

LESSON PLAN: THIS PLACE MATTERS

PRE-VISIT, ON-SITE
AND POST-VISIT

GRADE: 5th

SUBJECT: Social Studies (see Extension for Math opportunities)

Curriculum Standards Met:

5.4.04 Recognize how Americans incorporate the principles of the Constitution into their lives.

- Recognize and interpret how the "common good" can be strengthened through various forms of citizen action.
- Use knowledge of facts and concepts drawn from history, along with elements of historical inquiry to inform decision making about and action taking on public issues.

5.5.05 Discuss how various groups addressed the problems of industrial capitalism, urbanization, and political corruption.

- Identify various Progressive reform efforts and their leaders.

5.5.tpi.7 Analyze primary sources not limited to but including artifacts, diaries, letters, photographs, art, documents, newspapers, contemporary media, and computer information systems to make generalizations about events and life in United States history since 1865.

OBJECTIVES: Students will be able to understand the importance of preserving historic sites by researching the “who, what, when, where, and why” of the site.

Complete steps 1 & 2 before visiting Blount Mansion.

- Ask students what makes a place a “landmark.” Write responses on the blackboard. [10 minutes]
- After discussing what a landmark is, ask students to name local and national landmarks. Write responses on the blackboard. [10 minutes]
- Visit Blount Mansion and tour the property. Education Coordinator or volunteers will explain the importance of citizen action (Mary Boyce Temple saving the property during the Progressive Era), and refresh students memories about the Constitution and early statehood. [60– 120 minutes]
- At Blount Mansion, have your picture made holding the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s “This Place Matters” sign (or a “This Place Matters” sign created by the class). [5 minutes]
- After visiting Blount Mansion, have students fill out the worksheet “This Place Matters.” [15 minutes]
- EXTENSION: Use the Historic American Buildings Survey drawings to discuss area and volume. See the Teaching with Primary Sources Across Tennessee lesson plan, “Finding the Area & Volume of Buildings Using Architectural Drawings” (http://library.mtsu.edu/tps/lessonplans&ideas/Lesson_Plan--Finding_the_Area_and_Volume_of_Buildings_Using_Architectural_Drawings.pdf)

Resources:

- Library of Congress, Historic American Buildings Survey: William Blount Mansion.
[http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/r?ammem/hh:@field\(DOCID+@lit\(TN0086\)\)](http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/r?ammem/hh:@field(DOCID+@lit(TN0086)))
- National Park Service, National Historic Landmark Program.
<http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/>
- National Trust for Historic Preservation, “This Place Matters”
<http://www.preservationnation.org/take-action/this-place-matters/>



200 W. Hill Avenue
P.O. Box 1703
Knoxville, TN 37901-1703

Phone: 865-525-2375
Fax: 865-546-5315
E-mail: educationcoordinator@blountmansion.org