individuals, Groups, and Institutions
- 6: Power, Authority, and Governance
- 9: Global Connections
- 10: Civic Ideals and Practices

Illinois State Standards:

- 16A: Skills of Historical Analysis and Interpretation
- 16C: Development of Economic Systems
- 16D: Illinois, US and World History
- 18A: Characteristics of Culture



Midway Village Museum
Rockford's
HISTORY MUSEUM

This tour accommodates groups of 10-25. To schedule a tour, please visit us online at midwayvillagetours.com

Contact our educator, Katie Kelley, with any curriculum questions you might have at 815-397-9112 ext. 106 or katie.kelley@midwayvillage.com

New School Tour Available at Midway Village Museum!

Many Faces,
One Community

TOUR: Immigration to Rockford

Traditions,
Tolerance and
Change



1st-2nd Grade

Introductory Activity in the Classroom:

“Tradition” is the focus of the introductory activity for grades 1 and 2. After reading *The Keeping Quilt* by Patricia Polacco (2001), students will discuss the idea of “Tradition” and connect it to their own lives. In a break-out activity, students will try to figure out “what doesn’t belong” within a group of traditional ethnic artifacts.

Tour of the Exhibit

The tour of the exhibit will expand upon the idea of “tradition” as the class is introduced to a variety of ethnic groups settling in Rockford from the early 1800s through today. Ideas of fairness in the workplace, and tolerance towards others will be touched upon.

Wrap Up Activity in the Classroom:

Connecting “traditions” to various groups of people will lead the wrap up discussion into ideas of similarities and differences. Students will discuss meeting people who stand out within their own lives, and will formulate an action plan on how to be welcoming towards someone who might not fit your definition of “normal.” Students will leave feeling empowered to participate in good deeds in their own lives.



3rd-5th Grade

Introductory Activity in the Classroom:

What makes someone move from one place to another? War, disease, religion, family, money, and work all play an integral part in moving diverse groups into an area like Rockford. As students contemplate some of these reasons, they will be asked to pack a bag with belongings they might take with them if they had to move. What sorts of things might have a higher priority than others? If you had to choose, would you take a loaf of bread, a pair of shoes or a board game with you?

Tour of the Exhibit

As students tour Rockford’s past, emphasis will be placed on the idea of traditions, movement from place to place, and tolerance towards those who are different than ourselves. Students will actively participate within the tour, as their guides frame evocative questions around their city’s past.

Wrap Up Activity in the Classroom:

Is “different” a good thing? Students will be introduced to the word “discriminate” as they navigate the emotions, feelings, and actions tied in with discrimination, and how they can be a positive change within someone’s life.



6th-8th Grade

Introductory Activity in the Classroom:

Explore the idea of “Home” through music. What emotions does the word illicit? Are there people or places that define the word? As a group, students will examine the term and how its definition changes from one person to another, as well as between individuals and groups

Tour of the Exhibit

As students tour Rockford’s past, emphasis will be placed on discrimination in the workplace, and the impact of tolerance within the Rockford Community. Students will actively participate within the tour, as their guides frame evocative questions around their city’s past.

Wrap Up Activity in the Classroom:

A situation is neither tolerant or intolerant until we act on it. Students will divide into small groups, take a neutral situation, and figure out how their actions can turn the situation either positive or negative. Using a variety of props, students will perform their tableaux with the class, allowing for the sharing of ideas.

**These tours meet
Illinois and National
Standards for the
Social Studies
Curriculum**

Register online at
www.midwayvillagetours.com