Make “real world” connections to classroom work and lessons. Encourage students to use critical thinking skills to investigate and explore topics while enjoying hands-on activities in the areas of science, nature, social and military history.

For a complete list of School Standards visit: Cantigny.org/field-trips/standards
SCIENCE & NATURE

AT CANTIGNY PARK

For reservations and more information visit:
Cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve
EXPLORING ECOSYSTEMS | 90 min
Biodiversity and Adaptations in Multiple Ecosystems

Audience: 5–12th grade
Capacity: 50

How does energy move through ecosystems? Students will assess and compare life in two or more habitats. Abiotic and biotic properties of each will be explored as well as energy movement through food chains and/or food webs. Students will be able to describe why and how some plants and animals adapt for survival. The diverse populations and interdependent relationships of wildlife in different ecosystems at Cantigny Park will be examined.

- Content varies per grade level
- Program incorporates STEM principles and supports the three dimensions of Next Generation Science Standards and involve analyzing and interpreting data, problem-solving and exploring science phenomena
- Next Generation Science Standards emphasized align through Common Core State Standards for Math and English Language Arts

THE CIRCLE OF LIFE | 45 min
Exploring Energy Through Cycles

Audience: Grades 1–12th
Capacity: 50

Students will explore biodiversity and make connections with life cycles of plants, trees, insects, and animals and will model and demonstrate the movement of energy through food chains in an ecosystem. Students will be able to explain ways animals adapt for survival. Matter, energy and the nitrogen cycle are explored.

- Content varies per grade level
- Program incorporates STEM principles and supports the three dimensions of Next Generation Science Standards and incorporates exploration, use of models, investigation and/or interpretation of data about scientific principles in the natural world
- Next Generation Science Standards emphasized align with Common Core State Standards for Math and English Language Arts

TREE TALK | 45 min
The Tremendous Life of a Tree

Audience: Grades 1–8th
Capacity: 50

Students will explore the life cycle of trees from initiation to decomposition and ways trees benefit so many life forms. They will explore matter and energy in nature as well as interdependent relationships in standing and fallen trees. They will also examine life in, under and around trees and discuss adaptations, habitats and microhabitats in forest ecosystems.

- Content varies per grade level
- Program incorporates STEM principles and supports the three dimensions of Next Generation Science Standards through exploration, use of models, investigation and/or interpretation of data about scientific principles in the natural world
- Next Generation Science Standards emphasized align with Common Core State Standards for Math and English Language Arts

For a full list visit: cantigny.org/field-trips/standards

FieldTrips@cantigny.org or 630.260.8162
Or fill out the webform at: cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve
**WHAT’S THE BUZZ? | 45 min**

**Pollinators and Plant Adaptations**

**Audience:** Grades 1–8th  
**Capacity:** 50

Come learn how bees, birds, bats, beetles, butterflies and other pollinators sustain plant communities through pollination. Students will examine biodiversity, plant adaptations and traits that attract different pollinators. Students will also learn about the importance of reducing the decline of pollinator populations.

- Content varies per grade level
- Program incorporates STEM principles and supports the three dimensions of Next Generation Science Standards through exploration, use of models, investigation and/or interpretation of data about scientific principles in natural world
- Next Generation Science Standards emphasized align with Common Core State Standards for Math and English Language Arts

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**PONDER THIS | 45 min**

**Cantigny Ponds and Human Impact**

**Audience:** Grades 5–12th  
**Capacity:** 30

During this study of life in Cantigny’s ponds, students will explore biodiversity as well as biotic and abiotic factors in an aquatic ecosystem. They will use problem-solving skills and teamwork to develop a system for providing clean water. Topics covered will include the water cycle, native plants and soil erosion, water quality, water sheds, water filtration, and human impact and roles in keeping earth’s bodies of water healthy and clean.

- Content varies per grade level
- Program incorporates STEM principles and supports the three dimensions of Next Generation Science Standards through analyzing, interpreting, constructing explanations, designing solutions, solving problems, and exploring science principles
- Next Generation Science Standards emphasized align with Common Core State Standards for Math and English Language Arts
WHAT’S THE BUZZ? - VIRTUAL  | 30 min
Pollinators and Plant Adaptations

Audience: Grades 1–5th
Virtual Field Trip

Educator will take students on a virtual ride examining pollinator biodiversity, plant adaptations and traits that attract pollinators. Programs will include an examination of bees, birds, bats, beetles, butterflies and other pollinators that sustain plant communities through pollination. Students will also learn about human impact and our role in reducing the decline of pollinator populations.

