

FIELD TRIP OPPORTUNITIES AND CURRICULUM OFFERINGS

At
*Chieftains Museum/Major
Ridge Home
2023-2024*



AN INTRODUCTION TO CHIEFTAINS MUSEUM



Major Ridge was born around 1771 in a village in the southeastern portion of present day Tennessee. In 1819, Ridge moved his family into a two-story log cabin onto this property on the Oostanaula River. In 1828, Ridge and his son John oversaw renovations of the cabin. When the work was finished, the cabin had become a white clapboard plantation home. Here the Ridge family oversaw a ferry, trading post and a working plantation complete with crops, orchards and slaves.

Chieftains Museum/Major Ridge Home is a National Historic Landmark and one of only a few private entities to be certified by the National Park Service as a site on the Trail of Tears. Major Ridge, whose old home Chieftains now occupies, was one of the signers of the Treaty of New Echota, which resulted in the forced relocation of the Cherokee people.

The house has grown significantly since Ridge's departure and important examples of Northwest Georgia architecture can be seen in the various additions to the structure. It is the connection with the Cherokees, however, that gives the site a prominent position in America's history.

Today, the museum presents interpretive exhibits (permanent and temporary), educational programs, and special events that pertain to the Ridge family and Cherokee history and culture. In recent years, the Floyd County Master Gardeners have worked hard to create The Major Ridge Demonstration Garden. The garden features trees, shrubs, and raised beds to demonstrate the types of plants native to our area, those used by Native Americans, and those that were grown on the Ridge farm to provide visitors to the campus with a "living" classroom.

The museum offers schools programs that are directly related to Georgia curriculum requirements at the historic property of Major Ridge and presents a unique opportunity for students to experience a significant part of American history in their own community. Each field trip includes a house tour, a garden tour, and one activity of the teacher's choice.

For the 2023-2024 school year, the museum's program/activity offerings are included on the following pages.



KINDERGARTEN - 1ST GRADE



Design Your Own Pottery Page

- Students will be given the opportunity to design their own pottery using a coloring page. Students will learn about traditional Cherokee pottery and be able to see examples of pottery found on the Chieftains grounds!
 - **SS2H2, SS3H1, & SS8H1**

Create a Corn Husk Doll


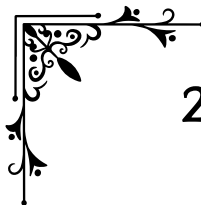
- Students will have the chance to create their own corn husk doll with provided materials.
 - **SS2H2, SS3H1, & SS8H1**

Create Clay Beads


- Students will use clay and information about Cherokee patterns and designs to make their own clay beads.
 - **SS2H2, SS3H1, & SS8H1**

Demonstration Garden Tour

- Students will be led through a guided tour of the Major Ridge demonstration gardens where they will learn about different plants native to the Cherokee and the plants that Major Ridge would have grown on this land when he lived here.
 - **SS2H2, SS2G2, SS3H1, SS3G3, & SS8H1**



2ND GRADE - 5TH GRADE



Design Your Own Pottery Page

- Students will be given the opportunity to design their own pottery using a coloring page. Students will learn about traditional Cherokee pottery and be able to see examples of pottery found on the Chieftains grounds!
 - **SS2H2, SS3H1, & SS8H1**

Create a Corn Husk Doll


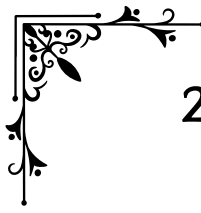
- Students will have the chance to create their own corn husk doll with provided materials.
 - **SS2H2, SS3H1, & SS8H1**

Create Clay Beads

- Students will use clay and information about Cherokee patterns and designs to make their own clay beads.
 - **SS2H2, SS3H1, & SS8H1**

Demonstration Garden Tour

- Students will be led through a guided tour of the Major Ridge demonstration gardens where they will learn about different plants native to the Cherokee and the plants that Major Ridge would have grown on this land when he lived here.
 - **SS2H2, SS2G2, SS3H1, SS3G3, & SS8H1**




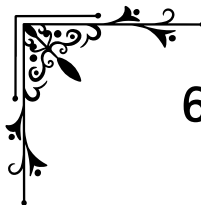
2ND GRADE - 5TH GRADE

Archeology Activity

- Students will transform into archeologists as they learn about artifacts found on the Chieftains grounds. Students will also have the opportunity to conduct their own archeological dig via sand table and write their own lab report.
 - **SS2H2**

Cherokee Syllabary

- Students will learn about the origins of Sequoyah's syllabary and how it was used in Cherokee culture. Students will also have the chance to use the syllabary themselves as they are challenged to spell various English words, including their name!
 - **SS2H1, SS2H2**



6TH GRADE - 12TH GRADE

Demonstration Garden Tour

- Students will be led through a guided tour of the Major Ridge demonstration gardens where they will learn about different plants native to the Cherokee and the plants that Major Ridge would have grown on this land when he lived here.
 - **SS2H2, SS2G2, SS3H1, SS3G3, & SS8H1**

Archeology Activity

- Students will transform into archeologists as they learn about artifacts found on the Chieftains grounds. Students will also have the opportunity to conduct their own archeological dig via sand table and write their own lab report.
 - **SS2H2**

Cherokee Syllabary

- Students will learn about the origins of Sequoyah's syllabary and how it was used in Cherokee culture. Students will also have the chance to use the syllabary themselves as they are challenged to spell various English words, including their name!
 - **SS2H1, SS2H2**

Land Lottery

- Students will learn about the Georgia land lottery and its effects on the Cherokee people by participating in a lottery simulation.
 - **SS2G2, SS4H3, SS8H4, & SSUSH7**



FIELD TRIP DETAILS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

School group tours only available on
Thursdays and Fridays.

Admission:

\$2.00 per child. Payment due in advance or
the day of the field trip.

Duration of tour and activity:

Approximately 45 to 75 minutes

Address:

501 Riverside Parkway
Rome, GA 30161

Phone:

(762)-327-6124

Email:

manager@chieftainmuseum.org

Find us online:

www.chieftainmuseum.org

Book Your Field Trip:

Go to www.chieftainmuseum.org, click the tours tab, and
use the form on that page to book your field trip. If you
have any questions, please contact at us (762)-327-6124
or manager@chieftainmuseum.org.