

1870s Cowboy

Our cowboy program is an interpretive living history program providing information and analysis on the day to day life of an 1870s cowboy through first person interpretation. With narrative and audience questions, this program allows students to discover life on the great cattle trails. It focuses on the reasoning behind cattle drives and the life of the drovers.



Philosophy

Living History is a tool used by historians to engage the public and inspire them through entertaining interactions to investigate the past. It allows the audience to experience history by transcending from a two-dimensional book to a three-dimensional character. If done well, it enables the public to suspend belief and travel in time through their mind's eye to a point in the past and give them a glimpse of what life was like. Used in a teaching setting, living history allows the student to inquire about life of a time past. It allows the Visual, Sensory, and Auditory learners access to the past in a way no other medium in teaching can match. Living History makes history personal to the student, and they will long remember the experience.

OKLAHOMA
HISTORY
CENTER
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES



The 1870s Cowboy program is designed to meet the following PASS Skills and others:

- **Build connections with social studies content and help students develop an understanding of human history.**
- **Assess the impact of the cattle industry (e.g. cattle trails, railheads and cowtowns in Kansas, and the location of railroad lines).**
- **Describe major events of Oklahoma's past, such as settlements by Native Americans, cattle drives, land runs, statehood, and the discovery of oil.**
- **Describe the importance of trade on the frontier.**
- **Apply the concepts of scale, orientation, latitude and longitude, and physical regions.**
- **Construct timelines of events in the development of the regions of the United States.**
- **Compare and contrast the vegetation, climate, and spatial distribution of natural resources of the regions.**
- **Explain how people are influenced by, adapt to, and alter their environment, including agricultural efforts, housing, occupations, industries, transportation, and communication.**
- **Describe the development of economic specialization in each region of the United States, including examples of interdependence among regions and connections to trade.**
- **Analyze the use of Oklahoma's natural resources (e.g., salt, bison, oil, coal, timber and sod) by early visitors and settlers.**

The Oklahoma History Center offers a number of educational opportunities including field trips, living history characters, hands-on trunks, and instructive classes.

For more information on other trunks and educational programs contact the Oklahoma History Center at 405-522-5248 or visit our website at www.okhistorycenter.org.