



OLD STURBRIDGE VILLAGE

MUSEUM EDUCATION

Tips for Students

2026–2027



Tips for Students



Compare your life today to life almost 200 years ago. Old Sturbridge Village depicts rural life in New England in the 1830s. The Village features historic buildings, animals, nature trails, and costumed historians working on 19th-century chores and trades. As you walk around the museum, think about how life in the 1830s compares to your life today. How is it similar? How is it different?

Please be kind to our animals. The animals that you will see are working animals, not pets. Please respect the animals and do not touch, feed, yell at, or chase them.

Respect our fences, artifacts, and buildings. You will see a variety of fences, stone walls, and buildings throughout our campus. While they seem fun to climb on, the fences and walls are not always stable, so please do not climb, sit, or lean on them while you are in the Village. If you have food and drinks with you in the museum, make sure to put it away before entering one of our historic buildings.

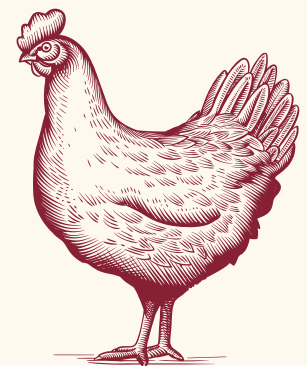
Respect other visitors. On the day you visit, there might be students from other schools or people who are visiting who aren't part of a school group at all. Make sure to show these other visitors the same respect you show your teachers and classmates.

Talk to Museum staff. While you're at the Village, you'll see Museum Educators in blue polo shirts and costumed historians wearing clothing from the early 1800s. They are modern people, just like you, who can help you understand the past and compare it to life now. Make sure to ask them questions to learn more!

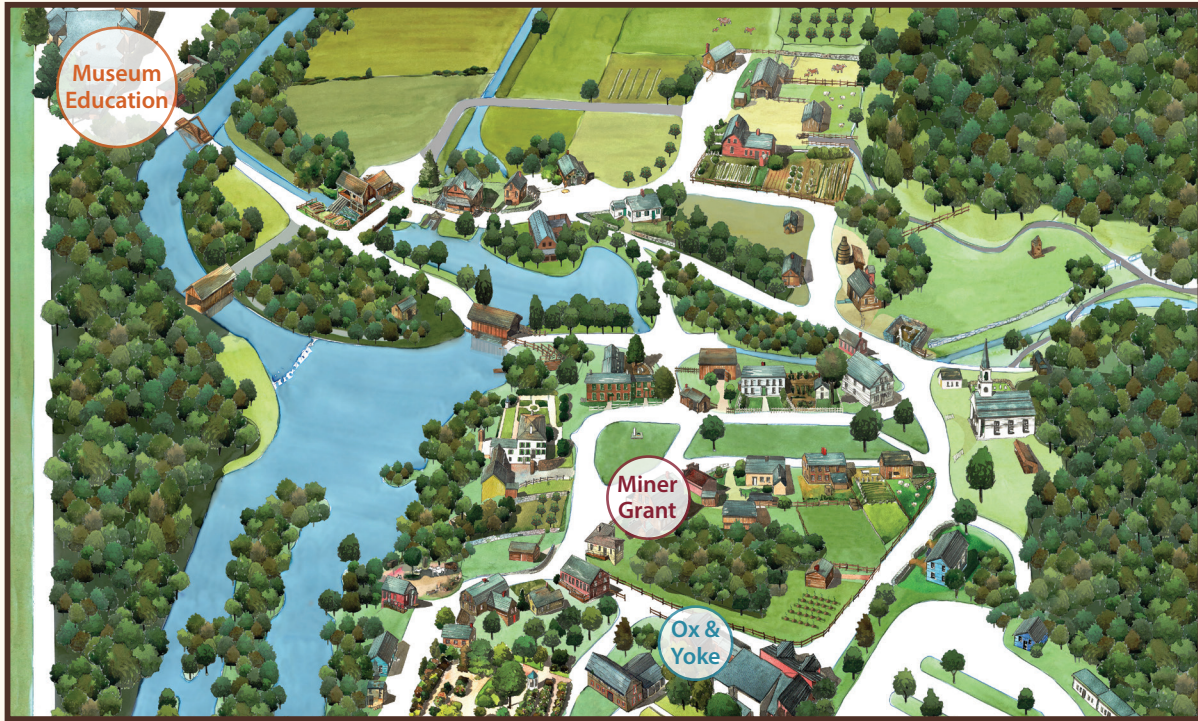
Pay attention to signage and barriers. In some spaces, you will see ropes or barriers to protect our historic objects and exhibits. If you aren't sure if you can touch something or wonder if a space is accessible to visitors, just ask!

Stay with your chaperones. Old Sturbridge Village is very big, and it is easy to get lost or separated from the rest of your group. As you walk around, make sure that you stay within sight of your group and chaperones, including when you enter museum buildings.

Check out our video detailing rules for visiting the Village: <https://youtu.be/RKY3F2jtQfU>



Gift Shop Tips



Miner Grant Store



Ox & Yoke Pop-Up Shop

Old Sturbridge Village has two gift shops on site for your students to check out during their visit: the **Miner Grant Store** and the **gift shop located in the Country Bank Visitor Center**. Since the gift shops can be very exciting and overwhelming places for school groups, retail staff would like your students and chaperones to know the following:

- Miner Grant has the best selection for kids while the gift shop located inside the Visitor Center has more books and home goods.
- Students **MUST** have their chaperones with them in the shops at all times.
- It is the responsibility of the chaperone to help the student to determine if they have enough money for their purchase, including sales tax.
- We ask that students do not put anything to their mouths in the store (candy, bugles, fifes, etc.).