



## **WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS (Workshops are 90 minutes)**

### **Archaeology: Unearthing the Past**

Become an archaeologist in a simulated tabletop excavation. Using trowels and brushes, unearth buried ‘artifacts’ and learn how archaeologists use objects to discover the secrets of the past. Visit a recreated privy and historic home to examine real artifacts, all recovered in excavations on the Museum site.

### **Architecture: To Build a House**

How did colonial people build homes with just hand tools and human power? Discover the answers by becoming a construction crew and working as a team to assemble a tabletop model of an 18<sup>th</sup>-century post-and-beam house. Then explore a real historic house built on the same plan, looking for clues to its construction and the lives of the people who lived there long ago.

### **Coming to America: An Immigration Investigation**

What is it like to leave your home and move to a new country? In this workshop, students become investigators trying to uncover what life was like for immigrants coming to America. Working together, students will use images, information posters, and other primary sources to learn how their characters arrived in America, when and why they came, and what obstacles they faced. Students then journey through several houses, exploring and comparing their characters' new homes and new lives in America on an up-close visit to the museum’s buildings.

### **Cookstove Cooking: The Industrial Revolution**

In the 1800s, cookstoves were the latest in high-tech home appliances. See how the Industrial Revolution found its way into America’s kitchens, utterly transforming daily life, as you prepare a Victorian-era recipe on our cast-iron cookstove. Then search our historic homes for the new inventions of the Industrial Age. **NOT AVAILABLE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

### **Hearth Cooking: Early America**

Feeding a family in pre-industrial times took resourcefulness and hard work. Travel back to the 1700s to experience open hearth cooking over a wood fire. Read a historic recipe, weigh and measure ingredients on kitchen scales, and bake over hot coals using 18<sup>th</sup>-century tools and techniques. Tour a Colonial shop to get a taste of global trade and discover exotic spices and foreign goods brought to New England from faraway places.

### **Trade and Maritime History: At the Doorstep of the World**

The atmosphere of a bustling waterfront comes to life as your group takes on the roles of a ship's crew in an interactive game of fortune and strategy. Follow New England sea captains on their global trade routes, while braving the dangers of warfare, weather, and the shifting balance of trade. Explore the home of a real sea captain, and inspect the imported goods in an 18<sup>th</sup>-century wharfside shop.

### **Work It Out: Colonial Trades and the Early Economy**

Step into the shoes of an 18<sup>th</sup>-century apprentice and explore several of the most important trades in a Colonial seaport. Students will visit the home of a sea captain to touch and smell some of the exotic imports that were part of Portsmouth's thriving economy. Work as a team of joiners to assemble the model of an 18<sup>th</sup>-century building and discover the early medical profession as an apothecary. This hands-on program allows students to investigate three different Colonial trades and learn about the workings of the pre-industrial economy. The program includes time for the self-guided tour (May through Oct) during which groups can explore the 18<sup>th</sup>-century trades of weaving, basket weaving, baking, tavern keeping, and woodworking through demonstration and experiential learning.