The Canal and Me: I Taste, Touch, Hear, Smell, and See

Spanning across the state of Maryland and bordering the Potomac River, the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park has an estimated 1,000,000 school-aged children within a 45-minute drive. In Canal Classrooms students explore natural and historical resources in a setting that provokes thought, inspires wonder and ignites understanding.

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Need to reach us? Call 301- 491-1517 (the park's education line) or 301-722-8226 (visitor center desk in Cumberland) or email cocanaleducation@nps.gov

Go digital. Find teacher resources including field trip reservations and pre- and post-visit classroom activities at www.nps.gov/choh/forteachers

Like us. Find us on Facebook at *Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park*.

The Canal and Me: At a Glance

Students will use their five senses as they walk back through time in the Canal Museum; learning about the construction and operation of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. Students will participate in time games and activities. Students will actively explore canal operations through play with canal construction sets and boat design.

At the end of the activity, students should be able to

1. Describe components of canal operations and canal life using their five senses,
2. Students can describe lives of canal children and families, using their five senses, and
3. Distinguish among past and present ideas.

The park partnered with Allegany County Public Schools to develop this field trip along with pre- and post-visit activities for your classroom. Completing the classroom activities will enhance student learning. The lessons include a canal orientation, a writing/drawing activity, and a senses chart. See Appendix A or our website for the materials: http://www.nps.gov/choh/forteachers/classrooms/prekcumberland.htm.

Duration	100 minutes
Arrival Time	9:15 or 1:00
Best Time to Plan Trip	Spring or Fall
Cost	Free
Group size	up to 30 in two groups of 15
Rotations	Two (Museum and Canal Classroom)
Grade	Pre-Kindergarten
Chaperone to Student Ratio	1 to 3 (maximum); 1 to 6 (minimum)
Maryland Common Core Standards	Writing (W3): With modeling and support, use a combination of drawing, dictating, or developmentally appropriate writing to communicate a personal story about a single event and tell about the event in a meaningful sequence. Speaking & Listening (SL.5): Make strategic use of digital media and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations. STEM Practice (2.A.): Begin to understand science practices or Standards for Mathematical Practices when solving real world problems or challenges. STEM Practice (5.C.): Explore products/models that use science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Manipulate materials to create new ideas. Build simple model. Use a mixture of tools to solve real world problems and meet challenges. Explain their model to others.

Maryland State Curriculum Standards	Science (S.1.A.1.B): Seek information through reading, observation, exploration, and investigations. Science (S.1.B.1.A): Provide reasons for accepting or rejecting ideas examined. Science (S.1.B.1.B): Develop reasonable explanations for observations made, investigations completed, and information gained by sharing ideas and listening to others' ideas. Science (S.1.C.1.B): Describe and compare things in terms of number, shape, texture, size, weight, color, and motion. Science (S.1.D.1.A): Make something out of paper, cardboard, wood, plastic, metal, or existing objects that can actually be used to perform a task. Science (S.4.A.1.A): Examine and describe a variety of familiar objects in terms of the materials from which they are made (clay, cloth, paper, etc.). Social Studies (SS.2.A.2.B): Use personal experiences, stories, and electronic media to demonstrate understanding that all people need food, clothing, and shelter Social Studies (SS.5.1.A.1): Students will use historical thinking skills to understand how individuals and events have changed society over time. Social Studies (SS.6.B.1.A): Write to express social studies ideas using a variety of forms, such as journals, narratives, letters, and reports Social Studies (SS.6.B.1.B): Contribute to a shared writing experience about a social studies topic

There are many indoor and outdoor activities at Cumberland's Canal Place for pre-kindergarteners to explore life on the canal through their five senses.

Welcome (10 minutes)

Children will meet the ranger by Daisy the Mule to explore the plaza. We will ask: "What do you see, hear, smell, and feel?" They will be assigned into smaller groups for later activities.

Canal Museum and Games (40 minutes)

At the museum, they will explore with their senses through touch, smell, sight, and sound. They will complete an "eye-spy" activity. Outside, we will play an old-fashion game called Hoop and Stick.

