

# North Vancouver Museum & Archives SCHOOL PROGRAMS 2017/18



**Winter Days**  
Teacher's Package

# WINTER DAYS

## INTRODUCTION

The North Vancouver Museum and Archives is pleased to present its primary- level school program, *Winter Days*. Students will investigate the early days of North Vancouver and learn through pictures and play how early North Vancouver residents celebrated the holidays and the unique activities of winter.

**RECOMMENDED LEVEL:** Kindergarten and Grade 1

**DURATION:** 60 minutes

**FEE:** \$40 (Please note that we require a minimum of one week's notice for cancellations otherwise full fees may apply).

**STRUCTURE:** This program will be presented by the staff and volunteers of the Museum and Archives, with the assistance of accompanying parents.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** North Vancouver Museum & Archives  
604.990.3700, ext. 8016; [nvmaprograms@dnv.org](mailto:nvmaprograms@dnv.org)

**Please have the children wear name tags.** Knowing their names helps to make program presentation both easier and more personal.

**Please enter the Museum through the 4th Street doors.** A museum docent will meet you there, quickly orient you and the parents to the site, and welcome the class.

**Please have the class divided into three groups, each with an adult leader.** Please ask each leader to be ready to provide general assistance.



## CONNECTIONS TO BC'S CURRICULUM

**Winter Days** is designed to link with the Kindergarten and grade 1 BC Social Studies curriculum.

### Area of Learning

- Identity and Families
- Local Communities

### Big Ideas

- Our Communities are diverse and made of individuals who have a lot in common
- Stories and traditions about ourselves and our families reflect who we are and where we are from.
- We shape the local environment, and the local environment shapes who we are and how we live.

Competencies: Students are expected to be able to *do* the following:

- Ask questions, interpret and communicate findings;
- Explain the significance of local events, objects and people;
- Ask questions and make inferences based on evidence.

Content: Students are expected to *know* the following:

- People, places and events in the local community;
- Relationships between a community and its environment.

## PREPARATION ACTIVITIES

**VOCABULARY:** The children should be familiar with the following terms:

cargo	Christmas	freighter	garland	museum
spices	tugboat	volunteer	waterfront	sleigh

**DISCUSSION TOPIC:** Winter and religious celebrations.

The children should be aware that the primary winter celebration in the early days of North Vancouver was Christmas. Many of the people who lived here were Christians who brought their traditions from their homelands. At the Museum, the children will learn about Christmas and the Festival of Light that was celebrated by those early citizens. Today the people of North Vancouver practice a number of different religious activities and festivals during the winter months. What are some of those celebrations?

**ALLERGY ALERT: PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR DISPLAY CONTAINS APPLES AND WALNUTS.**

## FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

**PARADE OF LIGHTS:** Have the children complete their decorated boats. These could be pasted to a long sheet of paper to create a parade of festive ships. Placed on the wall, this will remind the children of their field trip and of the many ways in which winter festivals are celebrated.

**VICTORIAN DECORATIONS:** Attached is background information about Christmas decorations, as well as a colouring sheet of decorations. These two resources could be used in a follow-up lesson.

**WINTER CELEBRATIONS:** Have the children create a mural of pictures of how their families celebrate winter holidays, including religious festivals and recreational activities. How have these changed in North Vancouver in the last 50-80 years?

**LIGHTS:** In the wintertime we decorate our streets, stores and homes with candles, lights and bright colours. Have the children discuss why light is such an important part of winter. Shorter winter days and colder temperatures are factors to mention. The children may wish to find examples of the use of light in their homes, school, etc., this winter.

## SOURCES

*Museum of Childhood Colouring Book, Edinburgh, Scotland*

*Scienceworks, An Ontario Science Centre*

*Book of Experiments, Kids Can Press*



## DID YOU KNOW?

### Christmas Facts from the Victorian Era

*Courtesy of Irving House Historic Centre*

#### **Christmas Trees**

Originally a German tradition, Christmas trees were popularized in Britain by Queen Victoria's German husband, Prince Albert.

#### **Artificial Christmas Trees**

Various sizes have been available since at least 1901. The idea came about due to a shortage of trees of the right type and size. Some artificial trees even had candle holders permanently affixed in the branch tips.

#### **Electric Christmas Tree Lights**

They were first used in 1882 in New York City by the vice-president of Edison Electric Light Company, Edward H. Johnson. However, these early attempts were often more dangerous than the candles they replaced, as people left them on longer than they would a burning candle. Although first used in the 1880s they did not become popular until the 1920s or later.

#### **Tinsel Garland**

Originally made in France by a "secret" process to decorate military uniforms. It was copied by the Germans circa 1610, and from there found its way onto the Christmas tree.

#### **Wax Angels**

The most common wax ornaments throughout the last half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. They were generally about 4 inches in length and appeared to be floating on air.

#### **Glass Bead Trimmings**

Invented in the 1840s in Germany, glass bead trimmings were made by Czechoslovakian glass bead makers in the 1890s for the expanding North American market. They were either long rope garlands or were formed into small stars and geometric shapes and hung like baubles from the branches.

#### **Icicles**

First made and sold in Nuremburg, Germany in 1878, specifically as a Christmas tree decoration. They quickly became a great novelty in North America, and were often used to decorate other parts of the house as well as the tree. Early icicles were made of lead.

## Spring Clip Candle Holder

Invented in 1879 by New Yorker Frederick Artz. They quickly became America's favourite candle holder for use on the Christmas tree, and remained popular until candles on the tree declined in favour in the 1920s.

## Glass Ornaments

First made for the purpose of decorating a tree in Lauscha, Germany, circa 1848. Originally just multi-coloured balls, they evolved to include many familiar shapes including birds, bells, Santa Claus, stars, and many more.

## HOW TO FIND US!



North Vancouver Museum is located at 209 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, North Vancouver, in Presentation House. Please enter by the 4<sup>th</sup> Street doors.

The Museum is wheelchair accessible if you park in the Presentation House parking lot at Chesterfield and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street...follow the path which goes up Chesterfield and across the lawn to the front of the Museum.

If you have any queries, please contact us at 604.990.3700, ext. 8016, or email [nvmaprograms@dnv.org](mailto:nvmaprograms@dnv.org). Our website can be found at [www.nvma.ca](http://www.nvma.ca).

**School Program Evaluation**

**Program Name: Winter Days**

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To assist us in developing our school programs, we would be most appreciative if you would take a few moments to comment.

Date of Visit: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Visit: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmation Letter & Information

Was the information provided accurate? Did it answer all of your questions?

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Teacher's Information Package

Did this package help you to prepare for the **WINTER DAYS** program?

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Group Arrival

Was the initial greeting and orientation provided by our volunteer staff helpful? Please comment.

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Were the facilities adequate? Please comment.

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## Program Content

Was the presentation at the students' level? Yes or No? Please comment.

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Did this program meet your goals? Was your visit related to classroom studies?

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What other program might the North Vancouver Museum provide for your school?

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Do you know of any other teachers who might be interested in this program?

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### Additional Comments

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The museum is building its Teachers' Resource Centre. What kind of teaching materials would be helpful to you or to your students?

Historical pictures sets  Overhead transparencies of historical photos  DVDs

Other  (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_

### **Please return this form to:**

Shirley Sutherland, Assistant Director  
North Vancouver Museum and Archives  
3203 Institute Road  
North Vancouver, B.C. V7K 3E5

OR fax to 604.987.5688

**Your evaluation is important to us. Thank you for completing this form.**