

# FIELD TRIP OPPORTUNITIES AND CURRICULUM OFFERINGS AT CHIEFTAINS MUSEUM/MAJOR RIDGE HOME 2017-2018

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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 2017-2018 school year, the museum's program/activity offerings are included on the following pages.

501 Riverside Parkway  
Rome, GA 30161

Phone: (706) 291-9494  
Email: [chmuseum@bellsouth.net](mailto:chmuseum@bellsouth.net)  
Find us online:  
[www.chieftainmuseum.org](http://www.chieftainmuseum.org)

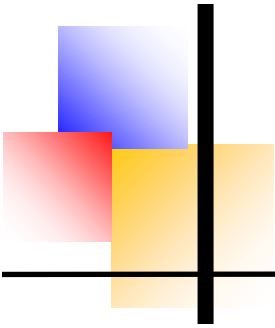


School group tours only available  
on Thursdays and Fridays.

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

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## KINDERGARTEN—1ST GRADE

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- **Animal Totem Necklace**—Learn the importance and symbolism of animals in the Cherokee world. Students will make a necklace to decorate and take home. Requires students to know their birth month to determine which animal totem they will receive. Relates to the following standards: SSKH3, SSKG1
- **What is it? Archaeology Activity**—Handle, analyze, and discuss artifacts to try to determine their uses in the daily lives of Native Americans. Students will make a gorget, ornaments worn around the neck by a string. Relates to the following standards: SSKH3, SSKG1
- **Cherokee Culture**—Experience Cherokee culture by playing modified versions of their games including a relay and what is known today as “hot potato.” Relates to the following standards: SSKH3, SSKG1
- **Decorate a pottery page**—Learn about Mississippian and Cherokee pottery designs and decorate your own pottery page to take home. Relates to the following standards: SSKH3, SSKG1
- **Create a Log Cabin**—Learn about Cherokee housing by creating and decorating your own paper cabin to take home. Relates to the following standards: SSKH3, SSKG1
- **Cherokee Mission School**—Learn about mission schools in the Cherokee Nation by completing a weaving activity to take home. Relates to the following standards: SSKH3, SSKG1
- **What Would You Save?**—Discuss the Trail of Tears by completing an activity page designed to teach the students about the types of items the Cherokee people owned and what they were able to take with them during the nearly 800 mile journey to Oklahoma Territory. Relates to the following standards: SSKH3, SSKG1

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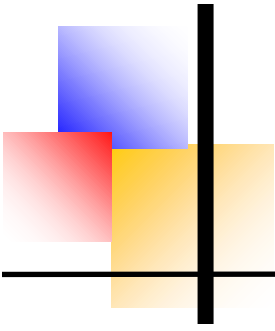
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## 2ND—5TH GRADE

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- **Animal Totem Necklace**—Learn the importance and symbolism of animals in the Cherokee world. Students will make a necklace to decorate and take home. Requires students to know their birth month to determine which animal totem they will receive. Relates to the following standards: SS2H2, SS3H1
- **Cherokee Syllabary** —Hear about Cherokee Sequoyah who invented a written alphabet, called a syllabary, for his people. Students learn to write a Cherokee word by decorating a refrigerator magnet to take home. Relates to the following standards: SS2H1-2, SS2CG3, SS3H1
- **Cherokee Culture**—Experience Cherokee culture by playing modified versions of their games including a relay and what is known today as “hot potato.” Relates to the following standards: SS2H2, SS2G2, SS3H1
- **Major Ridge Scavenger Hunt**—Explore the museum to discover information about Major Ridge and Cherokee history by completing a scavenger hunt. Relates to the following standards: SS3H1-2, SS4H3
- **What is it? Archaeology Activity**—Handle, analyze, and discuss artifacts to try to determine their uses in the daily lives of Native Americans. Students will make a gorget, ornaments worn around the neck by a string. Relates to the following standards: SS2H2, SS2G2, SS3H1
- **Cherokee Mission School**—Learn about mission schools in the Cherokee Nation by completing a weaving activity to take home. Relates to the following standards: SS2H2, SS3H1
- **What Would You Save?**—Discuss the Trail of Tears by completing an activity page designed to teach the students about the types of items the Cherokee people owned and what they were able to take with them during the nearly 800 mile journey to Oklahoma Territory. SS2H2, SS4H3
- **Where Are We?**—Students will travel through the past to see how Georgia has grown and changed throughout time. This activity places emphasis on developing mapping skills and teaches students how to interpret historical maps. Relates to the following standards: SS2H2, SS2G2, SS3H1-3, SS3G3, SS4H3
- **Cherokee Yahtzee**—Students will play an early version of modern day Yahtzee that uses corn kernels and beans. SS2H2, SS2G2, SS3H1,
- **Cherokee Bingo**—Students will play a version of bingo that uses words related to Cherokee culture. SS2H2, SS3H1
- **What is an Artifact?**—Learn about ceramic artifacts and how they are dated based on patterns. Students will use stamp patterns to design a salt dough or clay piece to take home with them. The finished product will be placed in individual baggies with the student’s name. Teachers are responsible for making sure the baggies are transported to each subsequent station during the tour. SS2H2, SS2G2, SS3H1

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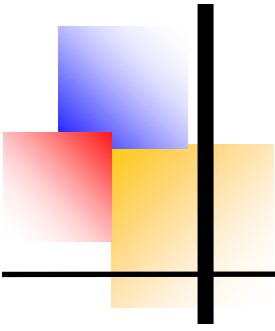
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## 6TH—12TH GRADE

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- **Major Ridge Scavenger Hunt**—Explore the museum to discover information about Major Ridge and Cherokee history by completing a scavenger hunt. Relates to the following standards: SS8H1, SS8H4, SSUSH6, SSUSH7
- **Cherokee Land Lottery**—Learn about the distribution of Cherokee land by the state of Georgia in 1832 and 1833. Students determine who was eligible for the land lottery from a simulated primary source document. Relates to the following standards: SS8H4
- **What is it? Archaeology Activity**—Handle, analyze, and discuss artifacts to try to determine their uses in the daily lives of Native Americans. Relates to the following standards: SS8H1, SS8H2
- **Where Are We?**—Students will travel through the past to see how Georgia has grown and changed throughout time. This activity places emphasis on developing mapping skills and teaches students how to interpret historical maps. Relates to the following standards: SS8H1-2, SSUSH1
- **Cherokee Yahtzee**—Students will play an early version of modern day Yahtzee that uses corn kernels and beans. Relates to the following standards: SS8H1
- **Cherokee Bingo**—Students will play a version of bingo that uses words related to Cherokee culture. Relates to the following standards: SS8H1
- **What is an Artifact?**—Learn about ceramic artifacts and how they are dated based on patterns. Students will use stamp patterns to design a salt dough or clay piece to take home with them. The finished product will be placed in individual baggies with the student's name. Teachers are responsible for making sure the baggies are transported to each subsequent station during the tour. Relates to the following standards: SS8H1
- **19th Century Games**—Experience 19th century culture by playing historic outdoor games like Graces, also known as "French Hoops," badminton, ring-toss, a dart game, and a hoop game. Relates to the following standards: SS8H2

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