- Content varies per grade level
- The program supports the three dimensions of Next Generation Science Standards and involves exploration, investigation and/or interpretation of data about scientific principles or the natural world
- Post-activities will incorporate STEM

THE CIRCLE OF LIFE - VIRTUAL  | 30 min
Exploring Energy Through Ecosystems

Audience: Grades 1–12th
Virtual Field Trip

Students will take a virtual field trip through some of Cantigny’s natural areas as interdependent relationships, the movement of energy through the circle of life, animal adaptations and biodiversity are explored. Grade level content is covered ranging from life cycles to biomimicry.

- Content varies per grade level
- The program supports the three dimensions of Next Generation Science Standards and involves exploration, investigation and/or interpretation of data about scientific principles or the natural world
- Post-activities will incorporate STEM

TREE TALK - VIRTUAL  | 30 min
The Tremendous Life of a Tree

Audience: Grades 1–8th
Virtual Field Trip

Cantigny Park’s educator will bring students to the park virtually as they explore the park’s tree life from initiation to decomposition. They will explore interdependence in a tree ecosystem and the myriad of ways trees play a role in the survival of living things. Grade level content is covered to include adaptations, life cycles and microhabitats.

- Content varies per grade level
- The program supports the three dimensions of Next Generation Science Standards and involves exploration, investigation and/or interpretation of data about scientific principles or the natural world
- Post-activities will incorporate STEM

For a full list visit: cantigny.org/field-trips/standards

FieldTrips@cantigny.org or 630.260.8162
Or fill out the webform at: cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve
CANTIGNY IN THE CLASSROOM SCIENCE RESOURCE BOXES

Enhance your environmental education and science units with the aid of a Cantigny in the Classroom Science Resource Box. Resource boxes can be used by teachers, community centers, camp programs and any adult hoping to educate a group of children about animals and nature.

Themes:
• Pollinators
• Animal Adaptations

Boxes include:
• Teacher Guides
• Lessons and activities connected to box contents
• Books, field guides and/or DVDs
• Insect and animal specimens
• Magnifiers

Most kits include activities appropriate for students in grades 1-8th.

Cantigny in the Classroom Science Resource Boxes can be checked out for two weeks. They must be reserved for pick up at least one week in advance.

To reserve a Cantigny in the Classroom Science Resource Box or for more information contact the Science Educator at 630.260.8232 or MDavis@cantigny.org
FIRST IN WAR EXHIBIT  |  45 min

Audience: Grades 4-12th  
Capacity: 10 min/50 max  

Walk in the boot steps of America’s 1st Infantry Division as they fought in WWI, WWII and Vietnam. This docent-led tour will share stories about how teamwork and technology helped our soldiers accomplish their missions.

- Illinois Social Science Standards related to history appropriate to each grade level. Disciplinary concepts: change, continuity and context; perspectives; and causation and argumentation

TEACHER TAKEOVER  |  45 min

Reserve a time slot for your class to take over the First in War exhibit. Your students can explore WWI, WWII and Vietnam at their own pace. We can provide self-guided materials and ideas or you can create something totally new.

SELF-GUIDED DUTY FIRST EXHIBIT  |  45 min

Audience: Grades 4-12th  
Capacity: 10 min/50 max  

Use the exhibit as a source for inquiry research. In this self-guided experience, students will explore missions related to battle, counterinsurgency, peacekeeping, military assistance and deterrence. Spark a conversation: What can the modern military do? What should it do?

Soldier story pods with male and female soldiers from a variety of ethnic backgrounds talk about the missions they went on and how they felt about their service. The tank battle recreation allows students to see a mission from the soldier’s perspective. Artifacts tell a story about the tools used and the exhibit text provides context. Additional research and a debrief can be done in the classroom.

