Pickering Museum Village

Field Trip Guide



City of PICKERING

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pickeringmuseumvillage.ca/education



With so much to explore, we're sure to have an educational program that fits your students' needs!

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Choose Your Adventure at Pickering Museum Village

Bring history to life for your students with an immersive, curriculum-connected experience! Choose your adventure and spend part of the day, or the whole day, at Pickering Museum Village.

Make it a full-day trip with two programs to get the best value and a deeper learning experience.

Program Details:

Program Length: 90 minutes
Cost per Student 2026:

- $9.53 for one program
- $15.97 for a full-day experience (includes two programs)

Start Times: Programs begin at 10:00 am or 12:00 pm

Book Now to Secure 2026 Pricing

Prices increase for Spring dates - book for a fall field trip date to take advantage of our 2026 rates.

Primary

Farm Friends & Plant Pals



Let your students sprout curiosity on the farm while exploring what living things need to grow and thrive. Through playful, corn-themed activities in the barn, garden, and heritage house, they'll discover the life cycle of a corn plant from seed to snack! From grinding corn and cooking up fun in a kid-sized toy kitchen to watching popcorn pop over a real flame and taking back a corn cob to grow and study, this STEAM-powered adventure will inspire future farmers and scientists alike! This program visits the Combination Barn exhibits, Miller-Cole House, outdoor classroom, and gardens.

Preschool - Grade 1

Grade 1 – Science and Technology (Needs and Characteristics of Living Things; Energy in Our Lives)

Woolly Wonders

Discover the magic of wool and the animals that grow it in this lively, hands-on program designed especially for young learners! Through storytelling, sensory exploration, movement, and creativity, students will learn where wool comes from, how it's prepared, and how it connects to their daily lives.



Preschool - Grade 1

Grade 1 – Science and Technology (Life Systems: Needs and Characteristics of Living Things)

Primary

Playful Pursuits (EN or FR)



Explore life for children 200 years ago through play. Try our toys (batteries are not included!) and games, learn to make rope, and finish off by making and learning a game to take home. This program takes place outdoors, in the Drive Shed. Indoor space for parlour games will be substituted in poor weather.

Preschool - Grade 3

Grade 1 – Our Changing Roles and Responsibilities; Grade 2 – Heritage and Identity; People and Environments; Grade 3 - Communities in Canada: 1780-1850





Primary - Junior

Millie's Day (EN or FR)

Step back in time and experience the life of early settlers through the eyes of young Millie. This immersive program takes students on a journey to understand the challenges and daily activities of Pickering's early Black settlers. Through hands-on activities and interactive storytelling, students will explore the forest, participate in traditional chores, and learn about life in a log cabin. This program takes place in the Log Barn and Log House exhibit spaces, and outdoors.



Grade 2 - Grade 4

Grade 2 – Changing Family and Community Traditions; Grade 3 – Communities in Canada, 1780-1850; Grade 4: Early Societies, 3000 BCE-1500 CE

School Days (EN or FR)



Grade 1 - Grade 4

Transport your students back in time to the life of an early 1800s school child! Students will participate in authentic lessons with slates, discover daily chores expected before or after school, and enjoy Indigenous and early settler games in this immersive and engaging program. This program visits our Chapel classroom, Combination Barn, and outdoor spaces (recess play will be indoors in poor weather).

Grade 1 – Our Changing Roles and Responsibilities; Grade 2 – Changing Family and Community Traditions; Grade 3 – Communities in Canada: 1780-1850; Grade 4: Early Societies, 3000 BCE-1500 CE

Primary - Junior

Blacksmith's Apprentice Quest (EN or FR)

Your students will step back in time and experience the life of a blacksmith's apprentice. Through hands-on activities, students will explore historical trades, engage in practical problem-solving, and learn about the science and mechanics behind blacksmithing.

It's a day of discovery, creativity, and teamwork that brings history to life in an engaging and educational way. This program visits the Collins House, General Store, and Greenwood Blacksmith Shop on the quest to become a journeyman.



Grade 2 - Grade 4

Grade 2 –Changing Family and Community Traditions; Grade 3 – Communities in Canada: 1780-1850; Grade 4 – Early Societies to 1500 CE



Limited Time

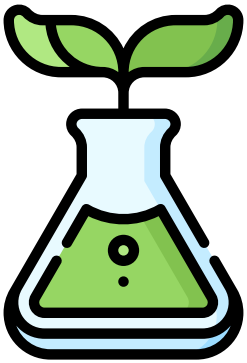
Discover these exclusive programs available for a limited time. Pair one with another program for a full day field trip.

Food Lab: Investigate, Experiment, Invent

John E. Anderson Gallery | October - December, 2026

Bring your students on a deliciously educational journey through the science of food! This 90-minute program includes hands-on experiments, creative challenges, and a guided tour of Ingenium's "A Taste of Science" travelling exhibition.

