

Discovery Boxes

These boxes are designed for use as hands-on programs by elementary students in grades 2 thru 6. Teachers are welcome to borrow a box and adapt it to their students' needs. Boxes also may be used effectively as exhibits.

Each box includes historical objects, photographs, illustrations, and/or document replicas, along with explanatory labels. Learning activities emphasize use of primary sources and thinking skills. Discovery Boxes are available on a first-come, first-serve basis and can be reserved for check-out by contacting the museum at 621-1154.

Apple Blossom Time

Students will understand the major role of the apple industry in the economy of turn-of-the-20th century Northwest Arkansas; understand the role of the railroad in fostering the rise of the apple industry; understand the development and significance of the Apple Blossom Festivals of the 1920s; and understand the impact of the Great Depression on the apple industry.

At Home in Arkansas:

The Pioneer Home and Family of the 1840s

The Victorian Home and Family of the 1890s

The World War II Home and Family of the 1940s

The 1960s: Decade that changed America

Students will learn how the natural environment affected the pioneer home; understand how technology has affected the American home; understand changing roles in the American family; be able to compare and contrast homes of different periods with homes of today; and understand how national and world events and changing styles in architecture and decoration have affected the American home. These boxes can be used individually or as a set.

Benton County Crime Stories

Law enforcement history is one of the most effective and available tools we have to teach across the disciplines and at every grade and capability level. Court House and Police department buildings are very accessible historic artifacts that directly link the past and the present. Each state and each county has a rich law enforcement heritage--an individual and unique heritage! Whether your community has old court houses, jail cells and other outbuildings, or combinations of many types, you can learn more about the story of your place and its people from the stories and artifacts of our areas here's our police officers.

The Frisco Line

Students will examine the role of the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad in the founding of Rogers; understand the importance of the railroad in the economic development of Northwest Arkansas; and understand why the railroad declined as a means of transportation in the postwar era.

Grandpa's Barn

Students will see how technology has affected the American farm; understand how and why barns are different on different types of farms and in different parts of the nation; and appreciate the importance of barns and their preservation.

Grandma's Kitchen

Students will look at how technology has affected the American home; understand how technology and marketing have affected the American diet; understand changing roles in the American family; and be able to compare and contrast homes of the past with homes of today.

Quilts

Students will learn how quilt patterns and names were handed down through the years; understand how real objects were interpreted by quilt designers as abstract geometric designs; and understand that quilts are works of folk art.

School Days

Students will examine the role of the public schools in the past; be able to compare and contrast education today with education long ago; and be able to compare and contrast the lives of children long ago with their lives today.

What's It's: Gadgets of Long Ago

Students will discuss how technology has affected the American home, farm, and office; and be able to compare and contrast homes, farms, and offices of the past with those of today.

The Civil War in Benton County

Students will learn that the causes of war were complex and interwoven, discover that the Arkansas-Missouri state line established the line dividing the North from the South, realize that significant battles were fought locally, and learn about the war from a military perspective and also from the perspective of a typical family from the Union and the Confederacy.

The Sagers: Pioneer Immigrant Cabinet Makers

Students will appreciate the contributions of German immigrants to antebellum Arkansas; understand that movement into Northwest Arkansas reflects trends in immigration into the United States; and understand that craftsmen played an important role in pioneer Arkansas.

Stop the Press: Newspapers of Long Ago

Students will learn how technology has affected the American newspaper office; be able to compare and contrast newspapers of the past with those of today; and understand the role of the newspaper in the civic and social life of their community.