



McCORD MUSEUM

# Education Kit

Secondary Level

Whether through our educational activities, our Five Keys to History approach or our school visits, the McCord Museum is always developing new ways to make learning history a truly exciting adventure. Our latest innovation is an Education Kit that brings the Museum right into your classroom. Containing authentic historical objects and reproductions from our educational collection, the Kit provides a wide range of activities for teachers and students. Your class will embark on an exploration of the past using artifacts that reflect the material culture of nineteenth-century Canada. A variety of themes will guide you on this voyage, including industrialization, urbanization and technological progress.

## Why use artifacts to learn about history?

Artifacts provide the kind of stimuli and new experiences that capture students' interest. Young people today rarely have the opportunity to touch a "real" piece of history. When they do, they feel more involved — literally "in touch" with the past. The experience of handling objects and unlocking their secrets can bring home the realization that written documents and images are more than just sources of historical information; they too, are artifacts. Finally, it helps students to understand that artifacts are intrinsically connected to historical context, and that the ordinary objects they see all around them will one day become witnesses to our present reality.



## How does the Kit work?

The Kit includes fifteen artifacts and a multitude of educational materials describing six activities, which can be combined any way you wish depending on how much time you have at your disposal. For an additional fee a McCord interpreter will visit for one full day to facilitate activities.\* Kit rentals also entitle classes to a discount on a visit to the McCord.



	Fee	Rental period
Education Kit	\$150	10 school days
With interpreter	\$175	Half-day (interpreter) *
	\$325	Full day (interpreter) *

Book the Education Kit for your Class today!

Here's a brief summary of the activities in store for you and your students:

## 1. Montreal during the Industrial Revolution

Take your students on a visual exploration of the Industrial Revolution, where they will learn about this period's four major spheres of impact: industry and technology, urbanization, living conditions and consumption. A brief overview of the historical background of this period precedes a PowerPoint display with accompanying commentary.

## 2. Unlocking the Past: Interrogating Artifacts

This familiarizes students with handling, observing and interrogating artifacts. With the historic contents of the Education Kit, students will learn how to extract a plentitude of information from a single object using the Five Keys to History approach.

## 3. Beyond Time

Archeologists from the twenty-first century have discovered a time capsule. What era does it date from? What meaning do these objects and messages carry for future generations? Using an archeological approach, students must recreate the context of these physical clues from the past, and construct their own interpretation — of technology, scientific discoveries and even everyday life.

## For more information

or to arrange a rental, please contact our reservations clerk:

Telephone: (514) 398-7100, ext. 222

Email: [reservation@mccord.mcgill.ca](mailto:reservation@mccord.mcgill.ca)

Fax: (514) 398-5045



## 4. The Quiz

This entertaining and informative activity introduces people and events that had a significant impact on the industrial era. Students are divided into teams and must think quickly and imaginatively to solve the brainteasers in this *Reach-for-the-Top*-type game.

## 5. In the Shoes of...

Students will take a stand on issues that were important to people at the turn of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, putting themselves in someone else's shoes to oppose or defend different points of view on topics like unionization, vaccination, or municipal mergers. These discussions, which touch on both historical and contemporary themes, together with the issues and arguments provided by archival documents, provide a unique glimpse of daily life in the industrial age.

## 6. Making Movies

Movies can bring the past to life! Using 15 artifacts from the kit, students will write scenarios that set the stage for dramatic, humorous or historical episodes taking place in the nineteenth century. Teams must devise a plot, create characters, provide a context and write a storyline. The final objective is to persuade a team of movie promoters (an in-house jury) that their scenario would make the next historical blockbuster!



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