Explore The Hunter House Victorian Museum

Transport yourself to the Victorian era! Located at 240 W Freemason Street, Norfolk, VA 23510, the museum is open April-December. For reservations, exhibit schedules, fees and other information, please visit https://hunterhousemuseum.org/ or call 757-623-9814.

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

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<tr>
<th></th>
<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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<tr>
<td>Girl Scout Daisy</td>
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<td>Girl Scout Cadette</td>
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<td>Girl Scout Senior</td>
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<td>Girl Scout Ambassador</td>
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DISCOVER

- Explore the downstairs of the museum and answer three of the following questions:
  - What images of nature are found inside of the home?
  - With no electricity, what kinds of activities and pastimes did girls and women enjoy?
  - Who requested that the home be used as a museum?
  - What were the duties of a parlor maid?
  - Where is the kitchen and who would have worked in it?
  - What is the father’s role in the home?
- Explore the upstairs of the museum and answer three of the following questions:
  - What was a little girl’s most popular plaything? Why?
  - In a family such as the Hunters, what was the mother’s role?
  - What interests did the Hunter family have as adults?
  - Where was the nursery located? Why?
  - Who was hired to make clothes for Mrs. Hunter?
  - What “modern” spaces are incorporated into this 1894 home?
  - What is the role of an architect? Who designed this home and what materials did he use?
  - Who was the “interior designer” of this home? Where did she get her inspiration?
  - Name two architects or designers who were popular during the Victorian Era.

CONNECT

- As you prepare to tour the Hunter House, bring pictures of today’s fashions; outfits you would enjoy wearing. Where would you wear that outfit? How would Eloise and Harriet have dressed for the same occasion?
- Thinking about the Victorian Era, have you read any stories that relate to this time period? Give a few specific examples of things you remember that relate to the museum.
- The majority of women who lived during the Victorian Era never “worked” outside of the home. Would you, today, be happy working inside the home, or would you rather have a career outside of the home?
- What did it mean to live a life of leisure in 1900 America?
- As you leave the museum, walk through the garden and discuss why the garden was considered a room of the house.
- Pretend you live in the Hunter House Victorian Museum. For one week, journal your activities as you would imagine them to be living in the Hunter House in 1900. Then, compare those activities to living in your home today.

**TAKE ACTION**

- Correspondence was a task typically performed by the lady of the house. Letters, invitations, responses and the like are some examples. Please take home the two postcards that your docent will give you and mail one to a friend or family member explaining what you learned today and keep one as a souvenir of your visit.
- Victorians frequently visited family gravesites for duty and leisure, leaving fresh flowers after partaking in a picnic and caring for the graves of loved ones. In remembrance of this tradition, place flowers on the Hunter Family lot in Elmwood Cemetery and discuss the implications of this pastime.
- The Hunter House is in operation today because of the dedication of volunteers who live in the community and as a result of historic preservation. What role can you play in the preservation of your community’s history? Write down three ideas and take the lead on one as a project.