At the new John E. Anderson Gallery at the Dorsay Community and Heritage Centre, adjacent to the Pickering Museum Village.



Grade 5 - Grade 6

Grade 5 – Science (Life Systems: Human Organ Systems) Grade 6 – Science (Biodiversity: Microorganisms)



Limited Time

Teddy's Holiday Adventure (EN)

Pickering Museum Village | December 7 - 18, 2026

Follow the story of Teddy Bear as he journeys through the museum village discovering the many holiday traditions from around the world! Equipped with a storybook and activity sheets, teachers and chaperones will help students explore customs, read maps, and identify where in the world the traditions began. They'll even make a Victorian thaumatrope toy with our Museum Interpreter to take home.



Grade 1 - Grade 3

Grade 2 – Science (Air & Water in the Environment); Grade 3 – Science (Soils in the Environment); Grade 4 – Science (Habitats & Communities); Grade 5 – Science (Conservation of Energy & Resources)



Limited Time

John E. Anderson Gallery

Pictures of the Past: Exploring Identity Through Art and Archives

January - April 2027

Become an art detective in Pictures of the Past! Students will explore how artists use images to tell stories about identity, community, and belonging. Through gallery exploration, archival images, and a creative collage activity, participants will examine local archival materials, uncover hidden perspectives, and discover how visual storytelling can shape the way we see ourselves and the world around us. This program encourages critical thinking, creativity, and meaningful connections between art, history, and community.

Grade 6

Grade 6 – Social Studies (Heritage and Identity: Communities in Canada, Past and Present); Visual Arts (Reflecting, Responding, and Analysing; Exploring Forms and Cultural Contexts).



Limited Time

Reframed: Art, Identity, & Visual Culture

January - April 2027

Through Danielle Cole's Cowboys and Wallflowers, students uncover the hidden messages behind familiar images and explore how ideas about gender, identity, power, and belonging are shaped by visual culture. Using artworks and local archival materials as evidence, students analyze perspectives, challenge stereotypes, and consider how artists can reshape the stories communities tell about themselves. This thought-provoking program encourages discussion, inquiry, and meaningful connections between past and present.

Grade 11 - Grade 12

Grade 11 Arts (Visual Arts, Media Arts, Drama: Creating and Presenting; Reflecting, Responding, and Analysing; Foundations); Grade 12 Arts (Visual Arts, Media Arts, Drama: Creating and Presenting; Reflecting, Responding, and Analysing; Foundations); Grade 11 Canadian & World Studies (Inquiry and Skill Development; Citizenship and Cultural Identity; Historical and Cultural Perspectives); Grade 12 Canadian & World Studies (Inquiry and Skill Development; Citizenship and Cultural Identity; Historical and Cultural Perspectives).



Limited Time

Wetland Wonders

May - July 2027

Step into an immersive wetland environment and discover the remarkable plants, animals, and habitats that make Pickering's wetlands thrive. Through observation, discussion, and interactive exploration, students investigate the important role wetlands play in supporting biodiversity, protecting water quality, and sustaining healthy ecosystems. Inspired by the exhibition's sculptures, soundscapes, and imagery, students develop a deeper understanding of local conservation efforts and the interconnectedness of living things.

Grade 4 - 6

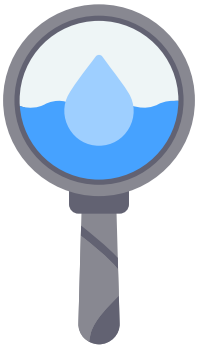
Grade 4 – Science and Technology (Understanding Life Systems: Habitats and Communities); Grade 5 – Science and Technology (Understanding Life Systems: Human Organ Systems; extension to environmental impacts on living systems, biodiversity, and stewardship); Grade 6 – Science and Technology (Understanding Life Systems: Biodiversity).



Limited Time

H2Whoa! *One Day Only*

Pickering Museum Village | May 28, 2027



Bring your students for a limited-time, limited capacity, full-day field trip exploring the science, history, and wonder of water. This groundwater-focused, hands-on, staff-led program blends environmental learning, local heritage, and creative experimentation across our forest, creek, and historic buildings.

Students rotate through stations tracing water's journey through nature, underground, and over time. Activities are grade-scaled, curriculum-aligned, and packed with outdoor learning and memorable experiences.

Grade 2 - Grade 5

Grade 2 – Science (Air & Water in the Environment); Grade 3 – Science (Soils in the Environment); Grade 4 – Science (Habitats & Communities); Grade 5 – Science (Conservation of Energy & Resources)





Junior - Intermediate

Community Connections

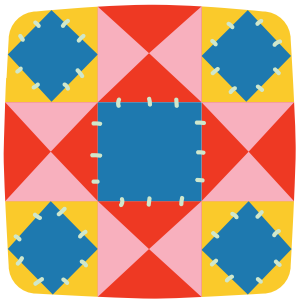
Grade 5 - Grade 6

Dive into the rich history of Pickering and the vibrant present of modern municipal government in this immersive new program. Through interactive activities and engaging discussions, students will uncover the stories of Pickering's past and present, explore what it means to be part of a community, and reflect on their own experiences of community life. This program visits the Brougham Temperance House, Log Barn, and outdoor spaces.

