

Michigan Libraries

Note to teachers: This supplement includes a discussion guide, lessons and Michigan Content Standards to use with the Michigan Time Traveler Kids' History page published in the *Lansing State Journal* on July 9, 2003. You may reproduce the pages in this supplement to use with students.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

(SOC.1.1. *Time and Chronology*; SOC.1.2. *Understanding the Past*; SOC 1.3. *Analyze and Interpret the Past*;
ELA.1. *Meaning and Communication in Context*)

Our Early Libraries. What is the difference between a public library and a subscription library? (Public libraries are usually tax-supported and free to use. Subscription libraries require a paid membership and, sometimes, a fee when you borrow books.) How did members pay to join the library in Philadelphia? In Detroit? (shillings, dollars) Why? (The colonies still belonged to England in 1731.) What is the value of the British pound (£) today. (Look in the business pages of your newspaper.) In what ways are subscription libraries and the video/DVD rental stores of today similar and different? What kinds of services do communities provide to residents by collecting taxes? (water, police and fire protection, streets, lighting, etc.) Why are services such as libraries and parks also important to people? (improve the quality of life and make the community more desirable for people and business) How did Andrew Carnegie help America's cities build libraries?

Lansing's Libraries. How was Lansing's first library different from today's public library? (only used by members, open only on Saturdays, fee to belong) Make a time line of the events in the growth of Lansing's library from the 1860s subscription library to today's Capital Area District Library. Discuss how both the growth in numbers of books and materials and the numbers of library users made new buildings necessary.

Your State Library. The Library of Michigan has the same address as the museum. Locate it on a Lansing street map. Find its former homes on the map. (Lewis Cass Bldg. on S. Walnut between Kalamazoo and Washtenaw Streets; Boys' Vocational School at 400 N. Pennsylvania Ave.; warehouse at 735 E. Michigan Ave.) What kinds of things do you learn about the library from the article? (dates, places) From the photographs? (the crowded condition of the room in 1915, lighting, clothing worn by librarians) Find another article in this newspaper that has a photo. Answer the same questions about the story and the picture. Why was Mary C. Spencer important to both the Library of Michigan and the Lansing library? (She was the state librarian; she wrote Andrew Carnegie to request the money to build the 1905 Carnegie Library in Lansing.)

Read This Summer! How did libraries change during the 20th century? (added books, programs and other things for kids) What are the advantages of joining a Summer Reading Program? (have fun reading, special library programs, prizes, free stuff)

Words to know:

Library: a room, a part of a building, or a building that keeps, catalogs and circulates to borrowers items including books, manuscripts, musical scores, and other literary and sometimes artistic materials (such as paintings or music/video recordings)

Literary Society: group of persons with an interest in books and reading

Philanthropist: a person who donates money for good causes

Public library: a nonprofit library maintained for public use and usually supported in whole or in part by local taxes

Shilling: a British unit of money from 1502-1970 equal to twelve pence or 1/20 of the British pound (£), used in the United States in colonial times.

Subscription library: a lending library to which borrowers pay a membership fee either instead of or in addition to a specific charge for books borrowed

ACTIVITY ONE: Library Rules, Then and Now

(SOC.1.2. Understanding the Past; SOC.VII.!. Responsible Personal Conduct)

Part I. In 1846 Gideon O. Whittemore, Secretary of State, wrote the “Rules of the Michigan State Library.” The handwritten copy of those rules is in the State Archives. (The library was still in Detroit, but would move to the new capital, Lansing, the following year.) The hand out on page 3 provides a typed copy of those rules. Read and discuss the rules using these questions.

