

River Raisin National Battlefield Park World's Best Field Trip Planning Guide

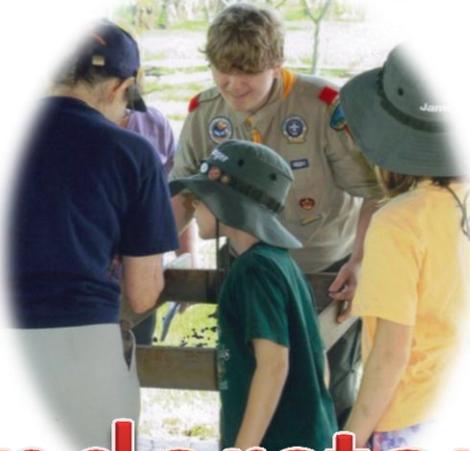


Discover

Explore

Inquire

Understand





River Raisin

National Battlefield Park

World's Best Field Trip

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service River Raisin National Battlefield Park



Dear Teachers and Student Leaders,

We are pleased to present this new Field Trip Planner to help you with your visit to River Raisin National Battlefield Park. Since opening the Battlefield in May of 2011, we have been working with many individuals to develop a wide array of activities to help you make the most of your visit. While this will always be a work in progress, we hope this publication will help you make the best choices for your field trip and your students.

At River Raisin National Battlefield Park our goal is to ignite a passion for learning by creating inquiry centered learning exploration opportunities using the power of place. As George Washington Carver once said, “The thoughtful educator realizes that a very large part of the child’s education must be gotten outside the four walls designated as classroom...the most effective and lasting education is the one that makes the pupil handle, discuss and familiarize himself with the real things about him...” National Parks hold the most significant pieces of American History for the benefit of current and future generations. When you walk in the footsteps of those before you, the past comes alive, and you cannot help but leave changed forever.

As we ignite the imagination and desire to learn, we also want to make sure our efforts advance academic performance and aid in the development of problem solving skills that will help ensure the students success in the classroom and life. National Parks are truly the best classrooms in the world! Not only will you encounter a fun and rewarding environment to learn about history, but also social studies, math, science, art, leadership and character building! Our quest is to find and combine all of the elements necessary to have the “Worlds Best Field Trip” for students and teachers alike.

This Field Trip Planner is divided into three sections – one for trip planning; a second for teachers and parent chaperones; and a third for students. The resources are meant to make your field trip as easy, rewarding and enjoyable as possible. Please use this booklet and adapt the materials to your students. Since this is all new, please help us make it better by taking the time to fill out the evaluation form and returning it to us.

Thank you so much for your dedication to the betterment of our future generation and interest in visiting River Raisin National Battlefield Park. We look forward to seeing you here with all of your students, year after year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott J. Bentley". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Scott J. Bentley
Superintendent

Section One -

Planning the World's Best Field Trip



Section One - Planning the World's Best Field Trip



Three Easy Steps to a Great Field Trip...

STEP ONE: Determine your goals and objectives

There are many options to consider for your River Raisin National Battlefield trip before you determine the best ones for your group. What are your goals for the trip? What are your limiting factors? Take a moment to complete this planning document; it will help you make the best decisions for the Field Trip Day and help the Park Rangers meet your group's needs!

A. After our field trip to River Raisin National Battlefield Park, my group will be able to:

Here are some example River Raisin Battlefield Goals:

- Identify the four different people groups who participated in the battles and why.
- Tell the story of the battles from multiple viewpoints.
- Understand why the War of 1812 took place and why the Battles of the River Raisin are important.
- Place the Battles of the River Raisin within a timeline of American History.

B. How many students are you planning the trip for?

Some activities have a minimum and maximum number of participants. Depending on the size of your group, you may need to rotate students, consider coming on multiple days or combine with other groups.

C. How many hours will you have at the River Raisin Battlefield?

Will you be able to reach your goals with this amount of time? Be sure to account for traffic, bathroom breaks, meals, and other complications in your planning.

B. What is your budget for the trip? (school budget and/or per student cost)

There are currently no fees for activities or programs at River Raisin National Battlefield Park, but you will need to plan for transportation, meals, or other expenses. The Battlefield does have a gift shop so students may want to plan for that. 100% of the gift shop proceeds benefit the Battlefield and Battlefield educational programming.



STEP TWO: Explore Your Options

What is there to do in the Visitor Center?