Grade 5 – The Role of Government and Responsible Citizenship; Grade 6 – Communities in Canada, Past and Present

Follow the Drinking Gourd

Step back in time and embark on an interactive journey to freedom. Students will explore the inspiring story of George Chapman, an early Black settler who escaped enslavement in Virginia and found freedom in Canada. Through primary source exploration and hands-on activities, students will learn about George, the Underground Railroad, the significance of quilt codes, and the challenges faced by freedom seekers. This program visits the Log Barn and outdoor spaces.



Grade 5 - Grade 8

Grade 5 - Interactions Prior to 1713, The Role of Government and Responsible Citizenship; Grade 6 - Communities in Canada, Past and Present, Canada's interactions with the Global Community; Grade 7 – New France and British North America, Canada, 1800-1850: Conflict and Challenges; Grade 8 – Creating Canada, Global Settlement Patterns

Junior - Intermediate



Mapping Freedom: The Journey Continues

Continue the UGRR learning adventure with an immersive add-on program that delves more deeply into the experiences of freedom seekers on the Underground Railroad. Students will engage in orienteering activities, map out escape routes using quilt codes, and explore and respond to the powerful art installation "The Way Gone Made Clear" by Georgia Fullerton. This program visits the Brougham Temperance House and outdoor grounds.

Note: this program may be booked only in conjunction with Follow the Drinking Gourd

Grade 5 - Grade 8

Grade 5 – Interactions Prior to 1713, The Role of Government and Responsible Citizenship; Grade 6 – Communities in Canada, Past and Present, Canada's interactions with the Global Community; Grade 7 – New France and British North America, Canada, 1800-1850: Conflict and Challenges; Grade 8 – Creating Canada, Global Settlement Patterns

Intermediate



Roots to Rebellion

Pickering Township was a hotbed of political unrest in the 1830s. Through role-play, students will step into the shoes of real historical figures from the Family Compact, government sympathizers, and radical reformers, exploring the physical, social and political challenges that led to the 1837 Upper Canada Rebellion. They will debate, map, and navigate the era's complexities, deciding if they align with Reformers or Tories. This program visits the Log Barn, Brougham Temperance House, and outdoor spaces.

Grade 7 - Grade 8

Grade 7 – New France and British North America, Physical Patterns in a Changing World; Grade 8 – Canada, 1800–1850: Conflict and Challenges, Civics and Citizenship: Civic Engagement and Action

Intermediate



Traitors

Enhance your students' historical journey with this add-on program, designed to delve deeper into the political intrigue and social upheaval of the 1830s. This immersive experience builds on the "Roots to Rebellion" foundation, offering a more comprehensive exploration of the Upper Canada Rebellion.

Through engaging role-play and interactive lessons, students will uncover the complexities of early elections, the shift from peaceful reform to armed rebellion, and the lasting impact on Canadian democracy. This program visits the Log House, Brougham Temperance House, and outdoor spaces.

Grade 7 - Grade 8

Grade 7 – New France and British North America, Physical Patterns in a Changing World; Grade 8 – Canada, 1800–1850: Conflict and Challenges, Civics and Citizenship: Civic Engagement and Action

FAQs

Q: Is the museum accessible for visitors with mobility needs?

A: Most heritage buildings on site are wheelchair accessible on the ground floor. Please note that all pathways are gravel. An accessible washroom is available on-site; ask your friendly staff leader for access. An adult change table is not available at this time. Arrangements can be made to accommodate visitors with mobility needs. Please call us ahead of your field trip day.

Q: What should students wear to the museum?

A: Pickering Museum Village is an open-air site, and many programs take place outdoors or in heritage buildings that are not heated or air-conditioned. Students should dress for the weather, bring extra layers, and bring appropriate footwear as programs run rain or shine!

