



MUSEUM OF EARLY  
TRADES & CRAFTS

# Additional Program information for *Exploring Architecture*

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Appropriate for 2nd to 12th grades

✓ At METC

X Outreach

X Live Virtual

X Digital Written Lesson Plan

X Digital Video Lesson Plan

Students will use METC's beautiful building to explore how architecture combines form and function in a unique way. They will discover different architectural techniques, design a stained-glass window inspired by the ones in METC's building and do rubbings of the many textured elements of the building.

## STANDARDS & SKILLS

**1.2.5.Cn11b:** Examine, discuss and interact appropriately with media arts tools and environments, considering safety, ethics, rules, and media literacy.

**1.5.2.Re7b:** Describe, compare and categorize visual artworks based on subject matter and expressive properties.

**1.5.2.Cn11a:** Compare, contrast and describe why people from different places and times make art.

**1.5.5.Re7a:** Speculate about artistic processes. Interpret and compare works of art and other responses.

**1.5.5.Re9a:** Identify different evaluative criteria for different types of artwork dependent on genre, historical and cultural concepts.

**1.5.8.Re7a:** Explain how a person's aesthetic choices are influenced by culture and environment, and how they impact the way in which visual messages are perceived and conveyed.



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## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Students will:

1. Explain the difference between functional, decorative and structural elements of architecture.
2. Examine and identify different architectural styles and designs by looking at the Museum building.
3. Express themselves creatively.

## SUGGESTED PRE-VISIT ACTIVITY

### Map It Out

The planning of streets, building and businesses in a town or city is very important to the success of the community and impacts the way that residents go about their daily lives. Have your class pick a neighborhood in your town to explore, preferably one that has a mix of commercial and public buildings.

Give the students a pencil and paper and orient them to the direction they are facing, using either a compass or knowledge of certain landmarks. Have them note the compass points on the upper right-hand corner of the paper, then draw two parallel lines and write the name of the street between them. Your students could all sketch the same area, or each student could focus on a different area. Have the students walk slowly down the street, noting the buildings on both sides of the street and drawing them on the map using whatever shape best represents them. Make sure they label the buildings.

Once the maps are complete, discuss the importance of the layout of the street. Which streets were busy with commerce, or comparatively empty? Why? What was the most important building on the street? Why? What is the importance of a “Main Street?” To explore the history of the street, look for dates and signs on the buildings that might provide a clue to their origins or age. You may consider having your students ask shopkeepers or others these questions:

- How long has this business been here?
- When was this building built?
- What was here before?

Visit the library’s local history section to find photographs of the street through the ages. Obtain a copy and have a “compare & contrast” session.



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## **SUGGESTED POST-VISIT ACTIVITY**

### **Rub Out Your Town!**

Your students learned how to do rubbings during their program at METC. Your town probably has a variety of sites with textured features for rubbing. This might include decorative writing, furniture fittings, keyhole covers, manhole covers, hinges, boundary stones, wrought iron gates, street signs, and historic markers.

Ask students to create a rubbing and bring it into the classroom. Regular crayons and any paper can work for rubbings. Have the class guess where the rubbing came from to see how many students recognize familiar features from your town. The rubbings can be used later to decorate bookmarks, greeting cards, calendars or your classroom.

**If you have any questions or require any additional information, please feel free to contact the METC Education Department at 973-377-2982, x12 or [education@metc.org](mailto:education@metc.org)**