

Textiles

- **Make natural dyes** using plants, like leaves, berries, flowers, and other materials. Take a picture of what the color looks like, then dye a scrap of fabric of your own. Show it off to your friends and family, displaying the before and after, and explain how people in the colonial era made dyed fabrics like yours.
- Watch a video on **18th century sheep sheering** (starting at 3 minutes 51 seconds). Then, watch a video on **spinning wool into yarn**. After watching the two videos, draw a simple picture that outlines how to use wool in the 18th century. Make sure you include a picture of a sheep, a spinning wheel, wool, and yarn.

Enslaved and hired weavers at Mount Vernon made basic textiles, such as stockings and linens. Other materials, such as silk, were imported from England.



Archaeology

- Print out images of the **Staffordshire dish fragments** found at Mount Vernon. Create a puzzle by cutting one of the images into pieces. Become an archaeologist, and piece together the artifact back together. With colored pencils or scrap pieces of paper, fill in the missing parts to guess what the complete artifact used to look like.
- Print out a **map of Mount Vernon** and, with a friend, predict four different places where archaeological artifacts might have been found, using sticky-notes, stickers, or markers. Write down the reasons for your prediction. Then, look at an **actual archaeology map** to reveal where artifacts were actually found.
- Examine this **punch bowl** and create a brainstorm map about who might have interacted with it, and how it might have been used. Think about the main stories and the hidden stories that this punchbowl might tell.

Digging for Objects

Ask a family member to set up a mock excavation site and bury two to three modern objects. After a few days, excavate the site. Dig, take notes about your discovery, and create an exhibit that displays the artifacts (if you need inspiration, check out the **Lives Bound Together exhibit** at Mount Vernon). Make sure your exhibit has text panels that explain what these objects are, who might have used them, and how they might have been used.



TEXTILES



ARCHAEOLOGY



FOODWAYS

Foodways

- Explore this **interactive timeline** that shows what an average day looked like at Mount Vernon's kitchen.
 - After exploring, examine it again - this time, looking for mentions of Nathan, Lucy, or Frank Lee. Write those mentions down.
 - Using the information above, draft your own timeline that outlines Nathan's, Lucy's, or Frank Lee's day working in the kitchen.
- Make your own **butter**. Fill a jar half-way full with heavy cream (about 1/2 pint), and shake it until it clumps together. Squeeze out the liquid, and salt to taste, spreading on crackers or bread. As you enjoy, **read about how butter was used in the 18th century**.