1. **“Battles of the River Raisin Fiber-Optic Map Program”** This map program dynamically illustrates the regional context of the battles of the River Raisin and provides an excellent overview of the actual battles and orientation to the battlefield. This light and audio program lasts 15 minutes and can be combined with a Ranger led orientation.
2. **“Battlefield Scavenger Hunt”** This hands-on activity can be done in small groups or by individuals. Participants explore the battlefield visitor center helping Major Muskrat find the answers to various questions about the battles. As they explore, participants learn what nations fought in this World War, what the area was like as a French settlement & during the battles, the role propaganda and the media played, and much more! It takes most groups between 30 and 45 minutes to complete this activity.
3. **“The War of 1812”** by the National Film Board of Canada illustrates the major aspects of the War of 1812 in a four part program. Each of the four parts are available, but it is recommended that groups view Part Two: “Or Leave Our Bones Upon Them” which focuses on the events surrounding the Battles of the River Raisin. This segment of the program lasts 45 minutes. All four segments of the film last 184 minutes.
4. **“The War of 1812”** by PBS is a 116 minute documentary about the War of 1812 from an American perspective. This Florentine Films/Hott Productions documentary provides a good overview of the United States at the time of the War of 1812, how the war was fought, and the impacts it had on America.
5. **“River Raisin Explorer Trunks”** These trunks are filled with numerous items that help students explore what it would have been like to live on the American Frontier and to be involved in the Battles of the River Raisin. Each trunk includes flip cards explaining what the item is, who would have had it, what it was used for and the item’s significance!. Optional report back activities are also provided that encourage the participants to find, learn about, and then report back on various items. This activity can take from 20 to 45 minutes. Upon request a Ranger, or Major Muskrat, may be able to assist.



River Raisin National Battlefield Park

What Ranger led programs might we participate in?



“Battlefield Orientation” Rangers lead participants in an interactive discussion about the Battles of the River Raisin as they explain the Battlefield, its importance in the War of 1812, and its impact on America today. This program is an excellent addition to the Battles of the River Raisin Fiber-Optic Map program. This program lasts about 20 minutes.

“Battlefield Footsteps” This interactive role-playing program engages groups in hands-on learning about the Battles of the River Raisin from four distinctive view points. Participants are placed in five groups. Each group is challenged to take on the persona of an individual who was at the Battles of the River Raisin. The groups will learn who the person was, where they were from, why they were involved in the War of 1812 and the Battles of the River Raisin and their

experience. The group will select at least one person to dress in period clothing and the others will report back to the larger group who they are. The program is concluded by the Park Ranger doing an exercise with the group to illustrate the costs and outcomes of the battles and what has happened to each of the primary groups since. This program runs approximately 60 minutes.

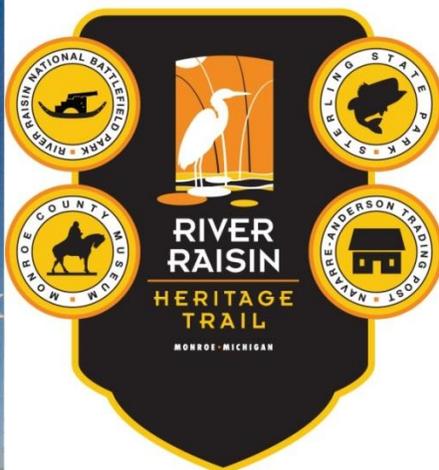
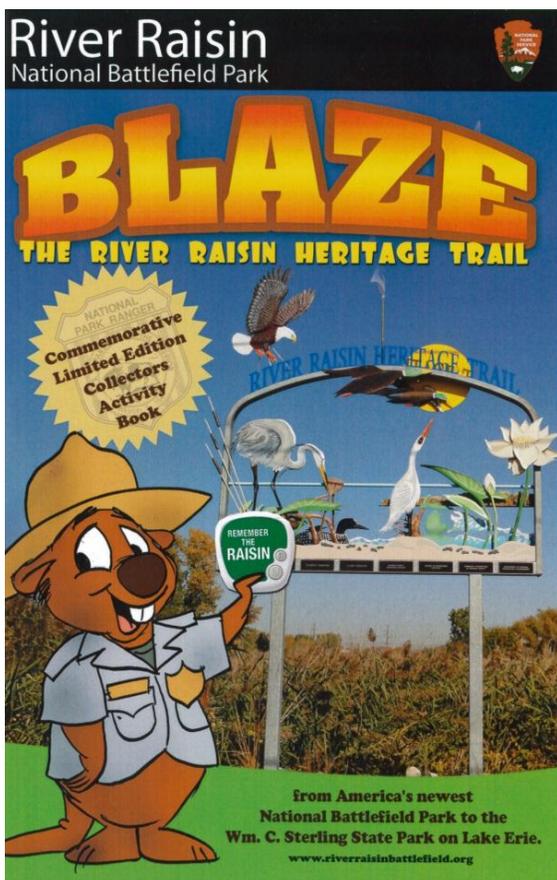
3. **“Battle Accounts”** Participants are broken down into groups representing the four different combatant perspectives. Participants learn about the War of 1812 in the Northwest Territories from primary documents including first person accounts of the Battles of the River Raisin and regional leaders. After learning about their perspective, the groups are engaged in an organized debate to answer the question... Was there a Massacre along the banks of the River Raisin or just the unfortunate consequences of war? The program will be completed by the Rangers discussing the role of media in the War of 1812 and the rise of the “Remember the Raisin” slogan. This program runs approximately 60 minutes.
4. **“A Soldiers Life”** Participants are provided copies of letters and accounts written by soldiers and others involved in the battles that describe their experience and are challenged to answer a series of questions. The Park Ranger leads a discussion on the hardships of war and what it would have been like to have been a soldier in the Battles of the River Raisin. This program runs approximately 45 minutes.
5. **“Battlefield Exploration”** Participants join a Park Ranger on a guided walking tour of the Battlefield trail and grounds. On this tour the group will learn about important aspects of the battles and come to an understanding of the dynamics that ended in the greatest number of United States combat related fatalities of any single day’s battle in the entire War of 1812. The importance of honoring those who have served in the United States Armed Forces will be discussed as well as the nearly 200 years of peace that has existed between Canada, Great Britain and the United States since the War ended. The group will also discuss what happened to the Native Americans who fought alongside the British. This program lasts about 45 minutes.

