

## **Title:** Museum Lesson: Before Your Visit to Old City Cemetery

**Grade Level:** K-6

### **Virginia SOLs:**

History: K.2; 1.12; 2.3; 2.12; 3.12; VS.1; US 1;

English: K.1; K.2; K.3; 1.1; 1.2; 1.3; 1.12; 2.1; 2.2; 2.3; 2.11; 2.12; 3.1; 3.2; 3.9 3.10; 4.1; 4.2; 4.7; 5.1; 5.2; 5.3; 5.8; 6.1; 6.2; 6.6; 6.7;

### **Introduction:**

This lesson will be used to promote understanding of museums and collections and is to be used as an option for a class lesson before a visit to Old City Cemetery, either for a self-guided or guided tour.

### **Objective:**

To identify a collection (either of individuals or of the class)

To display this collection in a “museum corner”

To learn that museums are entire buildings created for the purpose of housing and displaying collections

### **Materials List:**

A collection of items

### **Pre-Lesson/Preparation:**

Bring in a small collection of items (i.e. shells, rocks, thimbles, cards, etc.) Also collect pictures of museums—they can be from any part of the world, or from close to home. Identify a corner of the classroom that can be designated the “museum corner” for the duration of this project.

### **Procedure:**

1. Tell the class that today you are going to show them a collection of yours. Take out the pieces and hand them around, telling the history or story connected to each piece.
2. Ask the students if they have ever collected anything. Have them describe their collections.
3. Tell everyone that the class is going to set up a display of a collection of some sort. Suggested topics: dinosaurs, favorite things, items collected from a shared experience (nature walk, field trip, etc.)
4. Send a note home describing the idea of setting up a museum corner in the classroom to display collections, so the parents know what is going on. If they feel reluctant to let their treasures be displayed, bring the discussion around to the importance of the museum corner as a “look only” area so the lenders will know that no harm will come to the collection.

### **Student Evaluation/Assessment:**

After the collection has been identified, have each student write or dictate the story for their object. Explain that this will be the label that describes the piece to visitors. Set up

the “museum corner” with the collection and the labels. There should be a main heading that describes the item with a title and circa date the object. Students should then write a paragraph about the item or dictate to the class information about the object as if they were a “tour guide.”

### **Extension**

Have students design invitations to send home to parents so that they can come to visit the class museum. Student volunteers can conduct “tours” of the collection to the visitors.

Show pictures of the different museums you compiled, and describe the kinds of collections each one houses.

### **After your visit to Old City Cemetery Evaluation & Assessment**

Have students compare and contrast the collections seen at Old City Cemetery Museums and the one in the classroom. Students may use Venn Diagrams or write an essay.

### **Resources:**

**Norman Rockwell Museum**

[www.nrm.org](http://www.nrm.org)