Homeschool Day Field Guide

How to use this guide:
This Field Guide will help you navigate Homeschool Day at Mount Vernon. For each stop on the farm you’ll find a question to answer. On the last page is an activity to complete as you explore the rest of the Estate.

Special Homeschool Day Activities

9:00am—3:30pm
Learn about Sundials and Seeds on North Lane

9:30am—2:00pm
Demonstrations on The Farm

11:15am, 12:00pm, & 1:30pm
History in Motion : Planting Experiments on the Bowling Green

10:30am & 2:30pm
Music of the Revolution on the Bowling Green

Find the answers to these questions while you explore:

Stop A: Pole Shelter
What is one crop that would be planted in the spring?

Stop B: Bake Oven
What kinds of bread did people eat in the 18th century?

Stop C: Fishing
Have you ever gone fishing? How might fishing at Mount Vernon look different from your experience?

Stop D: Textiles
Name two types of cloth made at Mount Vernon. Why do you think people wore different types of cloth in colder weather?

Stop E: 16 Sided Barn
Why do you think this barn is round and not square?

Stop F: Candlemaking
Why would someone prefer making a candle out of beeswax? Why would someone prefer making a candle out of tallow?

Stop G: Slave Cabin
How did enslaved families store their food in the winter?

#38 The Washingtons’ Tomb
Was this George Washington’s original tomb?

#39 Slave Memorial & Cemetery
Why do you think it’s important for archaeologists to identify graves at the cemetery?

Make a Primary Source
We know so much about George Washington’s gardens because of primary sources, which can be documents like letters or diaries written at the time they describe. One visitor, named Julian Ursyn Niemcewicz kept a detailed diary about his visit to Mount Vernon in the 1798, which helps us know what the plantation looked like in George Washington’s life time.

How will people in the future know what Mount Vernon was like in 2022? Through our primary sources! Today, you can write or draw your own journal entry describing what you see, smell, and hear today in George Washington’s gardens.

Try to answer some of these questions in your diary entry. What is the weather like? What colors do you see? Can you hear any wildlife or insects? Do you smell anything?

Or if you prefer, you can draw a map of where you visited today.

Did you see the Fleur di Lis in the upper Garden? HINT: Take a look at the Adult Guide. If you were designing a garden, what special symbol or shape might you include? Why?

_________________________________________________  _______________________________________

_________________________________________________  _______________________________________

Draw your design here.
Homeschool Day Explorer’s Map

Homeschool Day at The Farm
Demonstrations Available from 9:30am—2pm
A Foodways Demonstration
B Bake Oven
C Fishing
D Textiles
E 16-Sided Barn
F Candlemaking
G Enslaved Family Cabin

If you have questions about accessibility, please ask our staff in the Ford Orientation Center for accommodations Mount Vernon

Mansion Tour Entry
1 Texas Gate/Main Entrance
2 Ford Orientation Center
4 Bowling Green Gate
5 Bowling Green
- 11:15am, 12:00pm & 1:30pm History in Motion
- 10:30am & 2:30pm Music of the Revolution
7 Upper Garden
8 Seeds & Sundials 9:00am—3:30pm
9 Greenhouse
11 Slave Quarters: Women
12 Shoemaker’s Shop
13 Stove Room
14 Slave Quarters: Men
15 Blacksmith Shop
18 Spinning House
19 Botanical Garden
20 Salt House
22 Servants’ Hall
23 Mansion Circle/Specialty Tours
24 Mansion
25 Kitchen
26 Storehouse & Clerk’s Quarters
27 Necessary
28 Smokehouse
29 Wash House
30 Coach House
31 Stable
32 Dung Repository
33 Ice House
34 Lower Garden
35 Paddock
36 Fruit Garden and Nursery
37 Old Tomb
38 Washington Tomb
39 Slave Memorial & Cemetery
40 Wharf
44 Forest Trail
45 12-Acre Field
46 Donald W. Reynolds Museum & Education Center

Begin Here!

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