

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Our goal is to offer school children the opportunity to spend an entire day in a school environment very similar to those of rural children who attended a one-room school in 1884 in San Joaquin County. As far as possible, we will try to be authentic to the period.

Only one class will come at a time. The number of students will not exceed 32 unless special permission is obtained.

The docent teacher is the person in charge. The regular classroom teacher is to supervise the lunchtime activities and to be on the grounds at all times in case of emergency. Other adults coming with the class should be limited to no more than two, and they will remain inconspicuous except at lunch and recess. The classroom teacher and other adults will not be in the classroom, but can be comfortable in the print shop located next door.

Students, and any adults accompanying them, will bring their own lunches in pails. The teacher should plan the food in order that it can be authentic to the 1880s period. Each lunch bucket needs a tin cup or tin can for drinking. Water and lemonade will be provided. No soda, chips or other modern items should be included. Menu suggestions are given on a separate page.

An opportunity to take pictures inside the classroom is offered at the end of the school day. No pictures will be taken during the rest of the day. Only the teacher (and accompanying adults) can bring a camera. Please do not bring cameras belonging to students. This is an 1884 school day from arrival to departure.

The school day will be for 4 ½ hours. We would like classes to arrive at the museum by 8:40 in order to have the flag salute and be in the schoolroom by 9:00. Lunchtime will last approximately 35 minutes and will include 1884 games and the restroom break. An example schedule is included on following pages.

In response to requests, we have made a cassette tape of eight popular songs of the 1880s. They are available for purchase and are to be used by teachers, as desired, in preparing the class for their visit.

## General Information (continued) - 1

Fee: a fee of \$100.00 will be charged, and must be paid at the fall orientation meeting, checks should be made out to San Joaquin Historical Museum.

Costume: Students and adults are expected to dress in costume. Helpful suggestions are included on the following pages.

Conference: Each visiting classroom teacher will confer over the telephone with the particular docent teacher who will be the pioneer school day teacher for the class. At that time the preparations on the checklist will be discussed.

Handbooks will be issued to visiting classroom teachers at the fall orientation when a date has been set for the visit. Handbooks should be returned on the day of the school visit. IF handbooks have not been returned by June 15th, a charge of \$20.00 will be assessed.

Nametags: Each student and adult should wear a clearly visible and neatly printed nametag. A sample is included. Students may choose an old fashioned name to use instead of their actual name. Of course, if they do, they must memorize it.

“Making one’s manners”: When called upon, students will stand beside their desks, and look at their teacher. Girls will curtsy, and boys will bow at the waist, then they will repeat the teacher’s proper name.

The flag salute: In 1884 the pledge was quite simple. Students need to have it memorized.

I give my head,  
I give my hand,  
I give my heart  
    To my country.  
One God,  
One country,  
One flag.

## General Information (continued) - 2

### Subjects:

Each school visit will include five basic subjects: Reading Spelling, Arithmetic, Penmanship and Morals. The Pioneer School docent teacher as time will select a variety of other subjects and interest allows.

Every subject will be approached as authentically to the year 1884 as possible.

Note: should a student have trouble adapting to the classroom scene a note will be sent with the student to the visiting classroom teacher requesting a 20-minute tine-out.

Advance Preparation: The success of your school visit highly depends on the preparation you have provided in advance of their day. Visiting classroom teachers should prepare their students in the following ways:

### Teach students:

- 1) The history of one-room schools, imagining themselves in that period
- 2) The old flag salute
- 3) To address the teacher as Madame or Sir, or Mistress \_\_\_\_\_ or Mister \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) How to “make your manners”
- 5) To sing “America” (my country ‘tis of thee)
- 6) That there will be assigned tasks, such as carrying water and wood; dusting and sweeping; cleaning blackboards
- 7) Behavior that is appropriate and expected
- 8) To sit with proper posture, particularly while doing handwriting
- 9) Politeness and customs, such as for boys to remove hats
- 10) Memorizing and recitation: poems, sayings, rhymes, times tables, etc.
- 11) How to play at least 3 of the old games: marbles, jacks, hopscotch, pick-up sticks and jump rope
- 12) Skills for the various subjects they will be studying
- 13) To sing at least 2 of the old songs
- 14) Read at least 2 book selections from the period.

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CHECK LIST FOR YOUR PREPARATION

The preparation you give your class in the weeks before your visit will make a tremendous difference in the benefit to your students. Please read this entire manual several times as you prepare for our day!

After thoroughly studying the manual, use the checklist below as you cover the essentials. Your docent teacher will contact you two weeks in advance of your visitation date to go over the items on this list. She will be ready to answer any other questions you might have.

Feel free to call Marie Medford, 477-7418, at any time.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Plan transportation to arrive at 8:50 and depart at 1:35
- \_\_\_\_\_ Park passes pg.28
- \_\_\_\_\_ Read teacher's manual from beginning to end several times. It really helps!
- \_\_\_\_\_ Teach students the items listed as ADVANCE PREPARATION on pg. 3
- \_\_\_\_\_ Plan and prepare lunches with authentic-type foods pg.9
- \_\_\_\_\_ Plan lunchtime games according to pgs 22- 27
- \_\_\_\_\_ If any adults come to help with games. They must know the games too.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Plan costumes for children and accompanying adults. pgs 7-8
- \_\_\_\_\_ Make nametags pg. 5
- \_\_\_\_\_ Advise students that their hands and fingernails will be inspected for cleanliness
- \_\_\_\_\_ Plan whether or not you want to take any pictures during the last fifteen minutes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bring something you want to do during the day while the children are in class
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mail in your advance preparation sheet, pg.32, to arrive in the museum office at least 3 weeks before your visit.