

Erie Society for Genealogical Research

Understanding Family History (Grades 3 - 5) - This trunk was developed for students with non-traditional families. Items in the trunk include representations of three dimensional old-time toys and household items, and photographs of people from different ethnic backgrounds and ages. These things can inspire discussions of “family” relationships.

Genealogy (Various Grades) - The trunk was compiled by Edinboro University Students. It includes lessons about genealogy, understanding probability and genetics, and mapping migration routes.

To borrow this trunk, email the Society at pa.esgr@gmail.com or call (814) 454.1813 x29.

Hornby School Museum

Spencerian Script Penmanship Kit (Grades 3 - 5) - The museum preserves a one-room school from the 1880s. Students once learned to write in a cursive style such as Spencerian script using lined sheets and pencils until they were skilled enough to use pen styluses with removable nibs that they dipped into inkwells. The trunk contains pencils, a guidebook on how to form letters, masters of the lined practice sheets that teachers may duplicate in any number, and samples of cursive writing to read or copy. Students will practice their own cursive signatures or writing in other contexts. To practice using the stylus, pen nibs, and ink, consider scheduling a visit to Hornby School.

To borrow this trunk, call the Museum at (814) 323.4404.

Elk Creek Township Historical Society

Creating a Time Capsule (Grades K - 12) - The container that holds the materials is a miniature model of the actual time capsule that was buried at The Little Church on the Hill by the Elk Creek Township Historical Society. Feel free to use this container as a part of the lesson. The purpose of this trunk is to teach students about how time changes.

Toys of the Past (Grade 3) - This suitcase includes toys and pictures of toys common in the 1990s, the decade that the Elk Creek Township Time Capsule was buried. Using the three included lesson plans, students will learn to develop predictions using a toy Slinky, compare and contrast toys from the 1990s to favorite toys of today, and explore cultures around the world using technology to research toys from other countries in the 1990s. (Created by education majors from Edinboro University.)

Time Capsules and Tornados, Newspapers and Nickels (Grades 2- 8) - “What’s in a Time Capsule” is aligned to 8th grade, focusing on teaching how history influences the present. “Tornado Experiment” is aligned for grades 3 - 8, and introduces hands-on experimentation with tornados and tornado safety. “Inflation of a Dollar” is aligned for 2nd grade and explores the inflation of the dollar from 1855 to today. “Features of a Front Page Newspaper” is aligned for 6th grade and explores finding important information within a newspaper article.

To borrow this trunk, email the Society at echistorysociety@gmail.com or call (814) 323-0447.

Traveling Trunks

Bring local history to you!

Participating Sites

Corry Area Historical Society

Elk Creek Township
Historical Society

Erie Society for
Genealogical Research

Fairview Area Historical Society

Harborcreek Historical Society

Hornby School Museum



www.ErieYesterday.org

Out of the Box is an exciting series of traveling resource trunks created for teachers, youth group leaders, museums, libraries, and others looking for unique and educational ways to share local history.

Each trunk focuses on a specific topic pertaining to Erie County history and contains reproductions of historical artifacts, primary source documents or photographs.

Several Erie County, PA heritage organizations created ***Out of the Box*** trunks, and borrowing one is easy. Simply contact the organization offering the trunk for information on rental policies and procedures.

The project is in partnership with Erie Yesterday, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania's History, Anthropology and World Languages Department and College of Education, and is supported in part through funding from The Erie Community Foundation.

Erie Maritime Museum

Sea Bag (All Grades) - Students will explore clothing, tools and personal items common for the crew of the Niagara in 1812.

For more information on the *Sea Bag*, contact the Outreach & Education Coordinator by phone (814) 452-2744 or email outreach@flagshipniagra.org.

Corry Area Historical Society

All Aboard! (Grades 3 - 5) - This trunk contains two lessons. Students will gain an appreciation for the development of the railway by determining a specified length of track and computing how many spikes were necessary to complete the section of rail. Maps, rulers, and miniature ties and rails are included. The technology lesson details the steps necessary to complete a digital display about the Climax Locomotive. A CD of photographs and informative text is included.

Climax Locomotive (Grades K & 1) - Students will identify differences and similarities of the Climax locomotive located at the Corry Area Historical Society and other trains; use concrete representation to solve addition and subtraction problems by riding the "Math Train" throughout the classroom; and learn basic shapes in order to create a train based on the Climax Engine.

Home of the Climax Engine and the Railroad Experience (Grade 3 - 5) - Students will compare and contrast three maps (1870, 1895, and 2011) on a Venn diagram as well as creating their own map; design and build their own signaling device and use it to send messages; and sort items into two categories (containing oil, not containing oil) and then build an oil derrick. There is also a listening center for discovering what working on an oil field sounds like.

To borrow a trunk from the Corry Area Historical Society, go to www.tinyurl.com/allaboardtrunk. The Society will contact you to make further arrangements.

Fairview Area Historical Society

Dr. Helen M. Daggett Pollay Weeks, An Extraordinary 19th Century Woman (Grades 7 - 12) - Students will learn about Fairview native Dr. Helen M. Daggett Pollay Weeks, a woman who rose above 19th century gender stereotypes to have success as a poet and author, physician and reformist. The trunk contains reproductions of historical artifacts, primary source documents and photographs.

To borrow this trunk, email the Society at fahsmail3@gmail.com or call (814) 474-5855.

Harborcreek Historical Society

The Dodge's: A Look at Life in Harborcreek (Grades 6 - 12) - Students will read primary documents from 1869 in the form of family letters and journal entries; investigate how language evolves and changes over time; and be able to analyze, compare/contrast and interpret daily activities, decisions and personal thoughts of the neighbors in the Village of Harborcreek.

The Gauge War (Grade 3) - Students will delve into the reasons behind the "Gauge War." Students will also understand the correlation between distances on a map and actual distances.

To borrow this trunk, email the Society at harborcreekhistory@gmail.com or call (814) 899-4447.