

Post-Trip Ideas

To make your trip to Landis Valley Museum as meaningful as possible to your students, it is important to have them talk about what they learned. Here are some ideas that make this review fun and thought provoking.

- Paper Memory Quilt - Have Children work together to make a paper quilt that will record their memories of Landis Valley Museum. Upon completion, it can be displayed on the wall for all to see. Have each child write about or draw their favorite museum memory on a square of white paper. Mount these on larger squares of colored construction paper. Once laminated, punch holes and tie the squares together to make a hanging quilt.
- Time Travel Play - Have small groups of children work out a skit where either someone is transported backwards to the 1800s or forwards from the 1800s into our modern day. Each skit must contain 3 facts from the 1800s and 3 changes that the traveler doesn't expect.

If you took any of our school workshops, these activities may further enhance the things learned there.

- Farm Child Sampler - Write down your everyday morning routine. Now, with the information gathered from the Farm Child Sampler workshop, re-write what this routine might have been like if you were growing up on a farm in the 1800s.
- Dyename Colors - Take a sample of each fabric dyed in the workshop. Cover the top half of the fabric scrap with a piece of cardboard or heavy paper, and pin it near a window. Observe the changes that light causes on these dyes over the next several months. Which dyes were more colorfast? Did the colors stay bright and strong?
- Tossed Treasures - Ask if it bothered some of the students that the pieces they reassembled with tape were not particularly old or valuable. Why do they think the museum chose things with very little value for the students to work with? Now, ask if they would just throw these things away. Were they junk? Will they someday be considered valuable relics? Discuss how museum curators must decide everyday what items are trash or treasure. Explain that when the founders of Landis Valley Museum, George and Henry Landis, started to collect things such as Conestoga wagons, spinning wheels, and farm tools, they were storing what most other people saw as old junk!
- Wool to Weaving - Have the students create a flow chart, either individually or as a class, that starts with a sheep and shows each step towards the creation of fabric. Charts should include a minimum of four steps. (**Shearing**, **cleaning**, teasing (fluffing), carding (combing), **spinning**, measuring, and **weaving**.)
- One Room Schoolhouse - Discuss the differences between a one room schoolhouse and today's schools. Do the students think a one room school would be more fun or less? Have them draw a picture about the thing they liked the most or the least.