

FIELD TRIPS

A Minnesota Discovery Center field trip is an opportunity to learn about Iron Range history by exploring exhibits, listening to the sounds and stories of the past, touching objects from days gone by. You'll also see the way people of the region used to live, and learn about mining, timber, immigration and more.

FIELD TRIPS CAN BE TAILORED TO YOUR UNIQUE NEEDS.

Our guided tours of permanent and temporary exhibits are just the beginning. We also offer:



I WANT TO BE AN AMERICAN

Discover more about the immigrants who came to the Iron Range. This interactive session pairs students with an immigrant pal that they can learn more about, such as where they came from, their age, what they looked like and more. Suitable for ages 8 and up. Session length is approximately 30 minutes.

IRON RANGE HISTORY PLAYERS

Ever wonder what it was like to work in an underground mine? Or live in a location town? The Iron Range History Players bring stories of the Iron Range to life through different interactive presentations, stories and discussions. Suitable for all ages. Sessions are 20 - 30 minutes.

THE STORY OF ME

Students receive a keepsake booklet that helps them uncover their past through interviews with parents, grandparents and other special relatives. This guided activity includes online research, collecting photos, drawing pictures, learning about genealogy tools online and available through the MDC Iron Range Research Center. This add-on activity is led by research specialists and is included with group admission. (Grades 4-6) Session length: 50 - 60 minutes

MINE THAT ORE

In this onsite presentation, students learn about the mining process and how it has changed over the years, including how ore is located and mined, what taconite is, and how we use minerals to make practical items. This add-on activity is included with group admission. (Grades k-6) Approximately 20 - 30 minutes

TROLLEY AND GLEN LOCATION TOUR

"Trolley and Glen Location Tour" - Have you ever wondered what life was like in a location town? Take a trip to the past on the Discovery Center Line trolley and Glen Location tour. Ride the trolley and listen to stories of the Iron Range and the Mesaba Railway on the way to historic Glen Location. Take a tour of the buildings at the location and climb the vintage mining equipment. \$2.00 per person with regular admission. Only available May - Oct. weather permitting. Special tours can be arranged by calling in advance. Suitable for all ages. 60 minutes.

HALL OF GEOLOGY

Learn about rocks of the region, and those from far beyond the Range at our museum's Geology Hall. A geology lab contains samples, equipment and more, all waiting to be shared with students! Discover how the topography of our region formed and what minerals are hidden beneath. This add-on activity is included with group admission. (K-6) About 20 - 30 minutes.

FOLK ARTS DEMONSTRATORS

Minnesota Discovery Center employs a wide variety of artisans that are available to enhance your museum visit. Learn what it was like to live on the early Iron Range from these extraordinary people. Demonstrations include: wood carving, knitting, braiding, cords and trims, birch bark crafts, weaving, natural dyeing, origami and much, much more. Suitable for ages 5 and up. Session lengths between 30 - 60 minutes depending on the activity.

"IRON RANGE: MINNESOTA BUILDING AMERICA"

Is a documentary that tells the story of the Iron Range in a captivating and unique way. Produced by tpt and the Minnesota Humanities Center, this "Best Cultural Documentary," Emmy award winner used their primary source materials from the Iron Range Resource Center located here at the Minnesota Discovery Center. The film is broken into 4 parts, the land, the mines, the people and the work. Each section is between 8 and 20 minutes long and can be shown in its entirety or in sections as part of your group tour experience. Suitable for ages 8 and up.

RESEARCH CENTER

Older students can tap into one of the nation's premier regional history libraries to research mining, Iron Range cities, notable Iron Range pioneers and more. Our archives contain thousands of images, maps and manuscripts dating back to pre-1900. A project to enhance our genealogy databases will improve access to family information, including naturalization records, birth and death records, police reports and more. Research assistance can be provided upon request. Admission to the Iron Range Research Center is free. (Grades 8+)

ARCHIVES

Tours of our archives are available for groups upon request. Our archives houses a vast collection of photographs, manuscripts, maps, government documents, and much, much more. A unique and educational experience awaits you with our archivist. Must request at least 2 weeks in advance, tours available to groups of 15 people or under, larger groups can be accommodated by splitting the groups. Suitable for ages 12 and up. 30 - 45 minutes.

TEMPORARY EXHIBIT ACTIVITIES

Our gallery spaces allow us to create and lease exhibits with varying themes. Coming in 2012, we'll take a closer look at regional quilts, model trains, the works of regional photographers, rag rugs and more. Programs, including lectures and activities will be offered for all age groups in conjunction with individual exhibits. Please contact us for exhibit dates and programs.

Onsite meals: Classes can bring their own bag lunch, or we'll provide one for an additional fee.

**Please note: Two week reservation is required for tours and special activities.
Please contact 218-254-1236 with questions or to book a tour.**