



Voyageur for a Day

A combination of a north canoe paddle and activities all surrounding the life of a voyageur and the impact that the fur trade industry had on the lives of the indigenous populations and the development of Canada today.

Duration: Full day

Curriculum Reference: Social Studies

Grade: 5

Minimum Supervision Requirements: Teacher + 1 supervisor

Learning Objectives:

Introduce what a day in the life of a Voyageur looked like, the growth of trade and exploration in Canada and the effects of the fur trade on indigenous groups and present-day Canada.

Big Ideas:

- Who were the Voyageurs and what were their attributes that made them good for the job?
- What did an average day of a Voyageur look like and what were the challenges they faced?
- What are some of the pros and cons of the Fur Trade on Indigenous groups?
- What were some common fur trade items?



Sample Itinerary

(Times will vary based on bus charter timing)

10:00am	Students arrive	Welcome chat, washroom break, snack
10:30am	Pre-Canoe Lessons and North Canoeing	Talk about who the voyageurs were and what they were trying to achieve. Get PFDs and paddles, load boats and set out on a paddle to a fur trade post further down the lake.
11:45am	Lunch	Arrive at the "Trading Post", have lunch and participate in some activities surrounding the different furs and trading goods that were involved with the Fur Trade.
1:00pm	Canoe back to GLOC	Paddle back to Outdoor Centre.
2:00pm	Clean up, Depart	Final washroom break and snack. Bus departs (2:30)