



HISTORIC CHARLTON PARK



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

WE PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN, TO RELAX, TO HAVE FUN - SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

HISTORY COMES TO LIFE AT HISTORIC CHARLTON PARK!

Our education programs are designed to expand student's knowledge and comprehension of the past. Programs encourage learning through hands-on participation in our 19th century historic village. We provide a personal connection to history that can be adapted to any age or interest level.

Historic Charlton Park encompasses over 300 acres with its village, museum and recreation area. The park is a product of the vision and work of Irving Delos Charlton. In 1936, he donated land to Barry County for the purpose of building a museum and recreation facility for area residents.

During his lifetime, Charlton collected thousands of artifacts, most of which form the core of our current collection. He strongly believed in the preservation of agricultural and common household objects from the 19th century for the education of future generations. The historic village began in 1969 and was recreated to portray a rural Michigan village in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The education programs utilize the buildings such as the one room schoolhouse, general store, township hall and a stagecoach stop, in order to bring history alive for your students! **Your students will be able to see, listen, touch, smell and feel their way through history!**



EDUCATOR QUOTES:

"It [the program] is a great mix of sitting, listening, and moving. Then there is also time for exploring."
~Union City Elementary

"In the 25 years that I have been teaching, our field trip to Charlton Park was the most delightful one I have ever taken. The presentations were very informative and the

sights and smells of Charlton Park gave us a flavor of life over 100 years ago."

~Southwood School

"The students really enjoyed themselves and we were able to engage in some great discussions here at school... I know without a doubt that their hands-on experiences in these actual historic buildings greatly supplemented their thinking and knowledge about this period in American history."

~Parkview Elementary

"The trip brought it all together. We have read and studied about the pioneer days, but actually doing chores, sitting in the school and churning butter was terrific. On top of the lesson we did at school, our students now have a real feel for what it was like as a pioneer."

~Ellis Elementary

The mission of Charlton Park is to provide educational and recreational opportunities, through the collection, preservation and demonstration of early rural Michigan life, artifacts and buildings, and the management of natural and recreation areas.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Live-In

Students live the life of a child at the turn-of-the-century by participating in daily chores and activities. They will visit the Bristol Inn and Stagecoach Stop, General Store and One-Room Schoolhouse. Recommended for: Grades K-5

Down on the Farm

Students experience what life may have been like living on a farm in the late 1800's. They will visit the Bristol Inn and One-Room Schoolhouse as well as the Township Hall for candle making and brief introduction to local government. Recommended for: Grades K-5

Lee School All Day

Teachers and students spend the entire day participating in lessons as children did in the 1890's. Our staff presents the orientation at the beginning of your day. You, the teacher, present all lessons to your students. Readers and slates are provided.

Victorian Christmas

Students participate in a variety of activities that bring a Victorian Christmas to life. Students take home the decorations they make such as cornucopia ornaments, strings of popcorn and cranberries, candles and others. Recommended for: Grades K-2

Outreach

Is Charlton Park too far away? Are you unable to get buses or funding, but still want your students to have a historical experience? Using "Mystery Objects" students learn to read an artifact and in the process how those items were used in the past. Recommended for: all ages

Self-Designed Program

You create the program! Choose three of these activities:

Bristol Inn-students will do chores, take a tour of the house, learn about stagecoaches and everyday life, and you may choose to have them churn butter and/or make soup on the woodstove. (Recommended for: all ages)

General Store-learn about the merchandise and how bartering and trade worked. (Recommended for: Grades 1+)

Township Hall - Students learn about township government and the importance of candles, and make a candle to take home! (Recommended for: all ages)

One-Room Schoolhouse-students receive a short lesson, use their slates, and will also learn the differences between their school and our's. (Recommended for: all ages)

Blacksmith-visit the local blacksmith to learn about the tools and trade (subject to availability)

**Please visit
www.charltonpark.org/park/education_programs
for applicable MDE GLCE.**

GENERAL INFORMATION

Booking Details

- Call the Programming & Education Facilitator at (269) 945-3775 as soon as possible to book your program or e-mail: eduprogram@charltonpark.org.
- Charlton Park's facilities are only designed for groups of up to 54 students.
- Pre-visit information will be sent approximately two months before your visit.
- Chaperones are necessary for a smooth Charlton Park experience. Please limit chaperones to one for every ten students. **Required chaperones are FREE!**
- Although programs can be held year-round, be advised that some historic buildings are only heated with woodstoves and can be very cold.
- At the conclusion of your program you are welcome to stay and tour the rest of the village and museum, visit the gift shop, hike one of the trails, or go to the recreation area.
- Preparation by the teacher is important to the success of our programs. Hopefully, the activity at Charlton Park will be a supplement to your current curriculum.

Location

Charlton Park is located one-half mile north of M-79 on S. Charlton Park Road. Our address is: 2545 S. Charlton Park Rd., Hastings, MI 49058. Directions can be found on our website, www.charltonpark.org, under "Hours, Fees and Contact Information."

Hours of Operation

Open year-round, Charlton Park's office is available to assist you daily from 8:00am-5:00 pm. The buildings of our Historic Village are open daily from Memorial Day through Labor Day as staffing permits. (269) 945-3775

Prices

Live-In, Down on the Farm and Self-Designed Programs:

\$6.00 per student; \$10.00 per adult

Deposit is \$100 per day

Supply fee Live-In: \$15/day (not per student)

Supply fee Down on the Farm: \$18

Lee School All Day Program:

\$4.00 per student; \$4.00 per adult

Deposit is \$50.00 per day

Victorian Christmas Program:

\$6.00 per student; \$6.00 per adult

Deposit is \$100 per day

All teachers and required chaperones are free!

Homeschool Groups:

Trip coordinator and children 2 and under are free. One parent per 10 students is also free.

Outreach Program:

Please contact Charlton Park to learn details.

