

Old Sturbridge Village is a museum that shows what everyday life was like for New Englanders in the early 1800s. As you walk around the Village, you'll see farm animals, historic houses, and gardens. Historians in 19th-century clothing work on the farm, cook over the hearth, and work at trades like pottery and blacksmithing. The museum's collection has many items from people who lived in the past, and they help us learn more about life long ago.

In preparation for your visit to Old Sturbridge Village, you are going to make a museum of your own everyday life!

The name of my museum is: _____

Me – Draw a picture of yourself here

Name:

Age:

Favorite color:

Favorite food – Draw your favorite food here:



My favorite game or toy – Draw a picture of your favorite game or toy here:



What is it called?

What is it made out of?

Where did it come from?

Something you can wear – Draw a picture of something you could wear here:



What is it?

What color is it?

What material is it made from?

Where I live – Draw a picture of where you live here:



Who lives with you?

What is your favorite thing about your home?

Use one adjective to describe your home:

My hobbies – Draw yourself doing one of your hobbies here:



What are you doing?

Who are you doing it with?

Wrap-Up:

- During your visit to Old Sturbridge Village, you are going to see what everyday life was like for people who lived about 200 years ago. As we walk around the museum, think about how life in the 1830s was different from your life today—and how it was the same!



Things I KNOW about life in the 1830s	Things I WANT to know about life in the 1830s	Things I LEARNED about life in the 1830s



Word Search

T	N	N	R	H	H	I	T	I	T	A	A	M	G
C	F	E	N	C	E	E	I	B	C	O	E	E	O
H	S	H	F	N	F	H	B	M	T	X	I	E	R
E	T	F	N	O	N	N	I	U	L	E	I	T	T
E	A	A	N	E	C	P	H	A	E	N	O	I	I
S	G	R	R	S	E	E	X	R	E	R	N	N	E
E	E	M	N	R	A	B	E	B	G	R	R	G	R
A	C	E	T	A	O	E	S	X	A	H	E	H	H
H	O	R	N	E	R	N	S	G	R	V	V	O	R
E	A	E	S	N	S	H	V	H	D	E	A	U	K
B	C	L	C	H	H	E	I	H	E	C	T	S	I
E	H	R	T	T	C	M	A	I	N	E	I	E	L
A	E	G	H	E	A	R	T	H	A	K	P	O	N
I	H	H	T	I	M	S	K	C	A	L	B	A	G

OXEN
EXHIBIT
BARN
TAVERN
BLACKSMITH
FARMER
FENCE
CHEESE
KILN
GARDEN
MEETINGHOUSE
STAGECOACH
HEARTH
SHEEP



Write a Postcard from the 1830s

As you walk around Old Sturbridge Village, take in the sights, smells, and sounds of life in the 1830s. What kinds of chores did children do at the time? Where would you live, and what games would you play?

Imagine your life now as a child in the 1830s and write a postcard to a friend. Be sure to include a few details about your 19th-century life! What will you draw on the front of the postcard?

POSTCARD FRONT



POSTCARD BACK

from:

to:

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



Riddles and Enigmas

1. What is that which is neither flesh nor bone, and yet four fingers and a thumb?



2. Why is the letter D like a sailor?

3. 'Tis in the church, but not in the steeple,
'Tis in the parson, but not in the people,
'Tis in the oyster, but not in the shell,
'Tis in the clapper, but not in the bell.



What is it?



4. A word of three syllables seek till you find,
Which has in it the twenty-six letters combin'd.



Hidden Histories

At Old Sturbridge Village, we celebrate the everyday lives of people who lived in New England in the early 1800s. During this time, there were people in the area from diverse ethnic backgrounds who lived and worked in communities, including immigrants and Indigenous and Black peoples. They made important contributions to everyday life, economy, culture, and traditions of their rural towns. While New England had more citizens who supported social causes like the abolition of slavery, that does not mean that People of Color did not face intense racism and discrimination.

As you walk around the Village, see if you can find out more about the lives of People of Color during the 19th century. If you hear about someone who is very interesting to you, write down their name and a little about them. Maybe you can research them when you get back to school!

Name:

Where they lived:

What they did:

An interesting fact about this person:

One thing I would like to learn about this person is:

Comparing My Life to Life in the 1830s

Life in the 1830s can seem very different from life in the 21st century. As you walk around Old Sturbridge Village, look around and pay attention to your surroundings. You might just find some things that are similar to your life today.

After your visit to the Village, fill out the Venn Diagram below to see how similar (or different!) your life is to the life of a 19th-century person.

Need some suggestions? Start here!

- Clothing
- Food
- Games and toys
- School
- Houses
- Family life

