

Wyoming History Resources

A compendium of websites and museums about Wyoming History that may be useful to teachers at various grade levels, created by Kathy Christensen, Natrona County School District #1, and Kathy Scheurman, Wyoming Education Association. *Disclaimer: The authors of this document, the Wyoming Education Association, and Natrona County School District #1 do not endorse any of the sources or resources listed in this document, and do not attest to the reliability or accuracy of the information they provide.*

WyoHistory.org: A project of the Wyoming State Historical Society.

<https://www.wyohistory.org/education> -- Huge amounts of information and resources about Wyoming history! Explore WyoHistory.org's education packages, designed for classroom use.

- <https://www.wyohistory.org/education> -- Our [Digital Toolkits of Wyoming History](#), aimed at secondary levels and above, connect topics in Wyoming history with one of 12 overarching areas of U.S. history.
- Packages on the [Oregon Trail](#) (<https://www.wyohistory.org/education/oregon-trail>) and the [Indian Wars](#) (<https://www.wyohistory.org/education/indian-wars>) are aimed at elementary classrooms. They offer articles, maps, field-trip lesson plans, videos and interactive quizzes. All packages contain information on how the exercises meet Wyoming state social studies standards.

Wind River Education: A project funded by the Wyoming Legislature, created by Wyoming PSB.

<http://windriveredu.org/> -- Videos, lesson plans, and links to educational resources about the two Wind River Reservation tribes for teachers and students, including information on tribal government, as well as preservation of American Indian culture and heritage.

Lived History - The Wind River Virtual Museum: created by Wyoming PBS.

<http://www.windrivervm.org/> -- Lived History documents the creation of a high definition video 'virtual museum' of ancestral artifacts, currently stored in museum collections sometimes far from their places of origin, for the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho tribes.

Wyoming State Museum Discovery Trunks.

<http://wyomuseum.state.wy.us/Learn/DiscoveryTrunk.aspx> -- The Discovery Trunk Program is part of the Wyoming State Museum's education outreach service. This program is designed to complement the teaching of Wyoming history and history of the American West. Hands-on experience with historical objects. Each trunk contains hands-on reproduction artifacts and a Teacher's Guide (including lesson plans, a description of the artifacts, student activities and bibliography). The Museum has trunks on the following subjects:

- The Frontier Army
- The Mountain Man
- The Plains Indians
- Wyoming Trails
- Wyoming Archaeology

Wyoming State Museum School Programs.

<http://wyomuseum.state.wy.us/Learn/Programs.aspx>

- **Tours.** Bring your class to the Wyoming State Museum for a history lesson they will never forget! All education programs presented at the Wyoming State Museum are directly tied to [Wyoming Department of Education Content & Performance Standards](#).

We recommend that you contact us at least three weeks in advance to schedule your visit. Scheduling your visit ahead of time helps us plan programs specific to your needs and helps control the number of students in the museum at one time. Various on-site and off-site programs are available for every age group pre-K through 12.

- **Planning Your Class Visit to Wyoming's Capitol City.** It's an exciting time in Cheyenne as we watch the restoration and renovation of the Wyoming State Capitol and Herschler Building. With that said, however, we also understand that the closure of the Capitol Building greatly impacts field trips to the Capitol Complex in Cheyenne. Although the Capitol is closed, and will remain closed for the duration of the project, we still invite you to bring your class to visit and experience the sites and processes of Wyoming's Capitol Complex – home to Wyoming's Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches – either individually or in any combination. In order to assist you with planning your next classroom visit, here are some field trip options. Programs include:
 - Wyoming State Capitol (via The Wyoming State Capitol exhibit and program at the State Museum)
 - Wyoming State Legislature
 - Wyoming Supreme Court
 - Wyoming State Museum
 - Wyoming Historic Governors' Mansion

To learn more about these various programs, to view the standards and benchmarks, and to schedule your visit, please visit

<http://wyospcr.state.wy.us/CapitolComplex/index.html>. The website also provides programs, lesson plans, and resources for use in your classroom if you're unable to visit the Capitol Complex.

- **Virtual programs.** For a listing of current virtual programs, please visit the [Wyoming State Museum's Microsoft Education partner page](#): <https://education.microsoft.com/Status/Content/Public?token=SqyAto61>. We realize that many classrooms in Wyoming are unable to access Skype/Skype for Business. For this reason, the Wyoming State Museum offers virtual programming via Google Hangouts and other video conferencing platforms. Programs may be customized to your needs and may also be offered in conjunction with your use of the Museum's [Discovery Trunks](#): <http://wyomuseum.state.wy.us/Learn/DiscoveryTrunk.aspx>.

Library of Congress.

<http://loc.gov/teachers/> -- The Library of Congress offers classroom materials and professional development to help teachers effectively use primary sources from the Library's vast digital collections in their teaching. Find Library of Congress lesson plans and more that meet Common Core standards, state content standards, and the standards of national organizations.

- <http://loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/primarysourcesets/states/wyoming/index.html> - Selected Library of Congress Resources for Wyoming--Primary Source Set. The extensive collections at the Library of Congress contain historic artifacts and cultural materials from across the U.S. The list at this URL is just a sample of the many Wyoming resources available for free on the Library's Web site.
- <http://loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/> --Created by teachers for teachers, these ready-to-use materials provide easy ways to incorporate the Library's unparalleled primary sources into instruction. Includes links to primary resources, lesson plans, presentations and activities, themed resources, and collection connections.

American Heritage Center Resources for K-12 Educators.

<http://www.uwyo.edu/ahc/eduoutreach/instruction/k12.html> -- The AHC welcomes visits by

elementary, junior high, and high school classes. There are a variety of services the AHC can offer to these classes ranging from tours to activities involving working with primary sources. The AHC is also involved with National History Day, a program for students in grades six through twelve. In addition, there are online resources for:

- <http://www.uwyo.edu/ahc/sites/black14/index.htm> --The Black 14--The AHC's webpages for the Black 14 instructional material can be found here. Lesson plans can be downloaded directly in both [PDF](#) and [Microsoft Word](#) formats.
- http://www.uwyo.edu/ahc/sites/heart_mountain/index.htm --Heart Mountain Relocation Center--The AHC's webpages for the Heart Mountain instructional material can be found here.
- http://www.uwyo.edu/ahc/sites/wagon_wheel/start.htm --Project Wagon Wheel. The Wagon Wheel Information Committee was formed in July of 1971 after the Pinedale Roundup published a letter from the El Paso Natural Gas Company to Wyoming U.S. Congressman Teno Roncalio. The letter indicated that Congress would give \$12 million to El Paso Gas towards the eventual firing of underground nuclear devices twenty miles south of Pinedale, Wyoming. Learn more about Project Wagon Wheel here.

American Heritage Center Digital Manuscript Collections.

<http://digitalcollections.uwyo.edu/luna/servlet/allCollections> -- Thousands of manuscripts which have been digitized. Searchable by category, collection, or title.

National Archives Rocky Mountain Region (Denver) -- Educator Resources.

<https://www.archives.gov/education> -- DocsTeach. Professional development opportunities. K–12 Distance Learning Programs. National History Day Google Hangouts and Webinars. E-books, Historypin, iTunesU, YouTube.

University of Wyoming Libraries Digital Repository.

<http://uwdigital.uwyo.edu/> -- Digitized content comes from the UW Libraries' physical collections, from the Emmett D. Chisum Special Collections, from other entities on campus such as academic departments, and from individuals associated with UW. Digital UW also offers access to specialized resources such as the Digital Herbarium. Faculty research, student work, and other scholarly publications are housed in the Wyoming Scholar's Repository, which is also accessible via Digital UW.

Wyoming Geographic Alliance.

<http://www.uwyo.edu/wga/> --

- <http://www.uwyo.edu/wga/lesson-plans/> --Many lesson plans, sortable by grade, subject, or resource.
- <http://www.uwyo.edu/wga/state-map/> --Giant Traveling Map of Wyoming

Wyoming State Archives.

<http://wyoarchives.state.wy.us/index.php> -- Find It in the Archives: History Day, Research Topics, Databases & Inventories, Death Certificate Database, Photos, Maps, Digital Collections, Historical Collections, Genealogical Resources, Oral History Collection, Newspapers, Directories & Phone Books, Records of Wyoming Cities & Towns (Municipalities), Records of Wyoming Counties, Wyoming Blue Book: an Encyclopedia of Wyoming State Government History.

Heart Mountain Interpretive Center in Powell.

<http://heartmountain.org/education.html> -- WWII Japanese-American Confinement Site. The first 3 items below involve a small cost.

- Field trips
- Off-site presentations
- [Grade-specific Curriculum Guides](#)
- <http://heartmountain.org/elementary.html> --Recommended reading, viewing and educational activities for students in grades 3-5 about Heart Mountain Relocation Center and the Japanese American Confinement of WWII
- <http://heartmountain.org/middle.html> -- Recommended reading, viewing and educational activities for students in grades 6-8 about Heart Mountain Relocation Center and the Japanese American Confinement of WWII
- <http://heartmountain.org/highschool.html> -- Recommended reading, viewing and educational activities for students in grades 9 and up, as well as adults, about Heart Mountain Relocation Center and the Japanese American Confinement of WWII
- http://heartmountain.org/suggested_reading.html --Suggested reading for grades K-12 and adults

Buffalo Bill Center of the West, Cody.

<https://centerofthewest.org/learn/> - Learn through Programs and Education:

- <https://centerofthewest.org/learn/interactives/> --Online games & interactives--developed as hands-on activities for visitors within our museums, the interactives listed at this site are also designed for virtual visitors, whether you visit the Center of the West in person or not!
- <https://centerofthewest.org/learn/school-programs/lending-materials/> --Lending Materials. The Buffalo Bill Center of the West has educational lending materials that schools can borrow, including traveling trunks, learning kits, and DVDs. All of our Lending Materials meet Wyoming and Montana state standards—see website for correlation charts.
- <https://centerofthewest.org/learn/school-programs/skype/> --Skype in the Classroom--Is it too far to travel to the Buffalo Bill Center of the West? Would you like to bring the Center to your classroom? Do you wish you could interact with an educator at the Center after your visit? Now, you can visit the Center virtually by signing up for one of our participatory Skype in the Classroom lessons. We bring the museum to you! Students engage with an educator about mountain men, Plains Indians, western art, animal adaptations, and more.
- <https://centerofthewest.org/learn/school-programs/teacher-and-student-resources/> -- Teacher and Student Resources.
- Various guided tours, complete with Teacher Guides.

Carbon County (Rawlins) Museum Education.

<http://www.carboncountymuseum.org/education/discovery-programs> -- Discovery Programs include:

- <http://www.carboncountymuseum.org/education/discovery-traveling-programs#k5> -- Discovery Traveling Programs--Using museum objects, these programs are designed to bring the hands-on experience of the museum into the classroom. Program packets include materials needed; sample lesson plans, activity suggestions; and listings for Social Studies, Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Fine Arts. Programs can be delivered by museum staff or checked out by the teacher for classroom use.
- <http://www.carboncountymuseum.org/index.php/visit/tours> -- Discovery Museum Tours-- Museum tours allow for hands-on, personal experiences with Carbon County's history.

The museum can accommodate tours of 20 people or fewer. Special accommodations may be made for larger groups or groups requiring special consideration.

- <http://www.carboncountymuseum.org/index.php/education/gallery-activities> -- Discovery Gallery Activities--Designed to be used alone or in conjunction with museum tours, Discovery Gallery Activities allow students to become involved in the museum and its workings. Activities involve participatory and exploratory skill building.
- <http://www.carboncountymuseum.org/index.php/education/discovery-activities> -- Discovery Pre- and Post-Visit Activities--Designed to prepare students for their upcoming museum visit and to follow-up and reflect on what they saw and learned. Activities intended to help students develop a better understanding of Carbon County history in the broader context of their studies.

National Historical Trails Interpretive Center. <http://nhctf.org/> -- Museum in Casper, free admission. Historical information relevant to Wyoming. Explore exhibits related to names that are truly legendary in Western history, and on the Oregon, California, Mormon and Pony Express Trails. These exhibits capture the real-life drama that the half-million pioneers experienced as they followed these trails between 1841 and 1868. NOTE: *No online resources.*