

Teacher Resource Guide
Immersive Educational History Programs
Indian Creek Historical Fashions
Where History Comes to Life



Bring History to Life in Your Classroom

History should not sit quietly in a textbook.

It should be **felt... heard... experienced.**

This Teacher Resource Guide is designed to help you prepare your students for an immersive historical program—and extend learning beyond the presentation.

Each program connects directly to curriculum standards while creating a powerful emotional and educational experience your students will never forget.

 **ABOUT THE PROGRAMS**

Indian Creek Historical Fashions offers **interactive, curriculum-aligned living history programs** for schools across the Midwest.

Programs include:

- Children's Blizzard of 1888
- Women Homesteaders of the Great Plains
- Women of the Civil War
- Victorian Fashion & Dress
- Language of the Fan (Interactive)
- Frontier Cooking & Daily Life
- Natural Dyeing



PRE-PROGRAM ACTIVITIES (TEACHER USE)

1. DISCUSSION STARTER (5–10 MINUTES)

Ask students:

- What would you do if a storm came suddenly with no warning?
 - How do you think children lived differently in the 1800s?
 - What challenges would you face living on the prairie?
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2. VOCABULARY PREVIEW

Introduce key terms before the program:

- Homestead Act
 - Prairie
 - Blizzard
 - Frontier
 - Settlement
 - Victorian
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3. IMAGINATION EXERCISE

Have students write or discuss:

“You are living in 1888 on the Great Plains...”

- What does your day look like?
 - What are you wearing?
 - What are your responsibilities?
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PROGRAM-SPECIFIC EXTENSIONS

CHILDREN'S BLIZZARD OF 1888

Discussion Questions:

- Why was the storm so deadly?
- What choices did teachers have to make?
- What would you have done in that situation?

Writing Activity:

Write a journal entry from the perspective of:

- A student in the schoolhouse
 - A teacher during the storm
 - A parent waiting at home
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WOMEN HOMESTEADERS

Discussion Questions:

- Why would women choose to homestead?
- What challenges did they face?
- How did this change women's roles?

Activity:

Create a "Homestead Plan":

- What would you bring?
 - How would you survive your first winter?
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WOMEN OF THE CIVIL WAR

Discussion Questions:

- Why did some women disguise themselves as soldiers?
- What risks did they take?

- Why are these stories often overlooked?

Writing Prompt:

Write a letter home from a woman serving in disguise.



VICTORIAN FASHION

Discussion Questions:

- What does clothing tell us about society?
- How did fashion restrict or define women?

Activity:

Compare modern clothing to Victorian clothing:

- Movement
 - Comfort
 - Expectations
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CRITICAL THINKING CONNECTIONS

Encourage students to think deeper:

- How does environment shape human decisions?
 - What would modern technology change in these situations?
 - Why is it important to remember these stories today?
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POST-PROGRAM REFLECTION

After the program, ask students:

- What moment stood out most to you?
 - How did the program make you feel?
 - What did you learn that surprised you?
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FROM THE PRESENTER

“As a storyteller, my goal is not just to teach history—
but to connect your students to the people who lived it.”



BOOKING INFORMATION

Indian Creek Historical Fashions

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Serving:

Nebraska • Iowa • Kansas • Missouri • South Dakota • North Dakota • Midwest

 **Schedule a program for your school today**