



## Crafts and Trades

Bennington Museum is looking forward to your class visit! You may wish to make connections in your classroom to the things your students experience at the museum. Below are just a few ideas for pre- and post-visit activities that you could do with your class. If you have a great activity idea, and would like to share it with us, please contact Deana Mallory at [dmallory@benningtonmuseum.org](mailto:dmallory@benningtonmuseum.org), or call (802) 447-1571.

### Pre-visit activities

#### Vocation Vocabulary

Have students complete the enclosed Crafts and Trades worksheet, using books, reference materials, and/or the Internet to find out what each trade was.

#### Life Long Ago

The Crafts and Trades program focuses on the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Have students think about what life was like during that time period. What modern conveniences had not been invented yet? Did people have electricity, cars, etc.? Where did most people live?

#### Make Predictions

What kinds of jobs do the students think that people had long ago? Make a list of their brainstormed ideas. After the visit, look at the list again and see how many of their predictions were mentioned during the visit.

#### Now and Then

After thinking about what life was like long ago, have students make a list of jobs that exist today that they think did not exist in the past. Discuss with them why they think these jobs are relatively new ones. What kinds of things are needed to do the jobs they have listed? Computers? Electricity? Airplanes?

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## **Post-visit activities**

### **Apprentice Activity**

Visit [www.winterthur.org](http://www.winterthur.org) and click on “Educational Programs.” On that page you will find a link to an interactive activity about apprenticeships. Students can make choices and discover the consequences of each action. Will they become a wealthy master some day or find themselves out of money on foreign shores?

### **Revisit Your Predictions**

Look at the list of predictions the class made before the visit. How many of their guesses were accurate? Are there any jobs on their list that they think might have been done long ago that they did not hear about at the museum? How can they find out if those jobs were in fact done during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries?

### **Apprentice Story**

Have students imagine they are a young person in the 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century. Have each student write and illustrate a short story about his or her experience as an apprentice. What trade will they learn? How does the master treat them? Do they go to school? Do they like their work? Are they thinking about running away? Are they homesick?

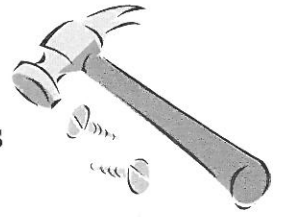
### **Interview**

Have students interview an older person, maybe a grandparent or older neighbor. Find out what his or her first job was. What tasks did he or she have to do? Was the job performed at home, in a factory, on a farm, in an office? What work does the person do now? Did he or she have to learn new skills during his or her career?

### **Learn a New Skill**

Have students work with classmates, friends, or relatives to learn or teach a new skill. Maybe they can swap skills – teach someone a new skill in exchange for learning one from that person. Have students document their learning and teaching experiences.

## *Crafts and Trades*



During your visit to The Bennington Museum, you will hear about jobs from long ago. Some of them are listed below. Can you find out what these people did?

Apothecary \_\_\_\_\_

Tailor \_\_\_\_\_

Cooper \_\_\_\_\_

Currier \_\_\_\_\_

Joiner \_\_\_\_\_

Miller \_\_\_\_\_

Wainwright \_\_\_\_\_

Sawyer \_\_\_\_\_

Farrier \_\_\_\_\_

Cordwainer \_\_\_\_\_

Mason \_\_\_\_\_

Chandler \_\_\_\_\_

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### *Think About It...*

Are any of these jobs no longer done? Which ones, and why not?

Are any of these jobs still being done, but being called by another name? Which ones, and what are they called now?

Do you recognize any surnames (last names) in the list of jobs above? How do you think a family might have gotten that name?