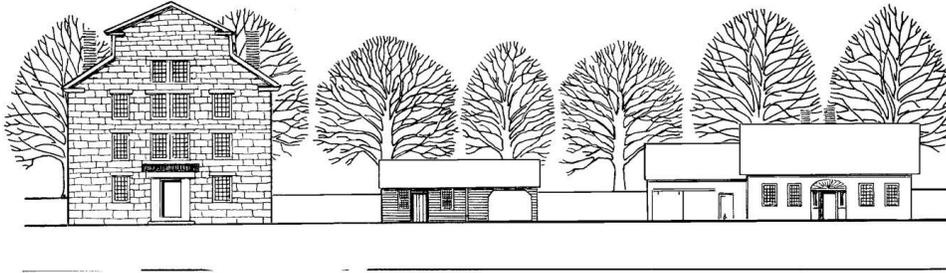




## HOMESCHOOLING THIS FALL?



### The Old Stone House Museum in Brownington

Offering in person, STEAM-based, outdoor programming for your elementary aged learning pods in September and October

Covid Safety Measures: Screening, masks, outdoor and open-air classrooms

#### Sample Programs Include:

- Something From Nothing: Resourcefulness in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century
- Wild Colors: Natural Pigments and Dying
- Stones and Bones: Studies in the Brownington Village Cemetery with a community service opportunity!
- More... See back of this flier!!!

#### Getting Started:

- Pod size: No more than 8 learners with 2 chaperones
- Price: Starts at \$60 for 1.5 hr class, \$75 for 2 hr class\*
- Time: Programming can be scheduled on Mondays and Fridays
- Location: Outdoors in the Old Stone House Historic Village

*\*Sliding fees based on need and availability of funds*

Contact Dana Karuza at [outreach@oldstonehousemuseum.org](mailto:outreach@oldstonehousemuseum.org)

To ease organization, your pod should designate one parent or guardian as the “learning coordinator” who will serve as the point of contact with the museum throughout the fall. Share a phone number, your group ages and size in your initial email inquiry.

### Workshops for Homeschool Learners, Fall 2020, Old Stone House Museum

\$60 per group of 8 or less, plus two chaperone parents at no cost. 1.5 hour classes  
\$75 per group of 8 or less, plus two chaperone parents at no cost. 2 hour class.  
Additional parents and younger siblings @ \$6 each to 14 maximum participants  
Groups that do not meet this requirement shall communicate with the program coordinator prior to field trip and negotiate exact numbers for safe participant: staff ratios. *Exact numbers are necessary to adhere to Covid Safety precautions. 2 chaperone’s per group are required.*  
Cancellations within 48 hours of program. No show groups will be charged.

Classes are offered in the morning and afternoons on Monday and Friday. Sept 11th to Oct. 12th. Choose one class and return again on another fall afternoon or take 2 classes for a full day and picnic at the museum.

Programs for 1st to 6th grade students, possibility to hand tailor for middle school students  
Younger siblings by permission of museum coordinator.

1. **Something from Nothing.** Class will begin with reading the Jewish Folktale - *Something from Nothing*. Participants will then look back historically to the resourcefulness of individuals who lived before they were born and compare how we treat “stuff” today. The class will culminate with a recycled arts project: perhaps creating an altered book or junk art sculpture. Participants will have the opportunity to share their artwork in a circle and be introduced to positive critiquing.
2. **Stones & Bones: Cleaning old gravestones** - Learn about the Brownington cemetery and explore the many gifts old gravestones have to offer - sculpture, stones, symbolic artwork, history, poetry and stories. Often these old gravestones are covered with lichen, moss, dirt and algae along with environmental pollutants that hide the inscriptions and artwork, as well as deteriorate the stone itself.

Careful cleaning using water and simple tools (soft brushes and popsicle sticks) can reveal the beauty of the inscriptions and the artwork and actually help the further deterioration of the stone. Children from first grade to highschool have found cleaning stones to be satisfying and fun. The work provides the opportunity to connect with lives lived long before and offers a rewarding sense of community service.

3. **Sheep Relay** - Participants will learn about the basics of wool processing by engaging in a fun, fast-paced activity introducing them to fiber processing from Sheep to Shawl. Carding, washing, shearing, spinning and visits with a real sheep are in store! This class can be taken in the morning and combined with an afternoon weaving or felting project.

4. **Wild Colors** - Until approximately 150 yrs. ago color had been created using plants and insects. Color palettes were created regionally mainly from native plants. The invention of synthetic dye transformed our view of color. Today we get bright colors from chemical dyes for everything from the clothing we wear, the art around us and at times even food. In this class we will take a close look at natural pigments and participate in either a wool dyeing, printing or paint making project with natural pigments from nature. Learn how plants such as beets, walnuts, goldenrods, tansy and others were used as dyes historically.
5. **Pond Studies** - 1.5 or 2 hours- Enjoy a story from the book *Pond People* by 19th century author Clara Dillingham Pierson. Participants will take a close look at the flora (plants and their uses) and fauna (animals) of the pond and learn about the dry hydrant that serves the community in the event of a fire.
6. **Old Stone House Museum, collections and explorations.** Students are engaged through object-based and evidence-based learning using the museum's collections. Topics may include: Exploring the life of a student in the 19th century or comparing and contrasting the tools and technologies used by people in the past to what we use today.
7. **Life and Times of Alexander Twilight** - 225 years ago, a boy was born on a farm not too far from here, in Corinth, VT. His parents named him Alexander. He was a boy just like many others. He had lots of siblings and grew up on a farm. Learn about what unfolded to be an extraordinary life as Alexander became the first African American to receive a college degree in our country and took on the job of Headmaster of the Brownington Academy right here in our historic village. Hands-on activities such as quill writing, geography, garden harvest activities or art will be included in the class.
8. **Map and Compass** - Learn to navigate around the Historical Village. Explore different types of maps and participate in creating a map of your own. Students, grade 3 and older will learn to use a compass and cardinal directions to navigate their way around the village. Younger students may make a model with clay of the buildings in the village. A visit to Prospect Hill may round out the class for a panoramic view of the Brownington Historic Village.
9. **Natural Remedies** - Some of our common *weeds* actually hold healing and nourishing qualities. A scavenger hunt and “weed walk” around the museum, followed by a look at the museum herb garden investigating our flora will allow students to begin to see the wonders of the plant world. Participants will look at historic healing methods, hear a story about plant medicines and make an herbal salve to take home.

**Covid Safety policy:**

All Covid precautions will be in place with open classrooms and outdoor learning. Programs will be cancelled in inclement weather at the discretion of museum staff. If it is not possible to reschedule a program refund will be provided.

All program participants including staff, parents and students will be required to wear masks indoors and when programming outdoors does not allow for 6' distancing. Adults and elementary age children should have masks at the ready around their necks at all times. Siblings under the age of 5 are not required to wear masks but may at the safety discretion of their parents. Materials will not be shared or hand sanitizer will be readily available for participants when limited sharing is necessary. Bathroom will be open only in the Grammar School, where hand sanitizer, soap and disinfectant will be available. Groups are invited to have lunch on blankets outdoors. A limited number of picnic tables are available.

Maximum group size for safety reasons will be 14, 8 participating students and 6 younger siblings and parents combined. Two chaperones are required to accompany each group. Groups that do not meet this requirement shall communicate with the program coordinator prior to field trip and negotiate exact numbers for safe participant: staff ratios.