1. When was the library open? Closed?	Open: Monday through Saturday; Closed: Sunday
2. Were members of the public allowed to use the library? Who used it?	No, the library was for legislators and state officers.
3. How many books could be borrowed by one person?	Three
4. When was a book overdue? What rules applied to “overdue” books, maps or other publications?	After 10 days. Fine: 10¢ per day. Average wages were around one dollar per day. What does this fine say about the value people placed on books in 1846? Why do you think they valued them so much?
5. What do legislators do when the legislature “adjourns?” Why was it important to collect all the books at adjournment?	They end the session and return home to their districts. Some legislators might not be returning to Lansing, and the library did not want to lose its books.
6. Who decided which books could never be borrowed?	The governor and the secretary of state
7. Could any borrower take a book from a library case or put it back?	No, only the librarian took or returned the books.
8. How was the money from fines used by the library	To purchase books

Part II. Do you have classroom or school library? What are its rules? Answer questions 1-4 and 6-8 above about your library. Invite the librarian to visit your class (1) to explain the rules and answer questions about the reasons for them, (2) to discuss what students like and dislike about visiting the library, and (3) to brainstorm with the students about rules they would propose to improve their library experiences.

ACTIVITY TWO: Make a Bookmark

(SOC.1.2. Understanding the Past; ART.2.VA. Creating: Visual Arts; ART.4.VA. Arts in Context: Visual Arts)

Have students each make a bookmark with a drawing or photo and information about the local library or a historic building in your community. Get ideas from the State Historic Preservation Office bookmarks that highlight important examples of Michigan's historic architecture. They include the following: Alden Dow House and Studio, Midland; Bay View Association, Bay View; Fair Lane Powerhouse, Dearborn; Marshall Historic District, Marshall. These bookmarks were sent to over 700 libraries statewide and can be seen on the Web site at www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17445_19273_19318-67494--,00.html.

ACTIVITY THREE: A Hazardous Journey

(SOC.1.2. Understanding the Past)

When the state capital moved from Detroit to Lansing, the state library’s books and furnishing were moved by barge and by wagon. The claim on page 4 requests payment from the State of Michigan for a horse that died moving library property. It is a primary source in the collections of the State Archives of Michigan. Read the document with students and discuss the incident. How does this information help you picture and understand this time in history? Discuss how property is moved today. Has anyone in the class moved from one home to another? What kinds of concerns did they have about their things during the move? What other concerns might the state librarian have had (about the books or the library cases)?

MORE RESOURCES

See the PDF of this Teacher’s Guide at the Michigan Time Traveler pages at www.michiganhistory.org for page 5, a list of Web links and printed resources for this topic.

1846 Rules of the Michigan State Library

Rule 1st

The library shall be kept open on each day except Sundays from 9 o'clock A.M. to 12 o'clock P.M. and from 2 o'clock to 4 P.M. –

Rule 2nd

No person except members of the Legislature and State Officers, shall be permitted to take from the library any book, map or other publication belonging thereto –

Rule 3rd

No book, map or other publication, shall be kept by any person entitled to take the same from the library, over ten days at any one time, nor shall more than three volumes be taken at one time by the same person, or on his account –

Rule 4th

Any person detaining any book, map or other publication, belonging to the library, over ten days at any one time, shall forfeit and pay to the Secretary of State, for each days detention, ten cents –

Rule 5th

Any person taking any book, map or other publication from the library shall be liable for all damages done thereto while in his possession; which damages shall be assessed by the Secretary, and paid to him by the person taking such book, map or other publication –

Rule 6th

No person who shall refuse or neglect to pay any fine when required by the Secretary, for keeping any book, map or other publication over ten days, or shall neglect or refuse for the span of ten days, to pay to the Secretary aforesaid all damages assessed by him by virtue of the rules of the library, after receiving notice of such assessment, shall thereafter be permitted to take any book, map or other publication from the Library of Michigan –

Rule 7th

Any members of the legislature having in his possession any book, map or other publication belonging to the library shall return the same, four days before the adjournment of the Legislature –

Rule 8th

Three days before the adjournment of the Legislature the Secretary shall report to the Senate and House of Representatives, the name of each member of the Legislature, who has not returned all books, maps or other publications, taken out of the Library by such members, and settled and paid all amounts for fines for injuring such books or otherwise –

