Step back in time...
...in a one-room schoolhouse!

Visit the historic
Seneca Schoolhouse
A Living History Program

Reserve a Day at Seneca Schoolhouse!
For information or to schedule a visit to the Seneca Schoolhouse, please contact:

Historic Medley District, Inc.
P.O. Box 232
Poolesville, MD 20837
301-407-0777
Info@historicmedley.org
For further details, please visit our Web site:
www.historicmedley.org

“Dedicated to preserving the heritage of Western Montgomery County”

A typical day for students sitting in old-fashioned wood and iron desks includes:

- Learning the history of the time
- Reading from McGuffy’s readers
- Penmanship and arithmetic lessons written on individual slates
- Schoolhouse chores
- Singing old-fashioned songs
- Recitation
- Acting out 19th Century punishments
- Lunches brought from home
- Games and relay races
- And a spelling bee.

Fees for Field Trips and Parties

Field trips: The fee is $225 per day. An additional $9 per student is assessed for classes over 25 up to a maximum of 28 students. There is no charge for teachers or chaperones.

Private parties, scout outings, special events, and presentations can be tailored to specific requests. Fee is based on number of hours booked. For birthday party favors, you may purchase old-fashioned toys from the schoolhouse gift shop; please inquire for prices and to customize your event.

Open Year-Round
For Field Trips, Parties and Special Occasions
Field trips that take you back in time! Educational & fun!

Maryland, Virginia, and D.C. children - and adults, too - can enjoy a “back in time” experience by visiting and attending a class at the Seneca Schoolhouse. The school day is conducted just as it might have been more than a century ago!

A carefully researched 19th-century school day program is taught by a costumed schoolmarm. A typical class session is led from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., with time taken for lunch and games. The program is ideal for 2nd - 5th grade students, and is perfect for mixed-age homeschool groups. We're confident that scholars of all ages will find the 19th-century “time travel” appealing, informative and fun.

During their visit to the Seneca Schoolhouse, children pretend they are the children of the long-ago residents of the region. Each student is assigned an identity with a brief biography of the child’s life. Students are encouraged to extend the fun by dressing the part!

Recess includes relay races, Hot Potato, baseball with walnuts and a tree branch, Drop the Handkerchief, jump rope, and hoop and stick in a beautiful, country setting.

For a unique venue, a day at Seneca Schoolhouse awaits!

The Seneca Schoolhouse and its two acres of surrounding parkland are also available for birthday parties, anniversary and retirement parties, weddings, reunions and meetings. Scouts, youth groups, church groups and senior groups are all welcome!

Party favors, dress ups, time for crafts, as well as the services of a costumed teacher or docent can be provided.

Special Thanksgiving and Christmas-themed classes are offered in November and December which include crafts, holiday food and songs, skits, and much more.

Please see our website for more details.
A unique and memorable day!

Testimonials

“The response from my class was wonderful. They called it the best field trip ever! So you beat out the Air and Space Museum, and an ice cream factory, among others! Thanks again for everything, you can definitely plan on seeing us again next year!” Robert Chiappone, 4th Grade Teacher, Poolesville Elementary School, Poolesville, MD

"Our visit to the Seneca Schoolhouse was perhaps the highlight of the entire year. Students dressed their historical roles, and called each other by those names for weeks thereafter! Miss Darby is the perfect schoolmarm: nineteenth century strict in her instruction, and twenty-first century warm in her manner. Memorable moments include spelling and arithmetic on slates, relay races, and keeping the potbelly stove burning bright. Can't wait for next year!" Brigham Kiplinger, 5th Grade Teacher, Horace Mann Elementary School, Washington, DC

"Recreating a school day in the 1880s is made memorable with a trip to the Seneca Schoolhouse. Role playing, period customs and dress, playground games, discussion of historical happenings, and even eating lunch out of a tin pail, all serve to bring history to life for kids. My children enjoyed their group field trip so much we also booked my daughter’s birthday party and the special Christmastime class. We can't wait for the Thanksgiving-themed class this year! I highly recommend Seneca Schoolhouse - it's one of the best field trips around!" Erin - Home Educator

"I take my class to Seneca Schoolhouse every year - it’s one of the fixtures they look forward to when entering fourth grade! Learning from books and videos is one thing, but experiencing all that Seneca Schoolhouse has to offer, from the minute we arrive when hands are checked for cleanliness and greeting Miss Darby with a curtsey or bow, to the authentic lessons and games, my students learn more in one day than they could ever learn in a 21st century classroom. After our trip to SSH students often refer back to it to supplement what we do in class. It’s an amazing and transformative opportunity for students, and one I would recommend to all elementary school teachers” Liza Sulinski, 4th Grade Teacher, St. Andrew's Episcopal School, Potomac, MD

Children stand before the 1866 Seneca Schoolhouse built by farmer and miller Upton Darby and his Seneca neighbors who wished to educate their children. The school was constructed of Seneca sandstone, which was quarried nearby.