

# WILLIAMSBURG, VA

As the incubator for ideas and concepts that would shape our nation, Williamsburg has a rich history to inspire our youth. What better place to learn what it means to be an American than Colonial Williamsburg?

Capture their attention and imagination through study visits featuring events and experiences that take place at their eye level. The local militia leader summons young people to formation. Helping to polish silver at a middling family home offers interaction with historical interpreters as servants. Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry field questions about their quest for freedom. Blending historical facts with active participation, Williamsburg interpreters introduce buildings and other 18<sup>th</sup> century objects to engage and encourage the love of history and learning.

Williamsburg claims a long and fascinating history. In its three centuries, Virginia's former capital enjoyed both periods of great fortune and dramatic decline before reinventing itself through an unprecedented restoration process that began in the mid-1920s. This successful effort at recreating Williamsburg's past in a way it can be enjoyed in the present is what draws (and awes) vast numbers of students to these brick-paved streets.

Traveling to Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia with your students enhances your curriculum by enriching students' comprehension and understanding of:

- The roots of representative government and how political rights were defined
- Social and cultural change in British America
- Colonial economic life and labor systems in the Americas

At Colonial Williamsburg, discover the adventuresome spirits of the people who built the foundation of our great nation. It is here you will embark on a revolutionary adventure.

## COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG

Step back in time as you explore the world's largest living history museum. Interact with costumed interpreters, investigate historic buildings and watch craftsmen use 18<sup>th</sup> century methods. At Colonial Williamsburg they interpret the origins of the idea of America, conceived decades before the American Revolution.

## JAMESTOWN

Board re-creations of the three ships that carried the first settlers to Virginia. Explore a Powhatan Indian Village or investigate a full-sized replica of a colonial fort. Join a park ranger to learn how Captain John Smith and others carved a settlement out of the Virginia wilderness.

## YORKTOWN

Visit a re-created Continental Army encampment, see the famous battlefield at Yorktown and walk through a colonial farm. Discover Yorktown's importance as an 18<sup>th</sup> century port and the development of a new government with the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

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