



Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership



2014 CVNHP Local Heritage Grant

Investing in the Future by Studying the Past

Project Summary

The Ethan Allen Homestead Museum developed new educational programming to match new scholarship and reflect new educational standards. The program was intended to help interpreters develop their presentations, and engage young adults in research. The benefits of the program were new dynamic programs that engage new audiences. The objective of this program was to develop portable demonstration kits on areas of history and make them available for use for schools.

The museum hired three college students on as interns to develop lesson plans and demonstrations for the public. They were allowed to choose their own topic area, and were provided with research resources to carry it out. Under our supervision, the interns developed activities and a procedure that was compatible with Common Core. Throughout May-October 2014, the interns were required to spend at least three hours per week at the museum helping with general operations, but also working on these programs. They were supervised in their research, and provided instruction on how to write and perform a lesson.

The interns produced interesting results, they each chose different areas of focus and produced lesson plans that were interdisciplinary. Each Lesson Plan covers both History and another subject pertinent to the Champlain Valley. Each Lesson Plan examines a different aspect of life in the Champlain Valley during the 18th Century. Upon testing, these activities were very favourably received, and after making changes to address workability issues, they are ready to be offered as part of the museum's regular educational programming.

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Interns developed new curricula and interpretive programs that included colonial botany, French settlement of the Champlain Valley and colonial play.

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Non-federal Match:	\$2,000.00
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