

POLK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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FIELD TRIP GUIDELINES

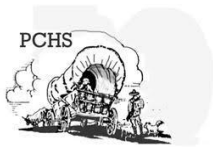
Thank You for your interest in planning a field trip to Polk County Historical Museum and/or Historical Brunk Farmstead. Listed below are some guidelines to help make this trip successful for both you, your students and PCHS staff.

Teacher pre-visit activities:

- Discuss with students items that they may see, and reasons they will be visiting the museum.
- Have students come up with questions they may have about what life in Polk County may have been like long ago.
- Decide if you want to use our Museum 'Scavenger Hunt' (available on request).
- Have kids broken into acceptable sized groups and be sure they know their chaperone prior to arriving at the museum. **You know your students and understand the students that may need a smaller group size.** We recommend no group larger than 5 students to 1 adult.
- Have name tags for your students with first names only and have the students display them where they can easily be seen.
- Make sure students and chaperones are aware of the expectations listed below

Student Expectations: Please be sure to go over the following information with your students prior to their arrival. Many students may have never visited a museum and will need to have a basic understanding of what to expect.

- Respectful behavior
- Walk (move respectfully through exhibits)
- Quiet voices
- Appropriate language
- Stay with your chaperone at all times
- Be aware of items that say "Don't touch"



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- Items that can be touched, be respectful and be mindful of the item. Some of the items are very old and may not be able to be fixed or replaced. **If you are not sure, ask!**
- Be mindful of other people who may be visiting the museum.
- No eating or drinking except in designated areas.
- Ask questions of things you see or want to know more about.
- Be patient and take your turn.

Chaperone Basics:

- Be sure your group of students stays with you while in the museum.
- If the class is participating in the museum scavenger hunt, help guide the students through the questions.
- Engage your group. Encourage kids to ask questions and interact with displays when appropriate. (Some displays have QR codes)

Sample questions:

- What is one object that you noticed?
- What picture or image stood out to you?
- What was something that was new that you didn't know about?
- How do you think the events of the past made an impact on your life today?
- Do you think your life is easier today?
- Would you like to have lived in Polk County in the past?

Cell phones are to be used for pictures only and at appropriate times. Otherwise, phones should be put away and be kept on silent.

Communicate with PCHS staff if there are any issues encountered.

Please help us improve these guidelines. We welcome your input!