Explore Hampton

http://hampton.gov/

Hampton, Virginia is one of the seven major cities to compose Hampton Roads. Like most of the cities in Hampton Roads, Hampton is full of a rich history. Hampton’s history dates back to the year 1607.

GUIDELINES: Visit Hampton. Based on the grid, complete the number of activities for your grade level.

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<thead>
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<th>DISCOVER</th>
<th>CONNECT</th>
<th>TAKE ACTION</th>
<th>ANY ACTIVITY UNDER ANY KEY</th>
<th>TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES</th>
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DISCOVER
- Look at a map of Virginia and locate the city of Hampton. In addition, determine the size of Hampton; how many square miles does it include and what is the city's population? Are there any bodies of water that run through Hampton?
- Identify some historical events which occurred in Hampton. When was Hampton established? Who established Hampton? What was so significant about Hampton and specifically, Fort Monroe during the Civil War?
- Research some basic information about Hampton, such as how it received its name. How did the colonists in the Hampton region interact with the Native Americans? What county was Hampton originally a part of? When did it become an independent city?
- Investigate some information regarding Hampton's economy. Has there been any recent job growth in the area? What is the current unemployment rate and how does that compare to the entire state average?
- Become politically informed by researching basic details concerning the city council of Hampton. How many members serve on the city council and how are they elected? Who is currently the mayor? How long do terms last for these members? Is there a city manager? If so, how is he or she appointed to their position?

CONNECT
- Enjoy a picnic at Buckroe Beach just north of Fort Monroe. Be sure to visit the old lighthouse and check out the pavilion which hosts performances. If you have any questions prior to your visit, call 757-727-6347.
- Visit the Hampton Carousel (602 Settlers Landing Rd.), one of the 183 remaining antique carousels in the United States, in addition to being one of 75 built by the Philadelphia Toboggan Company of Germantown, PA. If you would like to call to learn any other information, call 757-727-6381.
- Explore nature by visiting Sandy Bottom Nature Park (1255 Big Bethel Road). This park consists of two lakes and wooded trails, in addition to exhibits, classroom programs, tours, boat rentals, and picnic areas. The purpose of this park is to preserve and educate others about the environment. During your visit, see if there is a class available for you to take. To learn more, call 757-825-4657 or look here: hampton.gov/index.aspx?nid=142
- See Hampton by going on a short cruise of the harbor with Miss Hampton II Boat Tours (710 Settlers Landing Rd.). There, you will have access to information from the tour guides describing Hampton history up to 400 years ago. You can choose to participate in the 3-hour boat tour or the 8-hour boat tour if you are looking for something more extensive. To schedule your tour, call 757-722-9102 and take a look at their website prior to your visit: misshamptoncruises.com/
- Hampton is the birthplace of the space program in America, so with that in mind, take a trip the Virginia Air and Space Center (600 Settlers Landing Rd.) to learn about the history of space and air travel. This museum is one of the most hands-on and interactive and appeals to a broad age range. During your visit, consider seeing an IMAX film. If you have any questions, call 757-727-0900 or browse their website here: vasc.org/.
TAKE ACTION

- While visiting any of the places under the CONNECT section, take plenty of photos so that you can create a scrapbook, collage, or poster of the location you visited. Once you are completed with your project, present your finished work to your family and your Girl Scout troop.

- Organize a project with other members from your Girl Scout troop to build a model space shuttle. While working on the project, use teamwork to divide various tasks, such as painting, gluing pieces together, etc. When you and the other members have completed the project, put it up on display for the rest of your troop to enjoy.

- Assist in volunteering for the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank (2401 Aluminum Ave.). Volunteers must be at least 12 years of age and accompanied with an adult while working in the warehouse. Groups are additionally welcome to volunteer as well. To learn more, call 757-596-7188 and look at the following website: hrfoodbank.org/.

- Contact the following libraries in Hampton to see if you or your Girl Scout troop can offer assistance by volunteering. Check out these libraries: Willow Oaks Library (757-850-5114), Hampton Public Library (757-727-1154), and Northampton Branch Library (757-825-4559). Keep in mind there may be age restrictions, allowing this activity to only be suitable for older Girl Scouts.