



AIRBORNE & SPECIAL OPERATIONS MUSEUM

KINDERGARTEN Curriculum Guide

NOTE TO TEACHERS: This curriculum guide is intended to enhance your visit to the Airborne & Special Operations Museum. By incorporating information and experiences available at the museum with the NC standard course of study for kindergartners, your visit here will be made more meaningful for your students. The following questions, observations and exercises reinforce specific competency goals and skill objectives for kindergarten students in the North Carolina Public Schools.

1. (This relates to competency goal 2 – learning to identify and exhibit qualities of responsible citizenship . . .)
 - a. Point out to your students the American flag flying in front of the museum. If you arrive shortly before opening, you can observe the flag being raised and talk about flag courtesy.
 - b. Discuss with your students the Pledge of Allegiance and the special commitment soldiers make to their country.
2. (This relates to competency goal 3 – recognizing and understanding the concept of change in various settings)
 - a. Ask your students to consider the different environment they will encounter at the museum and discuss how important good behavior in a public place can be. Inform your students of the volunteers who will greet your class and to encourage them to display good manners.
 - b. In the museum theater, your students will see a 14-minute film, *Descending From the Clouds*. Back at school, ask why it is important for people to be quiet in a movie theater.
3. (This relates to competency goal 2 – learner will identify and exhibit qualities of responsible citizenship . . .)
 - a. Throughout the museum, mannequins represent real soldiers. Discuss the contribution made by soldiers to their nation and to their local communities. Point out that soldiers often volunteer in local communities in a number of ways other than defending America’s interests around the globe.

- b. Ask children to identify other examples of community service – policemen, firemen, emergency medical personnel all perform community service, as do many other people of other professions.
4. (This relates to competency goal 3 – the learner will recognize and understand the concept of change in various settings.)
 - a. Ask the students to observe the different uniforms worn by the soldiers depicted in the museum and explain what changes they saw in them.
 - b. The museum depicts different geographical settings for various vignettes and artifacts. Ask the children to observe the different backgrounds (desert, jungle, urban areas, etc.) and see how many different settings they can remember.
5. (This relates to Competency goal 5 – the learner will express basic geographic concepts in real life situations.)
 - a. Use a world map to point out to the children where past and current conflicts occur in the world. Reassure children by making clear the great distances between home and the current battlefields of the world.
 - b. Inform children that Fayetteville is home to Fort Bragg and Pope AFB and that people from those military installations are all over the world, protecting and defending America’s interests. By the same token, people from all over the world call Fayetteville home. Ask if any of the children were born in far-away places, or have family in far-away places, and show them that place on the map.

Goals in kindergarten focus on developing positive attitudes about themselves, their families, and families of diverse cultures.

1. Ask your students to find a picture or story about soldiers from an outside source and share it with the class.
2. Have the students plan a virtual birthday party for America – how should July 4 be celebrated? And why?
3. Ask the children to discuss the lives and responsibilities of soldiers – what is good and fun and what aspects are not so good or fun.
4. Teach the children to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Or ask the children to roleplay a good soldier, at home or in a far-away location.