Coming in the spring of 2012... Major Muskrat Encounters, Black Powder Weapons Demonstrations and more!



What outdoor activities might we participate in?

1. **“Muskrat Militia March”** Participants of all ages join the “Muskrat Militia” as they test their physical and cognitive skills completing activities on the Battlefield trails. History, Math, and Citizenship lessons are taught as they learn the hardships and sacrifices Kentucky soldiers made by fighting for their country. This activity takes 30 to 60 minutes and requires an ability to keep track of time and to use pedometers. Pedometers are provided.
2. **“Blaze the River Raisin Heritage Trail VISA”** Participants follow the path of Major Muskrat as he ventures beyond his den to discover the history of Sterling State Park, River Raisin National Battlefield Park and Monroe! This full-day activity will engage participants in many facets of battlefield and area history as they walk along the River Raisin Heritage Trail. Along the journey participants will answer several questions as they explore and have the opportunity to collect VISA rubbings of images at select stops and to earn a series of patches. It is recommended that participants bring their own crayon for this activity, but pencils are available to be borrowed. Participants will be required to walk a minimum of 4.4 miles, but could walk as much as 7.5 miles one way depending on transportation drop-off and pickup arrangements. There is a small fee for patches, but they are optional.



What am I forgetting?

Important reminders for you and your students...

Writing surface and utensils

If your students will be completing the Muskrat Militia March, Blaze the River Raisin Heritage Trail VISA, or Battlefield Scavenger Hunt please make sure they bring a pencil. We suggest that each participant also bring a crayon if doing the VISA program.

Bathroom and Drink Breaks

Accessible restrooms and a water fountain is available in the Visitor Center. These restrooms are single stall restrooms so be sure to schedule ample time for breaks. There are no other restrooms or drinking fountains at the Battlefield. Restrooms and drinking fountains are available at Sterling State Park and the Monroe County Historical Museum if traveling the River Raisin Heritage Trail.

Picnic Areas

The Boy Scouts of America built a picnic area for the Battlefield in 2011. This area will seat 33 adults and 2 wheel chairs. The picnic area may not be reserved, but is available for use if not occupied. You may also find other outdoor areas to sit on the ground to eat picnic lunches. It is possible to reserve the visitor center map room for short periods of time to eat meals during the winter months when it is too cold to go outside. Even if reserved, if the weather permits groups are asked to eat outdoors. At no time is any food or beverages allowed outside the map room when indoors. Please remember to have the students pick up all trash and put it in the proper receptacles, or bring along a large trash bag to dispose of the trash.

Souvenir Shopping

The Battlefield store stocks an array of items – books, postcards, pens, period toys and articles, and etc. at a broad range of prices. If your students will be souvenir shopping in the Battlefield store they must be closely chaperoned at all times. 100 percent of the store's proceeds benefit the Battlefield and educational programming.

Inclement Weather Planning

Please require your students to dress for the outdoors and for the forecasted weather. This means that they should have sturdy walking shoes or good sneakers and should avoid sandals. Additional preparation includes sunblock, bug spray and water bottles. It is important to make sure the students are comfortable, as uncomfortable students do not learn well.

“Hanging Out” Time

Some free exploration time is a good thing, but please provide options to the chaperones and students for this time – such as doing the Battlefield Scavenger Hunt, souvenir shopping, trying period games or circle-group discussions. Please avoid allowing students to congregate or lounge in the visitor center or on the porches of the visitor center as it is disruptive to other visitors.



STEP THREE: Create Your Field Trip Itinerary & Schedule Your Visit

Now you are ready to piece together your Field Trip Itinerary! Here is a sample to get you started, but feel free to adjust it to meet your groups goals and time constraints. If traveling from a long distance, you may have to reduce the number of activities. There is a blank worksheet on the next page to make it easier for you. If you have a large group of students, who are rotating through activities, consider creating an itinerary for each group & providing each group leader a copy. There are also other great field trip ideas in the vicinity of the Battlefield. You can find a list of these in the back of this packet!

Example Itinerary!



TIME	River Raisin National Battlefield Park Field Trip Itinerary	Group #: _____
<u>9 AM</u> Depart	Board the Bus and Depart for the River Raisin...	
<u>10 AM</u> Arrive	Disembark the bus, restroom break, and drinking fountains while group leader checks in at the front desk...	
<u>10:15 AM</u> Activity 1	Battles of the River Raisin Fiber-Optic Map Program and Battlefield Orientation!	
<u>11:15 AM</u> Activity 2	Battlefield Footsteps Program!	
<u>12:15 PM</u> Lunch	Sack Lunches, Souvenir Shopping and Hangout Time...	
<u>1:00 PM</u> Activity 3	Battlefield Scavenger Hunt!	
<u>1:45 PM</u> Activity 4	Battlefield Exploration!	
<u>2:30 PM</u> Depart	Board the Bus and Depart for School...	
<u>3:30 PM</u> Arrive	Arrive Back at School...	