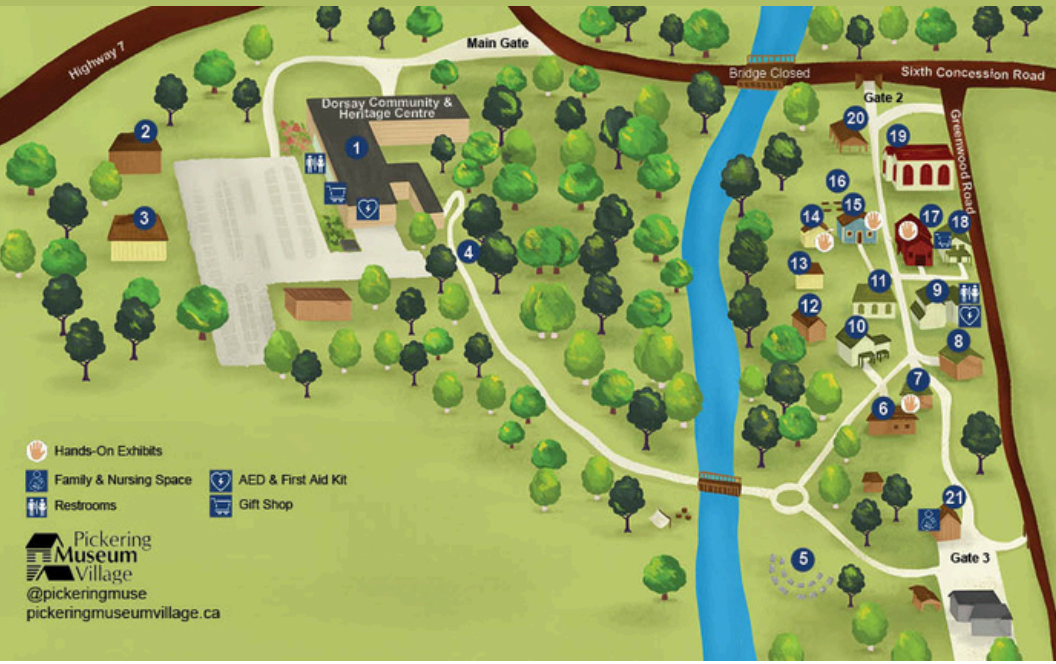
Q: Is there a place for students to eat lunch?

A: Yes! The large picnic shelter can seat up to 160 students and includes space heaters during colder months. Be sure to bring your own lunches and water bottles.

Q: Where do buses and cars park?

A: If your group is arriving by bus, drop-off is at Gate 3 on Greenwood Road (3550 Greenwood Road). Teachers and parent drivers may park in the overflow parking at Gate 3 or Greenwood Community Centre (please see next page for a map of the village).

Map



1. Dorsay Community & Heritage Centre
2. Harvey House
3. Puterbaugh Schoolhouse
4. Path to Museum
5. Millpond Meadow
6. Log Barn
7. Log House
8. Collins House
9. Redman House Program Centre
10. Brougham Temperance Hotel
11. Bible Christian Chapel
12. Church Drive Shed
13. Beef Ring Barn
14. Combination Barn
15. Miller Cole House
16. Outdoor Teaching Kitchen
17. Greenwood Blacksmith Shop
18. Gift Shop
19. Odd Fellows Hall
20. Picnic Shelter
21. Program Space & Family Rest Station

FAQs

Q: Can parent helpers attend, and is there a cost?

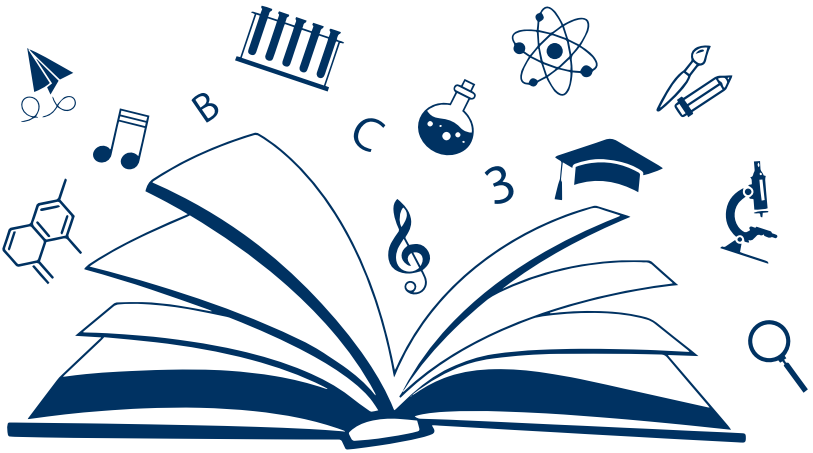
A: Parent helpers are welcome. To comply with heritage building capacities, we recommend a ratio of up to 1 adult for every 4 students. Admission fees apply for additional adults outside this ratio, except for designated Education Assistants.

Q: Is the gift shop open during field trips?

A: Yes, the gift shop in the Museum Village is available upon request. Please confirm your interest in this at the time of booking to ensure scheduling.

Q: Do programs run in the winter or colder months?

A: Yes! Programs at the Museum Village run from April - January, however, the John E. Anderson Gallery located on our upper site runs all year long!





Have more questions?

Please don’t hesitate to call or email us—we’re happy to help make your visit smooth and memorable!

pmvbookings@pickering.ca

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