

## On the Mid-South Frontier: Lab Exploration

**Topics covered:** Split a roof shingle. Wash clothes against a washboard. Practice rolling an old-fashioned hoop. Observe and participate in demonstrations of skills required for survival on the Mid-South frontier. Students build a frontier timeline of the 50 year span between the American Revolution and the founding of Memphis. They learn how early settlers moved across the Appalachians, through the North Carolina territory into what would become west Tennessee. Acting in traditional gender roles, students explore how early settlers dealt with Native American groups, traded goods, acquired and prepared food, made clothing and had fun.

**Ages:** 6-8

**Purchase Details: Lab Exploration - \$5 per student**

Programs can be reserved by phone: 901-636-2362

Wednesday - Saturday, 10:30 am - 5:30 pm

### Objectives:

1. Consider the reasons for frontier settlement and how people moved West.
2. Recognize contributions of white and Native American leaders as frontier settlement progressed.
3. Identify the effects of conflict and accommodation in Native American/settler relations.
4. Describe day-to-day tasks of men, women and children on the frontier.

### Vocabulary:

timeline

archaeologist

frontier

settlers

log cabin

mallet & froe

David Crockett

Nancy Ward

Sequoyah

John Sevier

Andrew Jackson

Marcus & Mary Winchester

Trail of Tears

tall tales

barter

pestle & mortar

### Fun Facts:

- Settlers made roofing shingles by splitting whole logs using “a mallet and froe”.
- Most frontier children were homeschooled. Where schools existed, all ages studied together in one room.
- Death was the punishment for stealing a horse, according to early Tennessee law.

## Web Resources:

Tennessee State Museum history website – [www.TN4me.org](http://www.TN4me.org)

Tennessee History for Kids – <http://www.tnhistoryforkids.org>

Pioneer Life – [www.pioneerlifegroup.weebly.com](http://www.pioneerlifegroup.weebly.com)

Davies Manor (frontier home from the 1830s located in Shelby County) – [www.daviesmanorplantation.org](http://www.daviesmanorplantation.org)

## Museum Resources:

### • For Your Classroom:

- Borrow the *Native Americans Suitcase Exhibit* to use in your classroom. It features stone tools, ceramics and animal pelts along with K-8 lesson plans for object-based learning.
- The *Civil War Suitcase Exhibit* is packed with maps, Union and Confederate Uniforms, an 1860s style ladies dress, newspapers, paper money and lesson plans for K-8 students.
- The *Yellow Fever Passport* offers diaries, journals, newspaper accounts, photos, maps and other primary sources that describe Mid-Southerners experiences of the yellow fever epidemic of 1878.

- **In the galleries:** Study a typical frontier dwelling when you take a look inside a real log cabin. Inspect early woodworking tools, cooking utensils and a dugout canoe. It's all in the *History of Memphis 1800-1900 Gallery* in the **Cultural History Exhibits** on the museum's upper level. See some of the animals frontier settlers would have encountered in the *Mammals of the Mid-South Gallery* in the **Natural History Exhibits** on the ground level.

**Where:** Pink Palace Discovery Theater (for 33-100 students) or Classroom (for 15-32 students)

**When:** August-May Tuesday-Friday at 9:30 & 11 am 45-60 Minutes

### • Standards:

- (Grade Level) 6-8
- **Tennessee: (Social Studies)**
  - GRADE 6:
  - GRADE 7:
  - GRADE 8: 8.28, 8.47
- **Mississippi: (Social Studies)**
  - GRADE 6:
  - GRADE 7:
  - GRADE 8: 8.5
- **Arkansas: (Social Studies)**
  - GRADE 6:
  - GRADE 7:
  - GRADE 8: Era4.1.8.1, Era4.1.8.4, ERA4.1.8.6
- **Catholic Diocese: (Social Studies)**
  - GRADE 6:
  - GRADE 7:
  - GRADE 8: 8.1.1, 8.11.3, 8.111.2, 8.V11.2, 8