

We have a challenge for you!

Playing the Past Challenge



We can learn a lot from our past and the experiences of others around us. Jump into history and experience what a colonial schoolhouse was like, dress up, make a quill, create a bonnet, paper quilt, and put on a colonial fashion show. Share with us @gsnnj

Supplies:

- Large feather or make your own out of paper (origami)
- Scissors
- Washable ink or paint
- Paper
- Glue
- Yarn or string
- Ruler

Play the Past!

1. Discover Colonial times
2. Create a costume and become a character
3. Experience daily life
4. Have some old-fashioned fun
5. Share @gsnnj

There were no desks in schoolhouses in Colonial times, they just had benches. Girls had to wear long dresses and caps and learned from hornbooks. A hornbook is a piece of wood with printed words on both sides. There was no paper and pencils like today, instead they used birch bark from trees for paper and sometimes wrote with lumps of coal.

Try, discover, create, and recreate a schoolhouse in Colonial times.

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Playing the Past Challenge Examples

Read through the following Colonial School Rules and write down the differences between your rules at school to the rules from the past.

"Colonial School Rules"

- In the presence of others sing not to yourself with a humming noise, nor drum with your fingers or feet.
- If you cough, sneeze, sigh, or yawn, do it not loud but privately; and speak not in your yawning, but put your handkerchief or hand before your face and turn aside.
- Sleep not when others speak, sit not when others stand, speak not when you should hold your peace, walk not on when others stop.
- When you sit down, keep your feet firm and even, without putting one on the other or crossing them.
- Shift not yourself in the sight of others nor gnaw your nails.
- Keep your nails clean and short, also your hands and teeth clean.
- Think before you speak, pronounce not imperfectly nor bring out your word too hastily but orderly and distinctly.
- Do not laugh too loud or too much at any public spectacle.



Make and decorate a paper bonnet

https://www.ehow.com/how_12148755_make-colonial-hat-girls-out-paper.html



Make a paper quill (if a feather isn't available)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IMKsjdzemvQ>

In colonial times, pens and pencils did not exist. Instead, a feather was cut to a point and used as a quill (pen) with ink.



Make a paper quilt

Every quilt is unique just like the person or people that made it. Create your own patterns, designs, and shapes to have them flow together. Think about colors, textures, and the size of the space you are covering.

Have an old-fashioned fashion show

Get those bonnets and long dresses out. It's time for your colonial fashion show. Pretend you're on a runway and show everyone in your house what you've created. Even better, have everyone make their own bonnet and have a show with the whole family. Hang your quilt up for the perfect backdrop.