- This field trip offers an opportunity to work on Illinois Social Science Standards related to inquiry skills  
- Illinois Social Science Standards related to history; specifically, change, continuity and context; perspectives; and causation and argumentation

TANK TECH  |  45 min

Audience: Grades 4-12th  
Capacity: 10 min/50 max  

From WWI to the present day, the technology of tanks is constantly evolving. This unique program allows students to have fun while learning about tanks. This experience includes a short tour of the Tank Park paired with games and activities to facilitate student learning about these incredible titans of technology. We will run this outdoor program as long as there is no lightning. Please wear appropriate clothing and footwear!

- Illinois Social Science Standards related to history; specifically change, continuity and context; and causation and argumentation

STANDARDS

For a full list visit: cantigny.org/field-trips/standards

RESERVE

FieldTrips@cantigny.org or 630.260.8162

Or fill out the webform at: cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve
Democracy relies on people’s responsible participation. Your students will step into the shoes of WWII-era school children to explore what kids their age were doing to contribute to the war effort, including recycling drives, rationing and food gardening. Students will work with propaganda posters to learn different ways that citizens contributed on the home front. They can compare the efforts of individuals in the past with current opportunities for civic involvement.

- Illinois Social Studies Standards related to history and civics
- Common Core Standards related to reading informational text

The artifact field trip encourages students to think critically. Students will rotate through artifact stations in small groups, working together to compare how uniforms and gear have changed over time and use uniforms and photographs as clues to answer historical questions.

- Illinois Social Science Standards related to history; specifically, change, continuity and context
- Common Core Standards related to literacy in history and social studies

This version of the Artifact Adventure focuses on WWII and is designed just for upper elementary historians. Students will analyze photographs and letters to answer historical questions. They will learn about new inventions, uniforms and make decoders to decipher codes.

- Common Core Standards related to reading informational text

For a detailed list of school standards visit cantigny.org/field-trips/standards

FieldTrips@cantigny.org or 630.260.8162. Or fill out the webform at: cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve
Explore WWI, WWII and Vietnam through the stories of the First Division soldiers and their allies. These digital field trips use artifacts, images and short video clips to share how teamwork and technology helped our soldiers accomplish their missions. Choose to highlight one conflict in 30 minutes or schedule all three over a period of time for a continuing virtual journey, though military history.

Pre-visit teacher meeting: We want to make this an engaging experience for your students. We request to meet digitally with a teacher before the trip to coordinate preferred platforms for student feedback and interaction.

**FIRST IN WAR: WWI**
30 min

Gear up and explore some of the terrifying technology of the first “modern war.” Students will discover how modern technology in WWI changed the way the war was fought and the experience of the soldiers in the war.

**FIRST IN WAR: WWII**
30 min

Explore some of the US Infantry’s toughest missions: Operation Husky, D-Day and the Battle of the Bulge. Your guide will share lesser-known tales of the teams and people who accomplished these missions.

**FIRST IN WAR: VIETNAM**
30 min

We will use video clips and artifacts to delve into the top 5 things to know about the war in Vietnam from the soldiers who fought in it.

• Virtual field trips address C3 Standards related to history; specifically, change, continuity and context; and perspectives.

**First in War: Vietnam Veteran Interview** 30 min

Explore Vietnam through the eyes of Sergeant Tom Brown, who served with the 1st Infantry Division in Vietnam in 1966. A recipient of the Combat Infantry Badge and the Purple Heart, Tom will take you with him as he recounts his experiences during the Vietnam War, from basic training, to the day he was wounded, to his homecoming. As he speaks, he will show you what he carried with him during his service. Be prepared – Tom loves to answer questions!

For a detailed list of school standards visit cantigny.org/field-trips/standards

FieldTrips@cantigny.org or 630.260.8162. Or fill out the webform at: cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve
MUSEUM ON THE MARCH
Carrying Home
Imagine taking all the rooms in a house and packing them up for one man to carry. Carrying Home examines the soldier’s life, and the war surrounding him, through the things he carried as his home-away-from-home. This program engages all learning styles by providing verbal, visual, auditory and kinesthetic connections to history. By investigating the contents of our history trunk, students will be able to relate their lives and amenities to soldiers on the front line. Grades 3-5th or Middle School; WWI, WWII or Vietnam.