Canal Classroom Fun (40 minutes)

Students will have an opportunity to use their senses to investigate canal operation, design and construct boats, and experience canal children activities. Students will move through three stations in their small groups for approximately 10 minutes each.

Closing Activity (15 Minutes)

Students will share what they have learned and be sworn-in as C&O Canal Junior Rangers.

Morning Itinerary			
9:15 Arrive at the Cumberland Visitor Center, Welcome			
Group A (30 students maximum)		**Group B (30 students maximum)**	
9:25	Museum	**9:25**	Classroom
10:05	Classroom	**10:05**	Museum
10:45 Junior Ranger Ceremony			
11:00 Departure			

Afternoon Itinerary			
1:00 Arrive at the Cumberland Visitor Center, Welcome			
Group A (30 students maximum)		**Group B (30 students maximum)**	
1:10	Museum	**1:10**	Classroom
1:50	Classroom	**1:50**	Museum
2:30 Junior Ranger Ceremony			
2:45 Departure			

A Letter to Students

Teachers, please distribute or read to your students

Dear Students,

We rangers, teachers, and volunteers in the Canal Classroom Corps look forward to meeting you and spending a few hours exploring the C&O Canal together with our feet, hands, eyes, ears, and nose.

A canal is a manmade channel of water that is long and skinny, like a river. People used to ride on the canal in big boats. The boats were pulled by mules and carried lots of things like coal, wood, and food to eat. You will go on one of these boats on your field trip.

You will also visit the canal museum and our classroom, where you will watch videos, hear what sound a mule makes, and play with canal toys.

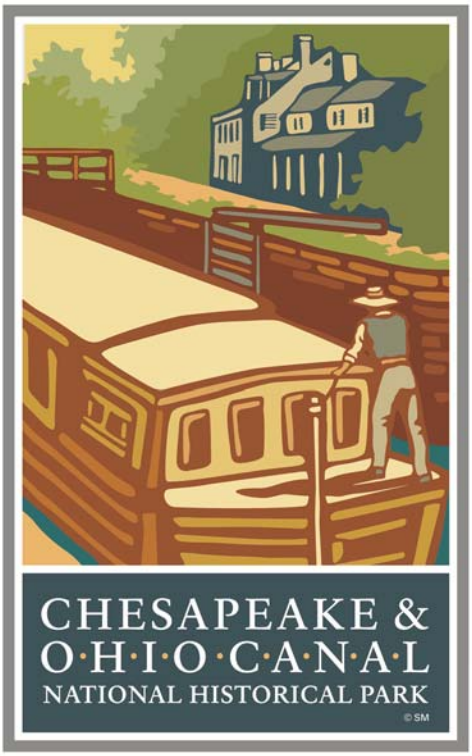
We will be outside for some of the day. Please bring your rain or warm coat and a hat. Because we will be playing games outside, wear sneakers or boots.

We know it will be a fun day, and we can't wait for your visit.

Happy Trails,

Hollie

Ranger Hollie



Map

District Court
Harrison Street
Allegany County Museum
Mechanic Street
public (paid) parking
private parking
Times-News
Canal Street
Baltimore Street
Atlantic Broadband
Interstate 68 (elevated)
public (free) parking
Howard Street
Footer Building
bus parking
hotel
brick promenade
bus drop off and parking
shops
shops
shops
festival grounds
stage
park offices
Daisy the Mule
plaza
play ground
train station
railroad platform
canal basin
pedestrian/bike bridge
Wills Creek
pedestrian bridge
railroad bridge
Greene Street
George Washington's Headquarters
Riverside Park
gazebo
1 Museum
2 Canal Boat
3 Towpath
4 Classroom

Planning a Successful Visit

What to Wear

• We will be both inside and outside for our activities. We suggest wearing long pants and layers. Pants are the best precaution against cool temperatures, bee stings, and the usual outdoor hazards.

• Remind students to wear appropriate footwear for this field trip. Flip flops, slip-on shoes, or sandals are not appropriate.