A MAJOR THANKS...



Group One Leader: _____

Group Two Leader: _____

Trip Tips

When you call to make reservations have your itinerary ready to share with the Park Ranger, but also ask if we have added any trip options. We are constantly trying to improve the programming!

TIME	River Raisin National Battlefield Park Field Trip Itinerary Group #: _____
<u>Depart</u>	
<u>Arrive</u>	
<u>Activity 1</u>	
<u>Activity 2</u>	
<u>Lunch</u>	
<u>Activity 3</u>	
<u>Activity 4</u>	
<u>Depart</u>	
<u>Arrive</u>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>A MAJOR THANKS...</p>  </div>

Group One Leader: _____

Group Two Leader: _____

Trip Tips

When you call to make reservations have your itinerary ready to share with the Park Ranger, but also ask if we have added any trip options. We are constantly trying to improve the programming! 11

Scheduling a trip to River Raisin National Battlefield Park?



Programs can be scheduled at anytime, but no more than 9 months in advance. Space is limited and will be reserved as requests are received. Please be prepared to let the Park Ranger know your group's goals, types of programs desired, number of students, the date and times desired, and the grade level of your group.



To reserve a program date and time, be added to the Battlefield's school email list, or to ask questions please call:

734-243-7136.

Explore - Discover
Inquire - Understand

Things to think about in advance...

SIX TO NINE MONTHS BEFORE TRIP

- Determine your goals and design a trip itinerary.
- Make your reservations for all of your activities and keep a folder with your itinerary.
- Arrange payment for any expenses (transportation, etc.)
- _____

ONE MONTH BEFORE TRIP

- Introduce the field trip to your students, including an agenda and your goals for the trip.
- Send a letter home to parents about the upcoming trip and to arrange chaperones. The Battlefield requires a minimum of 1 chaperone to every 10 students. If required by your school, include a permission slip in the letter with a deadline for returning it.
- Plan your preparation lesson plans for the week before the trip. Included in this packet is some basic information for the students to know before they arrive, but you may want to provide more background to them about the birth and growth of the United States, Indian Relations, and War of 1812 before arriving as well.
- _____

ONE WEEK BEFORE TRIP

- Share the pre-visit information with your students. If you have been studying early American History consider doing a review before you come.
- Confirm times as well as rules and regulations with your chaperones through a letter or meeting. Provide them with the materials in the Chaperones section of this guide as well as the itinerary.
- Break students into chaperoned groups (no more than 10 students per chaperon, but 1 to 7 is recommended). Please remember to separate potentially unruly sets of students.
- Double check all of your arrangements – feel free to call the Battlefield at 734-243-7136 to confirm as well.
- _____

THE DAY BEFORE TRIP

- Provide the students with the student trip day checklist from this packet, and reserve time to answer any questions they may have about what to wear or bring, behavior, etc.
- Check the weather forecast, pack your own lunch and a few extras for anyone who forgets.
- _____

Getting to the Battlefield...

From the North

From Interstate 75 take the Elm street exit (Exit 14) and merge onto Elm Avenue going west towards downtown Monroe. The Battlefield visitor center will be about 0.2 miles on the right.

From the South

From Interstate 75 take the Elm Street exit (Exit 14) and turn right onto Elm Avenue and go about 0.9 miles west toward downtown Monroe. The Battlefield visitor center will be on your right.

From the West

From Michigan Highway 50 (also known as South Custer Road) proceed into Monroe going east. The road will change names to West Front street, but keep going until you get to Monroe Street. Turn left (north) on Monroe Street and cross the bridge over the River Raisin. Turn right on Elm Avenue and proceed about one mile to the Battlefield, which will be on your left just after N. Dixie Highway.

From the East

Charter a boat, put a lifejacket on and proceed to the Port of Monroe. Continue past the Port up the River Raisin just under 1 mile until you find a place to dock. You should be west of Interstate 75 before docking. Walk across the street to the River Raisin Heritage Trail and then walk a short distance to the west and you will see the Battlefield visitor center. Ahoy! You Made it!



Section Two - Leading the World's Best Field Trip



Section Two - Leading the World's Best Field Trip Checklist to Success...

For Teachers and Chaperones...



Field Trip Day Checklist

- Student nametags – First name and school name
- File with all confirmations, payments, and itineraries
- File with emergency numbers and student health information
- First Aid Kit and student medical supplies, if applicable
- Signed Field Trip Contracts for students and chaperones
- Lunches or lunch money, with extra for anyone who has forgotten
- Cameras
- Weather-related accessories (sunblock, insect repellent, rain coat, hat, gloves, etc.)
- Extra paper and pens/pencils and/or crayons
- Clipboards or sturdy note books for writing surfaces if needed
- Maps
- Copies of Group Itineraries for all leaders
- Extra trash bag (for bus and lunch trash)

Add your own items below:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Field Enlistment Contract...

For Teachers and Chaperones...

We, the teachers and chaperones of _____, agree to the following rules and regulations for our upcoming River Raisin National Battlefield Park Field Trip. We promise to communicate and enforce all of the standards below, and understand that groups breaking this contract will be asked to leave the Battlefield.