Boots on the Ground
For those who want the field trip experience right in their own classroom, Boots on the Ground is a presentation bringing museum artifacts and presenters to you! With an emphasis on the 1st Infantry Division of the U.S. Army, our educators bring history trunks to the classroom and tell the story of the Division and its individual soldiers, creating a more personal picture of war. Using activities, maps, PowerPoint and tactile elements, the presenters strive to augment the lessons learned in school.

MS/HS, choose a history trunk from any available war.

HISTORY TRUNKS
History trunks offer a hands-on supplement for teachers to use within their own classroom curriculum. The trunks provide an opportunity for students to handle uniforms and field gear used by soldiers in a specific war. A teacher’s guide is included in each trunk to provide descriptions and interpretation of the equipment, music from the time period, and activity ideas for the use of the history trunk items.

American Revolution, War of 1812, Civil War (Union and Confederate), World War I, World War II, the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom and Women in the Military.

History trunks can be checked out for two weeks. They must be reserved for pick up at least one week in advance.

RESOURCE PACKETS
Resource packets about the WWI letters home, D-Day and the Battle of the Bulge are available. They include reproductions of documents, photographs, newspaper articles, maps, letters, oral histories and other primary sources. Packets also contain classroom activities for middle and high school students.

All packets are online at: FDMuseum.org/educators/curricular-resources

IN-CLASSROOM RESOURCES

VOICEs OF Valor
Veteran Speakers Bureau

• Afghanistan
• Vietnam
• Persian Gulf

The Presentation
The veteran will speak about his or her service for 40–45 minutes followed by a 15–20 min question-and-answer period with the audience.

The Interview
Students or guests should be prepared in advance to ask questions of the veteran speaker. Due to the sensitive topics being discussed we ask that students’ questions are reviewed prior to the interview. Please remind students and guests that veterans have often experienced more trauma in their lives than most civilians.

To reserve a history trunk, request a program or for more information contact the Museum Educator at 630.260.8274 or MTyer@FDMuseum.org

To request a speaker, please contact the Volunteer and Program Facilitator at 630.260.8116 or JGillaspie@FDMuseum.org
HISTORY & CIVICS
AT THE ROBERT R. McCORMICK HOUSE

For reservations and more information visit:
Cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve
A FAMILY OF SERVICE  |  45 min

Audience: Grades 4-12th
Capacity: 10 min-50 max
Also available as a Virtual Field Trip with capacity of 250 max

Colonel Robert R. McCormick wasn’t the only member of his family who believed in service. Learn about his family’s connection to the American Civil War or the suffrage movement. Our Educator(s) will present focused lessons about other lesser known members of the family using primary source documents and reproduction clothing and touchable items. We will utilize guided inquiry to help students make connections to the past.

- Illinois Social Science Standards related to primary and secondary sources in history and civics
- English Language Arts Standards related to close reading skills and political cartoons

Kitty Medill
A Woman on the Home Front During the American Civil War

Holding down the home front during the Civil War was no easy task. Find out how Katherine “Kitty” Medill managed her family and her volunteer work with the Sanitary Commissions. We will examine family letters, a reproduction outfit, and see what she would have used in her volunteer work. Then we’ll compare her service to other women helping the war effort. Our educator(s) will lead the class in examining objects and learning how they were used.

William Medill
A Major in the 8th Illinois Cavalry During the American Civil War

William Medill joined the 8th Illinois Cavalry to help defend the Union and end slavery. We will examine a reproduction uniform and saddle. Then we’ll peek in his saddle bags to find out what other things a soldier might carry and why they might be helpful. Students will also examine reproductions of family letters to learn about William’s experience and hardships.

Ruth Hanna McCormick
An Illinois Lady Fighting for the Vote

Ruth Hanna came from a political family and married Joe “Medill” McCormick, who would go on to be a U.S. Senator. When Joe passed away, Ruth took up the fight and ran for office herself. We will use Ruth’s story to illustrate the long fight for suffrage for women in the United States, comparing and contrasting her experience with others.