• Students may wear hats for sun protection and/or warmth.

• Programs will go on in light rain or snow. Encourage everyone to have proper outer wear such as a rain or warm coat.

• When they arrive, we will provide a necklace assigning them to a small group. Name tags are optional.

Communication

• There is good cell phone coverage in Cumberland. Please ask all teachers and chaperones to silence their mobile devices upon arrival.

• For non-emergencies, call (301) 491-1517. For emergencies, call 911 or (866) 677-6677 (this is the National Park Service dispatch center).

Chaperones

• At minimum, please have one chaperone (teacher or other adult) for every six students. In order to keep programs manageable, do not exceed one chaperone for every three students.

• Chaperones will be an active part of the activities. They will lead groups through the museum and help in the canal classroom.

• During programs, refrain from holding conversations with other chaperones or using a cellular phone.

• No smoking during the trip.

Directions

The Cumberland Visitor Center is at Canal Place, 13 Canal Street, Cumberland, Maryland 21502.

Arrival

• Please arrive on time at 9:15 or 1:00.
• Our Canal Classroom Corps staff will be waiting for your bus by Daisy the Mule, near the visitor center.
• Buses may parallel park along the red brick promenade or in the Footer Building lot, as shown on the map.
• The train station and shops at Canal Place have large, public restrooms.

Special Needs

Let us know if any of your students have special needs.

Protect Your Park

• The Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park is a federally protected public use area. Please be good stewards during your visit. Do not pick the plants or take anything from the park.

Cancellations

If you need to cancel, let us know as soon as possible by calling (301) 491-1517.

Safety Considerations

A Busy Terminus

The area around the Cumberland Visitor Center is an active place filled with moving cars, buses, trains, fishermen, hikers, bikers, and dogs. Please ask students to walk in a single file. There is water in the canal basin. Stay alert and diligent.

Nature Hazards

We will stay in the paved and grassy developed areas around Canal Place. Because we are adjacent to the river, nature comes to visit too. We might encounter ticks, snakes, and wild animals such as raccoons and deer. Staying on the paved areas and trails will prevent any exposure to poison ivy. Be mindful of these usual outdoor hazards.

Sun and Heat Exposure

Remind students to wear sunscreen and a hat to avoid exposure to sun.

Wind and Inclement Weather

If the predicted high temperature is less than 40°, we will stay inside the canal classroom and museum. If there is lightning at any distance, programming will continue in the canal classroom.

Additional On-line Resources about the C&O Canal and the National Park Service

Description		Website URL
C&O Canal NHP	The park's website for teachers hosts classroom materials and on-line resources	www.nps.gov/choh/forteachers
C&O Canal Trust	The park's partner in education provides 50 short stories about places along the C&O Canal for students to read	www.canaltrust.org
National Park Service	Learn more about the NPS mission, history, and organization	www.nps.gov/aboutus/index.htm
National Park Service America's Best Idea	More facts about the NPS, including an excellent timeline and movies	http://www.nps.gov/americasbestidea/

Pre Visit Activity: Meet the C&O Canal

Use this lesson as a pre-visit classroom activity, which introduces the canal to the students through stories of Cumberland and historic images of boats and people.

1) Share an illustrated presentation with your students about Life on the Canal (sent via email upon confirmation of field trip). Or visit http://www.nps.gov/choh/forteachers/classrooms/prekcumberland.htm to download the illustrated presentation. Have students color the drawing of the canal boat (see the following page).