Rule 9th

All such books, maps or other publication as the Governor and Secretary shall determine are necessary always to be kept in the library, as books of Reference shall at no time be taken therefrom –

Rule 10th

No person except the one having charge of the library shall be permitted, to take from, or replace in the cases, any book, map or other publication –

Rule 11th

All damages and fines collected by the Secretary by virtue of these rules, shall be expended by him in the purchase of books for the library and an account of all monies so collected shall be kept by him –

Adopted April 1, 1846

G. O. Whittemore
Secretary of State

Washtenaw County }
 State of Michigan } P

Personally appeared before me George C. Page a Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Washtenaw David B. Johnson and Nathaniel L. Johnson, who upon their oath state that on about the twenty-first day of December last John Cane while hauling a load of State property from Dexter to Lansing (the Capital of Michigan) under the direction of Samuel G. Sutherland (the State Librarian) one of his Horses owing to the bad State of the road and the heavy load fell when ascending the hill between the Capitol Building and Bridge near Bush & Thomas Store. We would further state that the horse died the next day and we give it as our opinion without hesitation that the horse died in consequence of wounds received as above stated. We also consider the horse worth at least seventy five dollars. Further these deponents saith not.

Subscribed & Sworn before me this 8th day of February AD 1848

Geo. C. Page Justice of the Peace

N. F. Johnson
 D. B. Johnson
 H. A. Gorton

Washtenaw County
 State of Michigan

Personally appeared before me George C. Page a justice of the peace in and for the County of Washtenaw David B. Johnson and Nathaniel L. Johnson and Alonzo Gorton, who upon their oath state that on about the twenty-first day of December last John Cane while hauling a load of State property from Dexter to Lansing (the Capital of Michigan) under the direction of Samuel G. Sutherland (the State Librarian) one of his Horses owing to the bad State of the road and the heavy load fell when ascending the hill between the Capitol Building and Bridge near Bush and Thomas Store. We would further state that the horse died the next day and we give it is our opinion without hesitation that the horse died the consequence of wounds received as above stated.

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MORE RESOURCES

Libraries

- American Library Association: www.ala.org/
See Libraries & You, Facts About Libraries.
- The Boston Public Library: www.bpl.org/
The nation's first public library
- Capital Area District Library: www.cadl.org/
The Greater Lansing area's public library
- Detroit Public Library: www.detroit.lib.mi.us/
DPL is the largest library system in Michigan and one of the 10 largest public libraries in the nation.
- The Library Company of Philadelphia: www.librarycompany.org/
Begun by Benjamin Franklin and member of the Junto society
- Library of Congress: www.loc.gov/
The nation's library. See the "History, Mission & Priorities" section for the roles Presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson played in establishing the Library of Congress.
- Library of Michigan: www.michigan.gov/hal
The Library of Michigan celebrates its 175th anniversary in 2003. Read more about the library's history and its many homes in "The Library in Brief."
- LIBWEB: sunsite.berkeley.edu/Libweb/
Search the Berkeley Digital Library SunSITE to find libraries anywhere in the world.
- The New York Society Library: www.nysoclib.org/
This subscription library will celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2004.

Andrew Carnegie Information

- The American Experience – The Richest Man in the World: Andrew Carnegie: www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/carnegie/index.html
- Andrew Carnegie: A Tribute (Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh): www.clpgh.org/bridging/carnegie.html
- Andrew Carnegie Birthplace: www.carnegiebirthplace.com/
- The Andrew Carnegie Birthplace Museum: www.carnegiemuseum.com/
- Carnegie Corporation of New York: www.carnegie.org/
- Carnegie Libraries in Michigan: www.andrewcarnegie.cc/
- *Cobblestone Magazine*
 - Andrew Carnegie (April 1999): www.cobblestonepub.com/pages/Cobbcarnegie.html
 - Libraries (November 1983): www.cobblestonepub.com/pages/compquest198311.html
- Meet Amazing Americans: Andrew Carnegie: www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/aa/Carnegie