While visiting the Battlefield:

1. Always stay on approved trails and roads unless guided to walk elsewhere by your Park Ranger or Park Guide.
2. Refrain from climbing on monuments, trees, markers or cannons.
3. National Parks preserve America's most significant history for current and future generations. By never removing anything from this or any National Park you are helping to preserve and protect them.
 - Do not dig in or alter the Battlefield in any way.
 - Report anyone seen using metal detectors or searching for Battlefield relics, as these activities are strictly prohibited.
4. Remain with your assigned group (in close proximity and in line of sight) at all times, regardless of the age of the students. Our chaperone-to-student ratio is a maximum of ten students to one chaperones are responsible for maintaining orderly and respectful behavior. (If a Park Ranger asks your students for their chaperone, the students should know who you are and should not have to look around for you).
5. The Battlefield is a public site, please ensure your group shows courtesy and respect for all other visitors. Specifically: speak quietly; refrain from speaking during programs or presentations; no running, jumping or other boisterous behavior; no touching or climbing displays or exhibits; and use interactive stations only as intended.
6. Food, drinks and gum are not allowed in the Visitor Center unless prior arrangements have been made with the Battlefield. When prior arrangements have been made, food and drinks must remain in designated areas.
7. Students should refrain from using electronic devices unless they are using them as a part of specific programs or activities approved by the teacher.
8. Ensure students understand that the Battlefield is sacred ground where hundreds of individuals gave the ultimate sacrifice for them, and ensure they treat the Battlefield with respect.

Signature

Date

Preparing Students...

Before you visit River Raisin National Battlefield Park, prepare your students for what they will experience and provide them some background information. Below are a few questions you might discuss with them and vocabulary words you might have them look up!

Questions:

1. What events or actions might lead a country to go to war? If they struggle with this or have a limited background you could ask what people fight about and then expand on their answers.
2. Is it common or uncommon for citizens to agree on the reasons for going to war?
3. Ask the students if they know who the United States went to war with in 1812?
4. Ask the students if they know why the United States went to war in 1812?
5. Ask the students if they would have supported the United States going to war in 1812? (why or why not)

Vocabulary:

- Captive
- Commerce
- Constrained
- Conquer
- Detention
- Embargo
- Foreign
- Harass
- Hostile
- Impressment
- Jurisdiction
- Maritime
- Plundered
- Port
- Pretensions
- Provocation
- Ravage
- Seizures



The Best Chaperone Ever!

Dynamic Small Group Activities

The students in your small group will learn the most, behave the best, and will be safest on a field trip where they are continually engaged in fun learning experiences. Below are activity ideas for students of every age, that will help to make you the best chaperone ever!

On the way to and from the Battlefield...

Sit together on the bus, and establish a partner system (battle buddy) for bathroom breaks and on-site activities. Make sure each of your students has read, signed and understands the Field Trip Enlistment Contract for Students. Share some of your ideas for the day and ask the students for some of theirs.

Challenge the students to occupy their free time on the way to the River Raisin with only those activities that would have been available to them as War of 1812 soldiers (i.e. no cell phones, iPods, gaming systems). Some soldiers past time like this:

- ❖ DICE – Each player takes an equal number of rolls on a pair of dice, and then totals the points from the rolls to determine a winner. Or a game board is made with a square containing each number, 2 through 12. Each player places a marker inside a box of his or her choice, and then the dice are rolled. The player who guesses the correct number receives all of the markers or is declared the winner.
- ❖ SKETCHING – Sketch a War of 1812 camp scene as you imagine it. A great deal has been learned about the life of a soldier from the sketches that the soldiers and artists made during wars.
- ❖ LETTER WRITING – Write a letter to a friend or family member, describing your experiences as a “soldier.” What do you miss about home? What is the hardest part about being a soldier? Etc.
- ❖ CARD PLAYING – Many card games were popular. What games do you like to play?
- ❖ DOMINOES, CHECKERS, or CHESS – Follow the directions given with your set as these games have not really changed since the soldiers played them around a campfire.
- ❖ SINGING – Soldiers would sing a variety of songs – hymns, melancholy (sad) songs about home, or rousing patriotic songs. For starters, lead a sing-along of “The Star Spangle Banner” which was written during the War of 1812 as the British bombarded Fort McHenry (copy of words are included in this packet).

As you get close to the Battlefield review the itinerary and rules for the day with students. Familiarity will decrease trip anxiety and orientation time, and will increase excitement for the day as well as knowledge retention. If any of the students have been to the Battlefield before, ask them to share their experience with others in the group.



The Best Chaperone Ever!

Dynamic Small Groups

While at River Raisin National Battlefield Park...

