

TEACHER GUIDE TO THE
CELEBRATE ILLINOIS: 200 Years in the Land of Lincoln

Every Student Initiative Field Trip: Seventh Grade

200 YEARS in the
LAND of LINCOLN

**CELEBRATE
ILLINOIS**

THE EXHIBITION

FEBRUARY 3 - JUNE 3
PEORIA RIVERFRONT MUSEUM



**PEORIA
RIVERFRONT MUSEUM**

Included in this Packet:

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**Copies of these documents will be printed for you and handed out at PRM.*

 **PEORIA
RIVERFRONT MUSEUM**

CELEBRATE ILLINOIS: 200 Years in the Land of Lincoln

Please read through this document at least once before arriving at the museum for your field trip.

The information found in this guide (on page 3) is intended to provide you, the teacher, with background information and a general plan for your gallery experience.

We will provide you with a copy of this Teacher's Guide upon your arrival at the museum for use during your time in the gallery, so you don't need to bring your own copy.

You are encouraged to adjust or change the elements outlined in this guide to best suit your class' needs. The main objective of your time in the gallery is to reinforce your curriculum goals related to Illinois/local history.

Please **do not** plan on reading this guide aloud to your students verbatim, but rather, become comfortable with the material and then present it to your class at their learning level.

You will receive copies of the student worksheet (pages 5-6) upon arrival at the museum, so don't bring your own copies.

If you have questions, feel free to contact:

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TEACHER GUIDE TO *CELEBRATE ILLINOIS*



Celebrate Illinois: 200 Years in the Land of Lincoln

This spring, the Museum will be first in the state to host an Illinois Bicentennial exhibition, *Celebrate Illinois: 200 Years in the Land of Lincoln*, opening Feb. 3, 2018. As part of the state-wide celebration of the 200th anniversary of Illinois becoming a state, Peoria Riverfront Museum is bringing together this unique exhibition which is a collection of state-wide artifacts celebrating the state's influential people, places, and innovations in Illinois history.

The exhibition will showcase objects on loan from the National Park Service/Lincoln Home National Historic Site, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Abraham Presidential Library and Museum, Illinois State Museum, Knox College: Archives, and Galesburg Colony Underground Railroad Freedom Center.

Lincoln himself, as a 31-ft. painted bronze sculpture, is ushering in the exhibit. The 19-ton "Return Visit" sculpture by artist Seward Johnson was installed on the museum's Water Street side Sept. 19 with the help of 20 Central Illinois individuals and businesses, and is on loan for a year by the Seward Johnson Foundation.

Through a selection of artifacts, from the Museum's collection, as well as others borrowed from colleges, professional organizations, other museums and historical societies, visitors will have the chance to discover the 200 years of Illinois history through each object.

Celebrate Illinois is being curated around the concept that objects tell stories, and behind each object is a person with a unique story to tell – a personal insight into the history of Illinois. The objects will highlight both well-known and lesser-known artists, innovators, abolitionists, U.S. Presidents, athletes, entrepreneurs, war veterans, and a few celebrities.

The exhibition is a unique opportunity for Museum visitors to find inspiration in the number of people and objects that have positively impacted the state's history.

TEACHER GUIDE TO THE CELEBRATE ILLINOIS: 200 Years in the Land of Lincoln

Before walking in the Gallery, please remind your students of the following:

How should we behave when we're inside the gallery?

1. Walk.
2. Use inside voices.
3. Do not touch the exhibits.

As you enter the Celebrate Illinois gallery, begin a discussion with your students. You could start by saying something similar to the following:

This exhibit is called *Celebrate Illinois: 200 Years in the Land of Lincoln*. Can anyone guess what we will see inside this gallery?

Answer: This exhibition explores over 200 years of Illinois History to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Illinois' statehood (1818). The gallery is broken up into several categories that each look at our history through a different lens, including the settling of Illinois, agriculture, industry, innovation, and culture.

Who are the presidents that are from Illinois?

ANSWER: President Abraham Lincoln was the 16th president of the United States, in office from 1861-1865 (assassinated after his second election to office); he is best remembered for reuniting the nation by ending the Civil War and for signing the Emancipation Proclamation which ended slavery in the South.

President Ulysses S. Grant was the 18th president of the United States, in office from 1869-1877; he is best remembered for his service as a Union general during the Civil War, his role in Reconstruction and the start of Civil Rights during his presidency, and his Indian Peace Policy.

President Ronald Reagan was the 40th president of the United States, in office from 1981-1989; he is best remembered for his successful economic and foreign policies, and his part in bringing an end to the Cold War.

President Barak Obama was the 44th president of the United States, in office from 2009-2017; there are many things that President Obama is currently known for, but which of those history will find most significant is still to be determined.

Which city was settled first, Peoria or Chicago?

ANSWER: Peoria, IL was the first European settlement in Illinois. It was established by Henri de Tonti in 1691, as Fort Crevecoeur. This first fort later burned down and was replaced in 1813 by Fort Clark. In 1825, the fort was renamed Peoria, and the town was officially incorporated in 1835.

Jean Baptiste du Sable is considered to be the first settler in Chicago; he built his farm at the mouth of the Chicago River in the 1780s. Fort Dearborn was constructed in 1803 on the Chicago River, and the town was officially incorporated in 1833.

Name: _____

CELEBRATE ILLINOIS SCAVENGER HUNT

The gallery you are in is called *Celebrate Illinois: 200 Years in the Land of Lincoln*. This room explores the history of Illinois and highlights the many people who helped to make this state great. As you walk through the gallery, be on the lookout for answers to the questions below. Some answers will be found by reading the labels in the gallery, while other answers will require you to think about what you see in the gallery.

What is the history of the British sword on display at the front of the gallery?

Who first settled in Illinois and when did Illinois officially become a state?

Who are the four men from Illinois who became President of the United States of America?

What is the Phelps barn?

Who was Andrew Moyer and what did he do?

WORKSHEET TITLE HERE

What was something new about Illinois that you learned from the exhibit:

What is something that you have done or would like to do to positively impact our state?

What was your favorite *object* in the exhibit:

Draw a picture of your favorite object: