

#4

“You Gotta Know the Territory!”

Location: 2nd Floor

From 1838 to 1846, the area that was to become the state of Iowa was a territory inhabited by Native Americans and also by settlers trying to start a new life. It was a time of many changes. Look at the Native American cultures and their way of life. Look at the settlers and their way of life. Think of your own hometown. What was it like 150 years ago? When did your family come to Iowa?

1. The environment influenced the daily lives of different Native American cultures. Walk around the section called “People for the Land.” Write down two of the ways the woodland environment influenced the Mesquakie in Iowa. **Tools, homes, art, food, clothing.**

2. You have trapped and prepared 11 beaver skins. This is what they are worth at the trading post:

With ONE skin, you could buy:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 package of beads | 1 metal trap |
| 1 pound of gunpowder | 1 pound of musket balls |

With TWO skins, you could buy:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 1 cloth blanket | 1 metal ax |
| 1 metal knife | 1 metal pot |
| cloth & needles | |

With TEN skins, you could buy:

- 1 gun

What would you buy with your 11 skins?

Answers will vary.

3. Look around the sections “On The Road Again” and “The Farmer Capitalist.” Describe below why you think people moved to the Iowa territory.

To farm rich land; to pursue a better way of life; to be able to purchase their own land; to leave behind Europe’s famines, persecutions, war.

#5

A Few of Our Favorite Things

Location: 1st floor - entrance near northwest restrooms.

From aerosol cans to zippers, these are 100 things that shaped people’s lives in the past 100 years. Unlike other exhibits, each of these items is displayed as historically important in its own right. And every item tells a story.

1. Write down three medical things you find that are important for keeping people healthy.

Answers will vary.

2. Find and write down the names of three things you and your family have used for entertainment or a hobby or on vacation.

Answers will vary.

MUSEUM EDUCATION



Look...Listen...Explore!

WELCOME TO THE STATE HISTORICAL BUILDING!

This building is a place where you can journey back to Iowa’s past. In the exhibits, you’ll discover how Iowans used to live, and you’ll see how Iowa’s environment has changed over time. Look. Listen. Explore! Ask questions. Think about how the items on display relate to your life.

While you are visiting, please follow these few simple rules:

1. Stay with your group.
2. Do not touch any object, unless it is part of a hands-on activity.
3. Walk - don’t run - as you tour the building.

Answer the questions in this brochure to test your skills as a time traveler!

Name _____



TEACHER’S COPY

#1



Mammoth: Witness to Change

Location: Atrium

Somewhere around 10,000 years ago, the climate began warming and the Ice Age ended. As the glaciers retreated, the environment and plant and animal life changed. New hunters, human ones, arrived and brought more pressure on the mammoth and they became extinct. Mammoth fossils - their teeth and bones - have been unearthed through everyday activities of Iowans as they farm the land or dig into the earth for construction projects.

1. Look at the wall behind the Mammoth skeleton. Identify three of the footprints you can see.

Bear, deer, turkey, moose, human, mammoth, wolf, bison.

2. Why do you think the mammoth became extinct?

Climate changed (not as cold), human hunters, less food and competition for food with other animals like bison, didn't have babies very frequently, disease.



#2

Free Time

This is your free time! Here's a few of the things you can do to fill this time:

- Explore the Patten's Neighborhood exhibit in the atrium on the 1st Floor and don't forget to check out the smaller displays near the Education area.
- Visit the *Where's Floppy?* and *Medical Marvels* exhibits located near the Grand Staircase. Look in the Resource Center for special displays.
- Wander through *Collection Close-up*, a display area near the entrance of the Museum Store.
- See the "built in Iowa" 1906 Mason car under the Grand Staircase.
- Use the restrooms and water fountains.
- Visit the Museum Store. Please remember that all student groups must be accompanied by an adult in the Store.



#3



The Delicate Balance: Human Values and Iowa's Natural Resources

Location: 1st floor - entrance near Mammoth exhibit.

Iowa's environment has changed over time. Some changes to the environment happen as a result of nature's activities – such as floods and tornadoes. Other changes to the environment are brought about by human activities, such as building roads and burning fossil fuel.

1. Look at the three habitats shown in "Tools of Change." Name two animals and birds you find in each habitat:

Forest: **Elk, squirrel, turkey**

Wetlands: **Duck, geese, heron, mink**

Prairie: **Buffalo, prairie chickens**

2. Settlers wrote diaries and drew pictures that tell us about life in Iowa long ago. Look around the large section called "The Witness." Find a drawing you like and write down the title, subject, and artist. Next, describe the things you would draw if you wanted to show future generations what your life is like.

Answers will vary.

3. Look all along the wall marked "Choices." Write down one example of how people can choose to help or harm the environment.

Answers will vary.