- ❖ Immediately upon arrival, establish an emergency meeting location (rally point) – an easy place to find from all directions, such as a flagpole or obvious landmark.
- ❖ Be sure to have plenty of copies of the Battlefield Scavenger Hunt if your group is doing this. No pens in the visitor center please... only pencils.
- ❖ Assign each student a role for the day, and remind them that they are to become experts by the end of the day on their role, write down 5-10 interesting facts or stories about that role. Some roles to choose from include:
 - Native American, 18th Infantry soldier, Kentucky Militia, British soldier, Frenchtown civilian, Michigan Militiamen, Colonel Lewis, Colonel Allen, General Winchester, General Proctor, Roundhead, Walk-in-the-Water, Waindaway, or Split Log.
- ❖ Brainstorm questions for your Park Ranger or Park Guide. Make sure each student has a possible question. Listen and look throughout the day for the answers; those that are not answered by the end of the tour or day can ask the leader, or send it to a Park Ranger at the Battlefield.
- ❖ Encourage exploration of the entire visitor center and loop trail, and not just for answers.
- ❖ Assist students, but be sure that they are working together and doing the work themselves.
- ❖ Promote discussion if there is an opinion.
- ❖ Praise a found answer or earnest attempt.
- ❖ Provide direction for difficult segments and encouragement.

Remind students to leave no trace of their visit...





The Star Spangled Banner Lyrics

By Francis Scott Key 1814



Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars thru the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?

And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.

Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore, dimly seen through the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,

As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?

Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,

In full glory reflected now shines in the stream:

'Tis the star-spangled banner! Oh long may it wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore

That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion,

A home and a country should leave us no more!

Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution.

No refuge could save the hireling and slave

From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave:

And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Oh! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand

Between their loved home and the war's desolation!

Blest with victory and peace, may the heav'n rescued land

Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.

Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,

And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."

And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Battlefield Scavenger Hunt

Answer Key...

Please don't share the answers with students, but instead use this as your guide to know how they are doing. Some answers might include "No way, I wouldn't have wanted to get shot," or other appropriate emotional responses, while others will be looking for specific things.

I. Left to right and top to bottom: **Flag One** = #3 United States, **Flag Two** = #6 State of Michigan, **Flag Three** = #1 the Native American flag given to them by the British, **Flag Four** = United States Flag of 1795-1819, **Flag Five** = The Commonwealth of Kentucky, and **Flag Six** = Great Britain

II. Brown Bess = .75 cal and American Model 1803 = .54 cal.; **One** = Brown Bess because their larger bullet causes more damage or American Rifle because it was more accurate at longer distances; **Two** = No; **Three** = British Brown Bess Muskets; **Four** = Kentucky hunting rifle because he is portraying a Kentucky soldier.

III. **One** = 2.5 acres wide by 34 acres deep; **Two** = 5.6 arpents wide by 3 arpents deep; **Three** = 37,000 sqft (These answers assume a square acres and arpents)

IV. See Map below:



V. **One** = 1796; **Two** = 300lbs, **Three** = 60lbs, **Four** = 3,000 lbs, and **Five** = 50 men.

VI. **One** = Palm Tree, Mountains, British camp, houses did not look like this; **Two** = To garner support for the American cause; **Three** = Any of the following – "G.R." on the knife shows that King George of Great Britain armed the American Indians, The presence of the British camp while plundering and killing shows that they allowed the American Indians to do these things, and the alcohol indicates that the British incited the American Indians by getting them intoxicated.

VII. **One** = Trade clothing (see the mannequin display); **Two** = They had their summer linen coats on; **Three** = Nathaniel Hart; **Four** = Governor of the Michigan Territory and Commander of the Army; **Five** = He was involved with the veterans' reunion; **Six** = James Winchester; and **Seven** = Oliver Hazard Perry.

Other Area Educational Field Trip Possibilities!

There are many great educational field trip opportunities near River Raisin National Battlefield Park. This list is not intended to be all inclusive. Please share with us some of your favorite field trip destinations near the Battlefield so we can add them to this list!

W.M. Sterling State Park:

Location: 2800 State Park Road
Monroe, MI 48162

Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
April through November

Contact: Jamie Allen

Phone: 734-289-2715

Email: allenj6@michigan.gov

History and culture combined into one of Michigan's best state parks!

Monroe County Historical Museum:

Location: 126 S. Monroe Street
Monroe, MI 48161

Hours: Call for Tour

Contact: Lynn Reaume

Phone: 734-240-7780

Email: lynn_reaume@monroemi.org

Website: www.co.monroe.mi.us/museum

General George Armstrong Custer Collection, Navarre-Anderson Trading Post, and more!

Monroe County Labor History Museum:

Location: 41 West Front Street
Monroe, MI 48161

Hours: Call for Tour

Contact: Bill Conner

Phone: 734-693-0446

Email: www.monroelabor.org

Labor history movement in the United States and Michigan with a special focus on Monroe.

Other Area War of 1812 Field Trip Possibilities!

The region surrounding River Raisin National Battlefield Park is rich with United States, Canadian, British, Native American (First Nations) and French history related to the War of 1812. There are many field trip opportunities available at the Battlefield and the locations below. If you are aware of other great War of 1812 related field trips in the vicinity of the Battlefield please let us know so we can add them to our list!

Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial:

Location:	93 Delaware Avenue Put-in-Bay, OH 43456	Hours:	Call for Programs April through October
Contact:	Sue Judis	Phone:	(419) 285-2184
		Email:	sue_judis@nps.gov
		Website:	www.nps.gov/pevi

This War of 1812 National Park is a memorial to those who fought in the Battles of Lake Erie and monument to the nearly 200 years of peace that has existed between Canada and the United States since the battles. The park is located in Put-in-Bay on South Bass Island and is most accessible by ferry boats.

