

Louisiana State Exhibit Museum

3015 Greenwood Rd
Shreveport LA 71109
318-632-2020

Autographing History

Grades: K-4

Subject: American History

Time: One to two days to review historical figures whose autographs will be on display, one day for a field trip to LSEM to view the autographs and educational PowerPoint, one day to follow up and do class activity.

K-4 students are invited to visit the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum's exhibit entitled Autographing History to learn about important historical figures and view their authenticated signatures. Students will also learn about the importance of primary documents, like the documents containing these unique autographs. The exhibit will highlight autographs from figures such as Abraham Lincoln, George Washington, Lewis and Clark, John F. Kennedy, and John Hancock as well as many others.

Benchmarks:

H-1A-E1 Demonstrating and understanding of the concepts of time and chronology

H-1A-E2 Recognizing that people in different times and places view the world differently

H-1A-E3 Identifying and using primary and secondary historical sources to learn about the past

H-1C-E1 Describing the people, events, and ideas that were significant to the growth and development of our state and nation

H-1C-E2 Identifying the development of democratic principles and discussing how these principles have been exemplified by historic figures, events, and symbols

ELA-1-E6 Interpreting texts to generate connections to real life situations

ELA-2-E6 writing as a response to texts and life experiences

Pre-Visit Activity:

Vocabulary and People to Know:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Primary Document• Autograph• Signature• Paul Revere• Lewis and Clark• Napoleon Bonaparte• John Quincy Adams• Robert E. Lee• Patrick Henry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• George Washington• Abraham Lincoln• Benjamin Franklin• Thomas Jefferson• John Hancock• Franklin Delano Roosevelt• Andrew Jackson• John F. Kennedy• Ronald Reagan
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Initiate a discussion with students about the importance and value of their signatures. Explain that when someone signs his/her name on a document that indicates approval and ownership of the message or idea held within a document and is therefore an important representation of one's self on paper.

Explain to the students that they will be visiting the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum to view 54 important historical figures' authentic autographs signed on primary documents.

Museum Etiquette

- Have your students use their "library" voice when in a museum or gallery.
- No running in a museum or gallery.
- Please keep your feet off the ledge and on the red tile (floor) when standing around the center contour map.
- Students need to stay with their group, class, or teacher.
- If you have any questions, please ask one of the museum tour guides.
- When entering the auditorium for a program, please keep your class in a single-file line separate from other classes and schools who may also be waiting to enter through the breezeway
- Wait for a tour guide to give you instructions.

Museum Field Trip Activity

Make copies of LSEM viewing journal for each student.

Explain to students that they will be filling out the journals as they view the exhibit.

Students will be viewing a PowerPoint presentation on an introduction to the exhibit and reviewing key historical figures featured in the exhibit.

Students will tour the exhibit with a qualified docent.

Post Visit Activity

Discuss student impressions of the Autographing History exhibit. Ask students if they understand the importance behind one's signature and the definition of a primary document.

Ask students to pick one historic figure from the collection and write a short journal entry about whom they picked and why they selected him/her as well as the reason or reasons that the person was important in American History.

Students may participate in the hands on activity in which they make an autograph book. Instructions and materials needed for the activity are featured below and may be done in the classroom.

Suggested follow up reading *Will You Sign Here, John Hancock?* by Jean Fritz

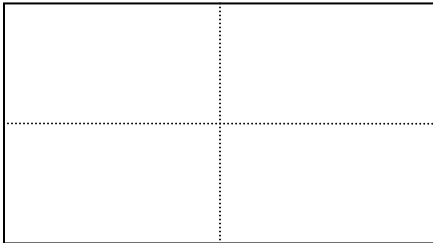
Instruction for Creating Student Made

Autograph Books:

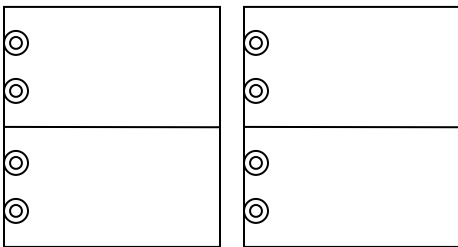
To create Student Autograph Books you will need:

Cardstock, ribbon, paper, and crayons or markers to decorate the cover

- Cut paper into four sections:



- Punch holes along left side of paper



- Repeat with sheets of cardstock for the book cover and issue two rectangles to each student
- Cut strips of ribbon about 3 inches long and issue 2 strips per student.
- Instruct students to put 10 pieces of paper in a stack with a piece of card stock on top and bottom.
- Have students line up the holes, loop ribbon through the holes, and tie them together... **(Take care to not tie them too tight or the book will not turn. It is best to leave room.)**
- Students may then decorate the cover. **(Be sure to have them write their name somewhere on the cover!)**

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Autographing History Viewing Journal

NAME _____

DATE _____

SCHOOL _____

Use information gained from the Autographing History exhibit at LSEM to complete this viewing journal

Part One: Introduction to Autographs and a Primary Document

What is the definition of an autograph?

What is the definition of a primary document?

List three things that require a signature.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Part Two: Historical Figures within Autographing History

List someone from the Civil War whose autograph is on display.

List someone who was an American president whose autograph is on display.

List a Native American autograph from the collection.

Pick one historical figure to examine in detail. Why did you choose this figure and what did he/she contribute to history?

In a brief paragraph explain why you think the LSEM's exhibit on Autographing History is useful and important.

BONUS QUESTION: How many autographs were in the Autographing History Collection at the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum?