

Education Programs at the National First Ladies Library and Historic Site

The National First Ladies' Library and Historic site offers a number of remote educational experiences for students of all ages that connect to learning standards across the curriculum. Choose from an interactive tour of the Saxton-McKinley house or an engaging, hands-on program. The National First Ladies' Library will help bring history to life for your students.

Questions? Ready to book your virtual Zoom visit? Contact Education Director Alison Caplan at 440-717-3753 or acaplan@firstladies.org for more information.

First Families Are Families First: A Kid Sized Tour of the Saxton-McKinley House

What was it like to live in Canton during the Victorian era? Get in our virtual Zoom powered time machine and travel back to the mid-to-late 1800's and explore what life was like for the kids growing up in the Saxton-McKinley house. What games did children play before there were videogames? What did they eat and where did they go to the bathroom? Students will play games, draw pictures, and experience music as they learn about Ida McKinley and her family and explore the home on this interactive tour.

Most Appropriate for 2rd through 6th grade students

Exploring Biography: An Ohio First Ladies' House Tour

A recent study by *Smithsonian* magazine reported that U.S. state history standards mention one woman for every three men. Help balance out your curriculum as you dig into Ohio herstory with your students and explore the life of first lady and Canton, Ohio native Ida McKinley. Students will learn about Ida's life as they virtually engage with objects from the Saxton-McKinley house. The tour will conclude with breakout rooms inspired by Ohio First Ladies. Students will explore hatboxes of artifacts and construct a basic biographical sketch of an Ohio first lady. Students will leave with the tools to begin their own biographical research on overlooked women in U.S. history.

Most Appropriate for 7th through 12th grade students

Exploring Federal Lands and Waters

Sure you've heard of the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, but did you know that Ohio has eight National Park Service Sites and that the First Ladies Library and Historic Site is one of them? This virtual state tour allows students to work with educators and park rangers from the site to learn about the different park sites, mapping them out and designing a park poster for their own personal historic site. Participating fourth graders are eligible to earn an Every Kid in A Park Pass.

Most Appropriate for 3rd through 6th grade students

Ohio First Ladies Hat Box

Seven First Ladies called Ohio home between 1841 and 1923. Each of these women was unique for their time and helped advance the role and expectations of the First Ladies. In this interactive program, students will learn more about these seven women and what life was like in Ohio for women during the times they lived. Students will dig into a hatbox of props that represents each woman, sleuthing who the items belong to. They'll also design newspaper headlines for them, experiment with roleplay, and challenge each other to First Lady inspired games.

Vote Like A Girl: Suffrage and Citizenship in the 21st Century

The year 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing and protecting women's constitutional right to vote. In this session students will learn about a few of the bold and brave figures who helped earn women voting rights and Ohio's role in the story of women's suffrage. In addition, students will exercise their own voting power and learn how to be informed and engaged citizens. The lesson will conclude with the students creating their own contemporary, suffrage inspired banner.

Most Appropriate for 5th through 8th grade students

Portraits for the People: First Ladies on Canvas

Amy Sherald's stunning portrait of First Lady Michelle Obama at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery recently put first lady portraits on the map, but first ladies have been striking a pose for artists as far back as Martha Washington and Dolley Madison. In this virtual workshop, students will examine portraits of first ladies throughout history, learning to read an artwork as a historical document. Through visual clues, students will understand the traditional and non-traditional roles of first ladies and how the first ladies played a significant role in shaping the political and social history of the United States. In addition, each student will interview a peer to create and execute a portrait that reflects their partner's personality and style.

Most Appropriate for 6th through 8th grade students