



# Education Programs

## A Teacher's Guide to Field Trips and Guided Tours

The National Park Service offers many educational opportunities for students to come and experience the military and cultural history of Fort Stanwix. The park is an ideal "outdoor classroom" where students can explore the history and heritage of the Mohawk Valley and its role in our nation's past. All education programs contain experiential activities that adhere to the content standards of the New York State Standards of Education as well as Common Core National Standards.

- ❖ Programs are FREE!
- ❖ Reservations are required.
- ❖ Times: 10:00 am or 1:15 pm, Monday through Friday

*Please Note: Although the education programs at the park involve many areas within the fort, none offer a room-to-room descriptive tour. We invite your group to come early or stay after your guided program for the many self-guided opportunities we offer.*



*Students drill during a Soldier's Day Program*



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Fort Stanwix National Monument  
112 E. Park St.  
Rome, NY 13440

## How to Make a Reservation

For all guided programs, **reservations are required at least two weeks in advance.** Self-guided groups are also asked to make a reservation so the park is aware of your visit.

### It's as easy as this:

- ❖ Go to the "Plan a Field Trip" area of the park website, [www.nps.gov/fost](http://www.nps.gov/fost).
- ❖ Complete the Education Program Reservation form. The form is a fillable PDF which can be returned in an e-mail attachment to [val\\_morgan@nps.gov](mailto:val_morgan@nps.gov) or faxed to 315-334-5051.

### Group Size:

#### 90 minute programs

All programs with the exception of the Soldier's Day do not have a limit to the number of students. Because of the size of the rooms within the fort, we do recommend the optimal size for a group be **no more than 125.**

#### Soldier's Day and Holiday Treasures Program

To insure students receive the most enriching experience possible, the student limit on these programs **is 100.**

### Chaperones:

We require one adult chaperone for every 10 students. Students must be accompanied by an adult at all times while visiting the park.

### Confirmation:

You will receive a confirmation letter through e-mail within one week following the submission of your reservation form, along with instructions you may need for your visit. Please contact the park at the above number if you have any questions about the confirmation.

## Program Descriptions

### ***My New Home***

**Grades:** Kg., 1 and 2  
**Length:** 90 min.



There were children at Fort Stanwix during the war? Discover what their lives were like and what chores they would have to do. Students will participate in three hands-on activities:

- ❖ “What Shall I Bring” travel sack
- ❖ 18th century children’s chores
- ❖ Colonial toys and games

NY State Social Studies Core Curriculum:

- ❖ My family and other families
- ❖ My community and region today

Common Core Goals:

- SL.K.1a,b      L.K.1d
- SL.1.1a-cL.1.1e
- SL.2.1a-cL.2.1d

### ***21 Days \****

**Grades:** 4, 5, and 7  
**Length:** 90 min.

What role did Fort Stanwix play in the British plan to take over New York State in 1777? How are Fort Stanwix and the Battle of Oriskany linked? Discover how the “fort in the wilderness” helped to change world history!

- ❖ Be a part of the siege story
- ❖ Attempt to take over the fort
- ❖ Serve on a cannon crew

NY State Social Studies Core Curriculum:

- ❖ The Revolutionary War in NY State
- ❖ History of the US, Canada, and Latin America
- ❖ Military and Political aspects of the Revolution

Common Core Goals:

- SL.4.3      L.4.6
- SL.5.3      L.5.6
- SL.7.3      L.7.6

*\*Ideal visit to tie in with Battle of Saratoga.*

### ***The Fort Community***

**Grades:** Kg., 1 and 2  
**Length:** 90 min.

What community helps live at Fort Stanwix? Your students will discover how communities over 200 years apart are very much the same by actively comparing 18th century jobs with their 21<sup>st</sup> century counterparts. They will:

- ❖ Serve on a fire bucket brigade
- ❖ Stand guard duty
- ❖ Visit the surgeon’s day quarters

NY State Social Studies Core Curriculum:

- ❖ People helping one another to meet needs and wants
- ❖ Challenge of meeting needs and wants
- ❖ My community and region today

Common Core Goals:

- SL.K.1a,b      L.K.1d
- SL.1.1a-c      L.1.1e
- SL.2.1a-c      L.2.1d

### ***Garrison Life***

**Grades:** 4, 5, and 7  
**Length:** 90 min.

What was it like to be a soldier in the wilderness of New York State? Serving in the Continental Army at Fort Stanwix introduced the soldiers to brand new life experiences. During the program students will discover:

- ❖ The amazing fort structure
- ❖ Crime and punishment
- ❖ Army life through artifacts

NY State Social Studies Core Curriculum:

- ❖ The Revolutionary War in NY State
- ❖ History of US, Canada, and Latin America
- ❖ Military and Political aspects of the Revolution

Common Core Goals:

- SL.4.3      L.4.6
- SL.5.3      L.5.6
- SL.7.3      L.7.6

### ***Holiday Treasures\****

**Grades:** 1, 2 and 3  
**Length:** 2 hours

Learn about world cultures through winter celebrations, and discover the roots of our uniquely American culture! You and your students will become world travelers within the walls of Fort Stanwix. Students will:

- ❖ Identify culture through decoration
- ❖ Explore traditions of the past
- ❖ Fill their own Fort Stanwix Passport

NY State Social Studies Core Curriculum:

- ❖ History of my family
- ❖ My community and region today
- ❖ Cultures and civilizations

Common Core Goals:

- RI.1.1      SL.1.2,3
- RI.2.6      SL.2.2,3
- RI.3.1      SL.3.2,3

*\*Offered mid-November through December; pm program begins at 1:00*

### ***Soldier’s Day\****

**Grades:** 4, 5, 7, and 11  
**Length:** 3 hours

Experience life as a Continental Soldier! Discover the military life that textbooks don’t cover. Your students will be immersed in the daily routine of a soldier at Fort Stanwix during the American Revolution and will participate in:

- ❖ Fatigue duty
- ❖ Guard duty
- ❖ Musket drill

NY State Social Studies Core Curriculum:

- ❖ The Revolutionary War in NY State
- ❖ History of US, Canada, and Latin America
- ❖ Military and political aspects of the Revolution
- ❖ The Revolutionary War and the Declaration of Independence

Common Core Goals:

- SL.4.1a-d      RH.6-8.9
- SL.5.1a-d      RH.11-12.9

*\*Recommended pre-visit lessons on park website.*

### ***Self-Guided Visit***

All learning levels  
**Length:** Varied based on need

Groups can visit the park on a self-guided basis as well. *Reservations are still required* so the park is aware of your visit. Staff will greet your group and provide you with an orientation at the Marinus Willett Center before you begin your visit.

Park brochures are available for adults with the group to aid you during your visit.

Resources include:

- ❖ Exhibits in the Willett Center
- ❖ Park trails surrounding the fort
- ❖ Reconstructed 18<sup>th</sup> C fort

and much more! See website or contact us for details.

**Can’t come to the park? We have offsite options available as well! Call for details!**

**Park Hours:**

Open Daily 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
The park is closed on Thanksgiving Day, December 25, and January 1

**Marinus Willett Collections Management and Education Center (Visitor Center)**  
(315)338-7730

**Park Website**

[www.nps.gov/fost](http://www.nps.gov/fost)

**Comments? Write to:**

Education Coordinator  
Fort Stanwix National Monument  
112 E. Park St.  
Rome, NY 13440

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

## Education Programs at our Partner Site

### ***Oriskany Battlefield State Historic Site***



***Why Should We Remember?***

**Grades:** 4, 5, 7, and 11  
**Length:** 90 min.

On August 6, 1777 life in the Mohawk Valley changed forever based on the decisions of the combatants during the battle of Oriskany. Walk the battlefield with a ranger and learn about some of those decisions which are important to remember even today.

NY State Social Studies Core Curriculum:

- ❖ The Revolutionary War in NY State
- ❖ History of the US, Canada, and Latin America
- ❖ Military and Political aspects of the Revolution

Common Core Goals:

- SL.4.3      L.4.6
- SL.5.3      L.5.6
- SL.7.3      L.7.6



*In the event of rain, there is a small Visitor Center on the battlefield for shelter and additional interpretation. The Visitor Center also contains public restrooms and a water fountain.*

**Accessibility**

**Willett Center**

The park visitor center is equipped with accessible entryways, exits, and bathrooms. Accessible parking is available on the Willett Center side of James Street with curb cuts for easy access to the sidewalk.

There is open captioning on all of the introductory videos, as well as FM Assistive Listening Devices available for our hearing and visually impaired visitors.

**Fort**

Restroom areas within the fort are accessible. Not all areas in the fort are accessible; however ramps can be made available by request to tour the inside buildings of the parade ground.

There is Open Captioning on the introductory video, as well as FM Assistive Listening Devices for our hearing and sight impaired visitors.

Handicapped parking is available along the street in front of the fort with curb cuts for easy access to the sidewalk.

**Picnics in the Park**

There are no picnic tables in the park, but many school groups choose to picnic on one of the fort’s bastions (corners). These areas are semi self-contained, and provide a grassy area for your group to enjoy a meal. You are responsible for all trash cleanup and removal from the park, so please bring along trash bags to accommodate this.

**Bookstore**

The park bookstore is located in the Willett Center and contains many age-appropriate books and mementoes for all grade levels.

**Weather**

Most activities at the park take place outside. Be prepared for the weather – both temperature and precipitation.

**Safety**

- The fort is made of wood. Please do not rub against the walls to avoid splinters.
- Please stay off the cannons – for your safety and theirs.
- To avoid tripping hazards, please walk from place to place in the park.