Robert and Amy McCormick
Volunteering for Service in WWI

Colonel Robert R. McCormick is best known as the editor and publisher of the Chicago Tribune, but his military service was near and dear to his heart. He volunteered for service in WWI and was active at the Battle of Cantigny (in France). His wife Amy also volunteered to serve in France. We will use the service of the McCormick’s a lens to look at WWI.
The Robert R. McCormick House staff has helped several local schools with Problem Based Learning (PBL) units. Students investigate a local problem, work in small groups to propose solutions, then meet with experts to see which solutions should be formally proposed. PBL units can touch on school issues, community issues, or even problems that an organization in the community is having.

**PROBLEM BASED LEARNING**
The Robert R. McCormick House staff has helped several local schools with Problem Based Learning (PBL) units. Students investigate a local problem, work in small groups to propose solutions, then meet with experts to see which solutions should be formally proposed. PBL units can touch on school issues, community issues, or even problems that an organization in the community is having.

**OUTREACH**
The staff at the historic house museum is happy to help with outreach programs related to history fairs and career fairs, and we’ve even done a few small scale STEM programs because of Robert McCormick’s interest in inventing and engineering.

**CUSTOM PROGRAMS**

**HAD ON, TOOK WITH THEM - VIRTUAL**  |  **30 min**
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**Audience:** Grades 4-12th  
**Capacity:** 250 max

Col. Robert R. McCormick wasn’t the only member of his family who believed in service. Learn about his family’s connection to the American Civil War or the suffrage movement. Our Educator(s) will present focused lessons about other lesser known members of the family focused on “had on, took with them.”

- Illinois Social Science Standards related to primary and secondary sources in history and civics
- English Language Arts Standards related to close reading skills.

**Had On, Took With Her- Kitty Medill**
This short program shows the clothes, carpet bag and a few objects that a lady in the Civil War Sanitary Commission would have used. It is based on reproduction clothing and objects.

**Had On, Took With Her- Ruth Hanna McCormick**
This short program shows the clothes and sash a lady in the American Suffrage Movement might have worn. It is based on reproduction clothing and objects, but will include a few primary source photos of suffrage parades.

**Had On, Took With Him- William Medill**
This short program shows the clothes and gear a Union Cavalry Soldier would have carried. It is based on reproduction clothing and objects, including a saddle.

**Had On, Took With Them WWI: Robert and Amy McCormick**
This short program shows some of the clothes and objects a soldier and a nurse would have carried with them in WWI. As we are talking about two very different professions, we will highlight a smaller selection of items for each.

**RESERVE**
[FieldTrips@cantigny.org](mailto:FieldTrips@cantigny.org) or **630.260.8162**
Or fill out the webform at: [cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve](http://cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve)

**STANDARDS**
For a full list visit: [cantigny.org/field-trips/standards](http://cantigny.org/field-trips/standards)
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
AT CANTIGNY PARK

For reservations and more information visit:
Cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve
THE WONDERS OF NATURE  |  45 min
Audience: 3-6 years-old (Preschool/Kindergarten)  
Capacity: 20 max  
Engage your students natural capacity for wonder at 
Cantigny Park with a customized nature-based field 
trip program.

• Developmentally appropriate and engaging hands-on 
activities and crafts are offered in addition to creative play 
and movement in the park’s natural spaces. Nature programs 
can be customized to fit your group’s needs and interests

• Early Childhood nature based programs at Cantigny Park 
align with the use of Creative Curriculum and support many 
literacy, mathematics, communication/language and scientific 
standards

VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP  |  30 min
The Wonders of Nature is also available as a 
Virtual Field Trip!

Engage your students natural capacity for wonder 
with a customized nature-based field trip program. 
(Full description above)

Please contact Cantigny Park Educator, Edith Roman at 630.260.8166 or ERoman@cantigny.org
Or fill out the webform: cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve
ARE YOU READY TO BOOK YOUR FIELD TRIP?

1 Gather the following information:

- SCHOOL NAME
- CONTACT NAME
- EMAIL
- SCHOOL PHONE
- DAY PHONE
- # OF STUDENTS
- # OF CHAPERONES
- ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES
- TOURS/PROGRAMS REQUESTED
- DATES REQUESTING

2 Email: FieldTrips@cantigny.org, call 630.260.8162 or visit Cantigny.org/field-trips/reserve

NOTES