



**HERITAGE
FOUNDATION**
WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

DOWNTOWN
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ASSOCIATION

The
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The Moore-Morris
History and
Culture Center
WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

FOURTH GRADE FIELD TRIP: Overview

We will begin our journey by traveling back in time to the period of the American Industrial Revolution. Before making our way to the 1790's, we will create a brainstorming list of all the things we already know about the industrial revolution.

As we time travel, we remember we are going back in time to a place where there are not fast-food restaurants, and grocery stores on every corner.

Shown a mortar and pestle of flour, students are challenged to think of all the different ways flour is used in our foods.

After understanding how flour was made prior to the industrial revolution, students share their thoughts—labor intensive (hard work), slow, and you need a lot of people

Using this same method, we will introduce watermills, the cotton gin and steamboats.

Noting how Eli Whitney and Robert Fulton leaned into a problem to create an effective solution.

A major theme in our discovery of these inventions is the fact the “necessity is the mother of invention.” The best inventions are often created as a solution to a problem.

Following our whole group time, students will divide into groups for hands-on learning about the watermills, cotton gin, and steamboat.

Educators will be given access to independent work for the classroom that challenges students to be problem-solvers in their own life.