Fort Meigs, :

Location:	29100 W. River Road Perrysburg, OH 43551	Hours:	Call for Programs
Contact:	Barbara Braver	Phone:	(419) 874-4121 or 1-800-283-8916
		Email:	bbraver@ohiohistory.org
		Website:	www.fortmeigs.org

This War of 1812 fort is managed by the State of Ohio and offers a verity of educational programs. Check out the Educational Programs section of their website or call for more information.

Fort Malden National Historic Site

Location:	100 Laird Avenue Amherstburg, ON N9V 272	Hours:	Call for Programs
Contact:	Alex Dale	Phone:	(519)-736-5416
		Email:	alexander.dale@pc.gc.ca
		Website:	www.pc.gc.ca/malden

This Park's Canada site is the location of historic Fort Malden which served as a critical fort during the War of 1812 in the Northwest. Check out the website or call the park for more details on school field trips to this National Park Site.

Section Three - Experiencing the World's Best Field Trip



Section Three - Experiencing the World's Best Field Trip Student Enlistment Contract



We, students of _____, agree to the following rules and regulations for our upcoming River Raisin National Battlefield Park Field Trip.

While visiting the Battlefield I will:

1. Always stay on approved trails and roads unless directed otherwise by our Park Ranger or Guide.
2. Never climb on monuments, trees, markers or cannons.
3. Clean-up all trash using proper receptacles, even other peoples trash if necessary.
4. Never damage or remove anything from the battlefield that we find (plants, artifacts, stones, etc.) and will depart with only what we brought or purchased.
5. Remain with our teacher/chaperone at all times, and display orderly and respectful behavior.
6. Show courtesy and respect to all other visitors by:
 - A. Speaking quietly even in large groups and open areas and outdoors
 - B. Not talking during programs, presentation, films
 - C. Not running or jumping and being mindful of other people and things
 - D. Allowing only the chaperones and teachers to select brochures for the group
7. Do Not take food, drinks or gum into the visitor center unless directed to do so by our teacher.
8. Take photographs of our experience, if we have a camera, but not use a flash on artwork or artifacts.
9. Listen intently and not disrupt presenters or programs.
10. Ask questions and seek to understand what happened at the Battlefield, who was here and why.
11. Do Not lean on walls, displays, cabinets, etc. while in the Visitor Center.
12. Show respect for the soldiers who died on the battlefield by treating the site as the sacred ground it is.
13. Have fun while exploring some of America's most impacting history!

By signing below on this _____ day of _____ in the year _____, we promise to abide by our enlistment contract while visiting River Raisin National Battlefield Park!

Signature

Section Three - Experiencing the World's Best Field Trip Student Field Trip Planner

You are about to go on a journey back in time, to a place where the course of history was defined for more than three nations. As you explore the past, ask yourself if today would be different had the events unfolded in a different way? What would life be like today if...



Make sure you are prepared for your trip back in time:

- Lunch or lunch money
- Extra drinks or water bottle, especially for hot days
- Camera, but remember to not use a flash when taking photographs of artwork or artifacts
- Weather-related accessories (sunblock, insect repellent, rain coat, hat, gloves, etc.)
- Comfortable walking shoes (you will not want to wear flip-flops or open toed shoes in some of the places you may walk)
- Games for the trip (playing cards, set of dice, pencil and paper, and other things your teacher recommends)
- Field Trip materials from your teacher
- Notebook/clipboard and pencils/crayon (ask your teacher)
- Souvenir money, if your teacher and parents say it is o.k.

Add your own items...

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Things to leave at home or on the bus...

- ✓ iPod or other music player
- ✓ Candy and gum
- ✓ Cell phone unless it is on airplane mode & used only for a camera

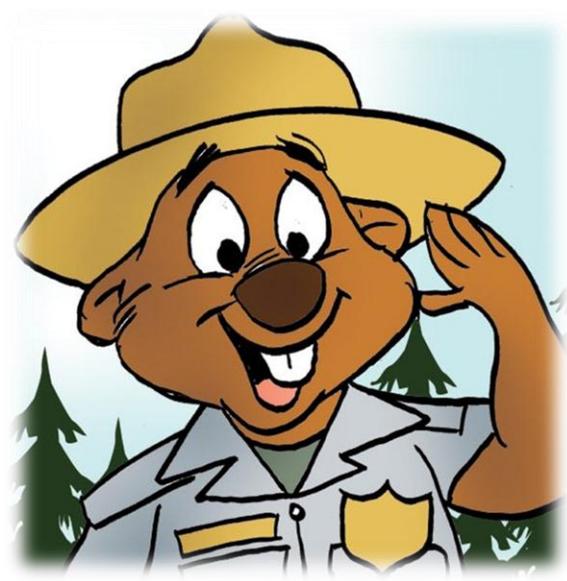
Section Four - Following-Up on the World's Best Field Trip



FROM YOUR PAL,
MAJOR MUSKRAT

Section Four - Following-Up on the World's Best Field Trip

Post-Visit Ideas



Here are some easy classroom activities and assignment ideas for when you return from the World's Best Field Trip. Following up with one or two ideas reinforces concepts presented during the trip, gives students the opportunity to express feelings and impressions about the trip, and encourages further learning! Pick one or two that matches the interests and abilities of your students, or create your own. If you create your own we would love to know what you did so we can share your ideas with others!



