

USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM



Photo: Greg Cooper

Group Program Brochure



USS Constitution
Museum



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About the Museum

USS Constitution Museum

The USS Constitution Museum serves as the memory and educational voice of USS *Constitution*. We seek to create a positive, memorable, experience for both children and adults through hands-on, minds-on experiences.



Visit Us!

- Open daily
- For complete information about the Museum including directions, parking information, and hours, visit www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org
- Daily Gallery Programs for all ages

Planning your Visit

Making a Reservation

Groups of 10 or more require a reservation to visit the USS Constitution Museum. If you are interested in visiting during May and June, please contact our Group Reservations Coordinator as early as possible since these dates often fill quickly. Requests must be made at least one week in advance. To request a reservation, see

www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org/visit/group-reservations OR 617-426-1812 x186

Touring USS *Constitution*

A visit to the USS Constitution Museum does NOT include entry to USS *Constitution*. The Ship is operated by the United States Navy and it can be visited on a first come, first serve basis. Groups planning on visiting the Ship should allow at least an additional hour to do so. Individuals over the age of 18 must have a government issued photo ID with them. Please note their daily operating schedule and hours on their website,

www.navy.mil/local/constitution/

“This is one of the coolest places I’ve visited” – Young Museum visitor

Group Visits



Photo: Greg Cooper

Self Guided Group Visits

Around every corner of the USS Constitution Museum your group will find interactive, hands-on activities and unique objects that interest and engage all ages! After a brief welcome and orientation, your group can enjoy self-guided exploration of the exhibits or shop in the Museum Store to find something special to take home. Reservations are required.

All Ages | 60 minutes | \$50 | 10-50 people

Hands-on History

Engage your group in a 20-minute hands-on program with a skilled educator followed by 40 minutes of self-guided exploration. Get in-depth interpretation that engages learners of all ages. A great way to enhance a self-guided visit! Programs include:

A Sailor's Life for Me?: Discover details about the life at sea for new recruits aboard USS Constitution in the early Navy – the good and the bad. By the end, you'll be asking yourself, "Is a sailor's life for me?"

Constructing "Old Ironsides": Find out how a unique American design and hundreds of craftsmen built a national symbol.

Invention Factory: Running a ship like *Constitution* is hard work. In small teams your group will build a complex machine to help make life easier for sailors in 1812. Are you up for the challenge?

Unfurl the Past: Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a detective? Your group will use primary sources to uncover the story of *Constitution's* greatest battles during the War of 1812.

All Ages | 60 minutes | \$100 | 10-50 people

Customized Programs & Guided Tours

Don't see what you're looking for? Contact us to customize a program for your group's needs. Set up private presentations on any topic related to "Old Ironsides" history. Organize a guided tour or hands-on activity for your family reunion, college classroom, or special interest group!

Adults | 10-25 people | Customized programs begin at \$150

"I saw how people on the ship lived. I even saw what they wore. It must have been a really hard life, I realize that now." – 10 year old visitor

K-12 School Programs

Courageous Little Sailors

How did sailors make it through battle? Courage, of course! Introduce your students to a sailor's adventurous life with an educator's guidance. Listen to a story about life on the high seas, role-play sailor's jobs, and participate in a team-building activity to show how *Constitution's* sailors formed a tight-knit community.

PK-2 | 60 minutes | \$6/student | 10-30 students



Photo: Greg Cooper

Simple Machines & USS *Constitution*

Come see simple machines in action in 1812! Students scour the galleries to test simple machines at work and apply their knowledge in an invention factory. Can they simplify the life of a 19th-century sailor using only the lever, inclined plane, screw, wedge, pulley, and wheel & axle?

3-5 | 90 minutes | \$8/student | 10-30 students

History tells a Story - the War of 1812

Turn your students into historians and story tellers! With an educator, students uncover the connections between artifacts and *Constitution's* crew in the War of 1812. They will decode primary sources, investigate the hands-on galleries, and creatively retell the stories of these brave men in their own words.

3-5 | 90 minutes | \$8/student | 10-30 students

Out Run Out Gun - Coming Soon!