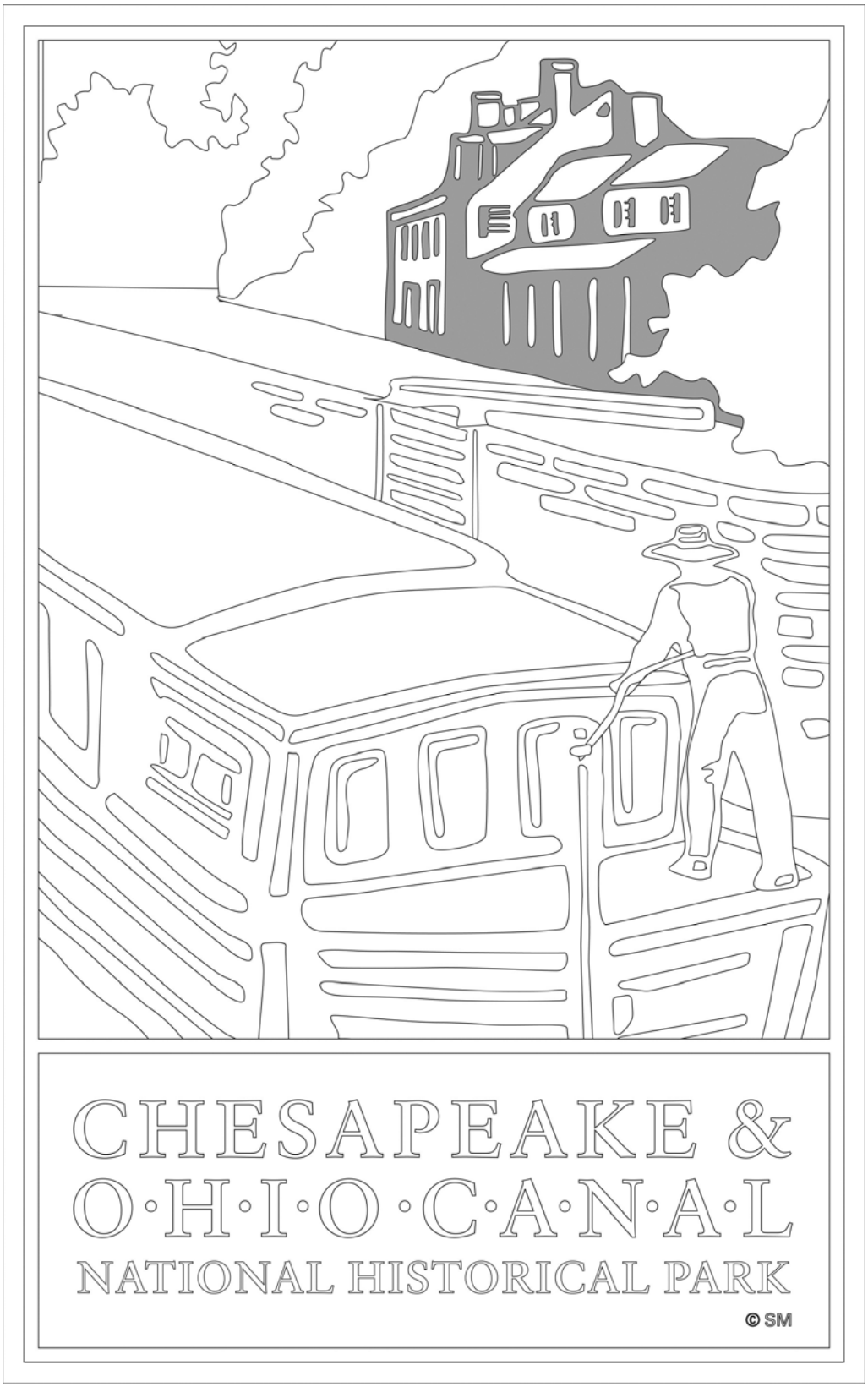
2) Have students color the drawing of the canal boat (posted on website and in Plan Your Visit Guide).

3) For a primer on the canal for you (and your students), visit our website at www.nps.gov/choh or make *Canal Discoveries* at the website of our park's official partner, the C&O Canal Trust. The website is: http://www.canaltrust.org/discoveries/places-to-discover.php.

Vocabulary

Canal: a manmade channel of water used by boats

Senses: any of five ways to understand or experience one's surroundings. The senses are touch, smell, taste, sight, and hearing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O·H·I·O·C·A·N·A·L
NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
© SM

Post Visit Activity: My Five Senses

Two activity sheets (on the following pages) allow students to reflect on their field trip to the C&O Canal. Choose one or both and ask students to work individually or complete these as a group.