Write a letter home after the Battles of the River Raisin as if you were a soldier or habitant of Frenchtown. Remind students about the four viewpoints they could write about – American Indian, United States – Kentuckian, British – Canadian, or French settler – Michigan Militia. Incorporate as many describing words, thoughts and feelings as you can, as well as battle facts learned during the visit. Consider sending these to the Battlefield to be shared with others!



Read or re-read President Madison's declaration of War. Underline and explain some of the difficult words and references in the declaration. Have the students determine if the reasons the Battles of the River Raisin took place were explained by the President and if they feel the War was necessary. For those who feel the War was not necessary ask them what they would have done if they were President and how they think the United States, Canada and First Nation's people (American Indians) would be different today.



Create a class scrapbook or bulletin board on the River Raisin Battlefield, with postcards or photos from your trip. Be sure that each person has a task or is able to express themselves in some way. Consider using your trip goals and objectives as the frame work and see how you did in achieving them as a class together. Consider sending us a photograph of your class by the scrapbook or bulletin board to be shared with others!



Write an essay, compose a poem, or draw a picture about the Battlefield or the most memorable moment of the field trip. Considering sending these to the Battlefield to be shared with others!



Discuss the importance of preserving the Battlefields of the River Raisin and then research other War of 1812-related National Park sites. Write letters asking for general information as well as information about their biggest preservation problems and how you and your class might help. Then place the War of 1812 National Park sites on a chronological timeline based on the events they represent. Hint... Go to www.nps.gov to find other War of 1812 sites.



Develop a PowerPoint of the trip and what you learned to present to parents or the school board. Consider sending the Battlefield a copy to share with others as well!

More Post-Visit Ideas



Have each of the students prepare 2 questions about the trip for a Trivia Game Show. Select the questions you would like to ask as a review lesson and play River Raisin Battlefield Trivia.



Have the students look through newspapers and magazines to research wars and conflicts that are occurring in the world today. Make a poster or bulletin board of these wars or conflicts and have the students tell you how they believe it would be best to restore peace.



Compare the Battles of the River Raisin and War of 1812 to wars occurring in the world today. Provide appropriate books, magazines or articles so that they can create a Venn diagram that looks at the similarities and differences in one or more of the following areas: Weaponry, medical care, military tactics, political objectives. Consider having a veteran, active-duty soldier, doctor or nurse visit your classroom to discuss your findings.



Have the students write a daily journal for one week describing their lives and exchanges with others. Have the students analyze their journals as if they are a future historian making assumptions and painting a picture of life in America today. Pose the following questions: "How might our modern technology (telephones, e-mail, text messages, facebook etc) affect the job of future historians? What might the future historians source of reference materials be? How do our lives today compare with those of Americans in 1812?"



Talk with veterans of another war or military action and, with their permission, create an oral history of their experiences and understandings of sacrifice, liberty, patriotism or other values expressed at the River Raisin National Battlefield Park and throughout your community.



Write a letter to River Raisin National Battlefield Park telling us about your experience. Please let us know if you feel other students should make the trip, what you liked best, and how we might be able to improve.



Use your own review idea... and please, consider sharing it with us so we can continue to grow this post-visit ideas list! THANK YOU!





How was it? Evaluating the World's Best Field Trip

It is important for you to reflect on your field trip day while it is fresh on our mind. Please take some notes and make adjustments for next year and share your thoughts with us so we can improve! Use this form for your own reflections and/or to mail to the address below to help us! Your feedback is very important to us.

**Education Coordinator
River Raisin National Battlefield Park
1403 East Elm Ave.
Monroe, Michigan 48162**

Pre-Trip Planning:

What was the easiest about planning your trip? _____

What can we do to make it easier? _____

At the Battlefield:

What was the most valuable part of your field trip day from a teacher's perspective? _____

What did your students identify as the best part of the field trip? _____

What was the least effective part of your field trip or something you would change? _____

Post-Trip Success:

How did you assess the student's learning when you got back to the classroom? _____

What feedback did you glean from other teachers and chaperones? _____

Additional Remarks or Suggestions: *(Please use the back or a blank sheet, if necessary)* _____

THANK YOU!

River Raisin National Battlefield Park is America's newest National Battlefield Park and the only National Battlefield Park dedicated to preserving and telling the importance of the War of 1812. We are sincerely grateful that you have elected to bring your students to the Battlefield where history will come alive in their hearts and minds. As a new National Park, we are just beginning to develop our educational programming and would be very grateful for any ideas you might have on how to make it better. If you have ideas, or better yet, would like to volunteer to help us develop more interactive learning experiences please let us know.



Below is the Battlefield's contact information. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

River Raisin National Battlefield Park
Attn: Dr. Daniel D. Downing, Chief of Education
1403 E. Elm Ave
Monroe, Michigan 48162

734-243-7136

daniel_downing@nps.gov

www.nps.gov/rira

**A MAJOR
THANKS...**