Constitution was built to out-run or out-gun the enemy – can your ship design do the same? With a limited budget and timeline, your students will create tin-foil ships that can carry 50 guns and race down a ten foot water track while they come to understand the concepts of displacement and basic engineering constraints.

5-8 | 60 minutes | \$8/student | 10-30 students

"When students see what I've been talking about in the classroom in real life – it's like the light bulb in their head turns on!" – 5th grade teacher

Join the Mess - Life at Sea

In this simulation game, students take on the roles of fully researched individuals from *Constitution's* War of 1812 crew. Competing against each other in teams, they complete a series of hands-on challenges like those the crew faced at sea. Students come to understand that ordinary and diverse individuals were thrown together in extraordinary times and collectively accomplished great things for their nation in a time of need.

5-8 | 90 minutes | \$8/student | 10-30 students

Engineering a Legend - *Coming Soon!*

How does one translate great engineering ideas from the imagination to the page to real life? Introduce your students to different ways of depicting three dimensional objects in two dimensional drawings and how *Constitution's* designer Joshua Humphreys used these to create ship plans for his innovative design.

6-12 | 60 minutes | \$8/student | 10-30 students

War of 1812 - Why Fight?

Take a close and critical look at the tensions leading to the War of 1812 and assume the role of an 1812 Congressman or resident of the nation. By investigating primary source documents and other resources, students work in teams to defend or challenge the idea that the nation should declare war in a simulated congressional debate. Great for AP History classes.

9-12 | 90 minutes | \$8/student | 10-30 students

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"This program hit exactly what I'm teaching right now and reinforced those concepts. Plus, the students had a ton of fun!" – 3rd grade teacher

Teacher Resources

Teacher Workshops

Spend time with our award-winning K-12 interdisciplinary curriculums and come away with concrete tools and ideas to use in your classroom with primary source documents and the stories and history of “Old Ironsides.” Workshops are available at the Museum or the location of your choice. The Museum is an authorized PDP provider in the state of Massachusetts.

K-12 | Workshops begin at \$200 | 10-60 teachers

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Curriculum

All Hands on Deck

All Hands on Deck focuses on the basics of USS *Constitution* – her construction and design, life at sea in the age of sail, and some of her major victories and cruises.

www.allhandsondeck.org

A Sailor's Life for Me

A Sailor's Life for Me spotlights the Ship's involvement in the War of 1812 and the men who served aboard her. The Educator Resources accompany “Sail to Victory,” an online interactive game, “Meet Your Shipmates,” a window into the Ship's crew, and “Explore Old Ironsides,” an in-depth view of the spaces and people who populated USS *Constitution*. With over 120 lessons, activities, games, and primary sources, the K-12 interdisciplinary curriculum is sure to be a hit with your students.

www.asailorslifeforme.org

“I learned in depth knowledge that I can pay forward to students. I would encourage any teacher to take advantage of these opportunities.” - Teacher Workshop participant

Upcoming Events

School Vacation Weeks

December | February | April

Be sure to visit the Museum during Massachusetts school vacation weeks for special activities and programs. Seasonal programming offers fun for the whole family. See our website for details and hours.

www.usconstitutionmuseum.org

A Tea Party with your American Girl® Doll

Join us for our annual Tea Party – dress up, bring your dolls, and enjoy an 1812 afternoon tea! Steep yourself in American history and learn how American Girl®'s newest historical character, Caroline Abbott, exemplified heroism in an extraordinary time.

www.usconstitutionmuseum.org

Homeschool Day

Homeschool days at the Museum are themed around a particular topic every year. Formal and informal programs for all students K-12 happen throughout the day and families are encouraged to learn together.

www.usconstitutionmuseum.org

Scout day

Every year, the Museum hosts a Scout day for local scout troops. A variety of activities are geared towards helping troops complete badge and belt loop requirements. Fold a flag, scrub the deck, and explore life at sea in the age of sail.

www.usconstitutionmuseum.org

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"This was the most fun I've had at a museum, ever!" – 9 year old visitor



USS Constitution Museum
PO Box 291812
Boston, MA 02129-0215

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