1) Reflection Sheet 1: Drawing
   Ask the students to reflect on their field trip activities and draw a picture of something they experienced through sight, sound, smell, and taste.

2) Reflection Sheet 2: Chart
   Create a "Senses" Chart to summarize their field trip experience.

C&O Canal Fieldtrip

Name_____

Draw a picture of your favorite thing you learned from our visit to the C&O Canal museum and classroom. Add a label to your drawing.

C&O Canal Fieldtrip

Name_____

During our recent trip to the C&O Canal we were able to use our senses to discover many things about the canal. Draw a picture for each of the five senses of something you learned about while on the field trip.

My Five Senses

See	
Hear	
Touch	
Smell	
Taste	

Appendix A: Transportation Scholarship Application

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal
National Historical Park
1850 Dual Highway, Suite 100
Hagerstown, MD 21740

301-491-1517
www.nps.gov/choh

Canal Classrooms Transportation Scholarship Fund

This grant is made possible through the park's partners in education, the C&O Canal Association and the C&O Canal Trust, by their generous members and donors. In addition, the National Park Foundation provided funding through the Ticket to Ride Grant Program. If you have questions, please contact cocanaleducation@nps.gov or call (301) 491-1517.

Eligibility

- ☑ Public, private, and charter schools.
- ☑ Students may be pre-kindergarten through grade 12. University and colleges are not eligible.
- ☑ Field trips must take place within the boundary of the C&O Canal National Historical Park and students must participate in curriculum-based (Canal Classrooms) programs or Bridging the Watershed (BTW) programs. Independent Teacher-led field trips are not eligible for funding.
- ☑ Schools will be required to complete pre-visit activities and/or post-visit activities to receive funding.
- ☑ Schools will be required to send a thank you letter, addressed to partner organizations (more details provided upon confirmation of funding).
- ☑ Funding is prioritized for Title I schools.
- ☑ Classes are eligible for reimbursement once per school year.

Deadlines

- ☑ Applications will be considered starting August 1 for the fall season, on February 1 for the spring season, and on May 1 for summer field trips.
- ☑ Requests for reimbursement will be considered before the field trip or within 7 days after completion of a field trip.

Other information

- ☑ An invoice from the bus company, the district transportation office, the principal's office, or the school board is required as part of the reimbursement request.
- ☑ Reimbursement checks will be mailed within 30-days following the field trip and upon receiving the completed reimbursement request and invoice.
- ☑ As a condition of funding, park staff and partners may photograph students in the park. Park staff will contact you in advance of the field trip and send a photo release form.

Instructions

1. Complete the reimbursement request form before your field trip (or within 7 days of completing your field trip).
2. Attach an invoice.
3. Submit the form and invoice via email to cocanaleducation@nps.gov.
4. We will respond via email confirming or denying the reimbursement request within 5 business days.

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Office Use Only
Date rec'd: _____
Reviewed by: _____
Approved by: _____
☐ CT
☐ CA
☐ NPF
Check mailed: _____

Transportation Scholarship Application

Today's date _____

School name _____

Type ☐ Public school ☐ Private school ☐ Charter school

Title I? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Grade(s) _____

e-mail for bus reimbursement _____

Sponsoring teachers _____
(list all homeroom or subject teachers participating in the field trip)

Program date _____
(if the date is dependent on funding or has not been finalized, please provide the anticipated date)

Program location _____
(must be in the park)

# of students _____

	$	$ $0
# of buses X	Cost per bus =	Amount of reimbursement requested

(Contact your bus company or district transportation coordinator for an invoice. You must attach an invoice to this application.)

Check payable to	
Mail check to	

For marketing purposes only:
Has your *school* received a C&O Canal bus reimbursement in the past year? ☐ Yes ☐ No

How did you hear about this grant? ☐ Previous user ☐ NPS website ☐ Partner website ☐ Ranger ☐ Other: