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Grade Level: 6th-9th

Course Description: Did you know these fascinating facts about Florida?

- Millions of dollars of gold still sits off the coast of Florida waiting to be claimed.
- In 1833, Dr. John Gorrie invented a rudimentary air conditioner in Apalachicola,

Florida. Ice harvesters in the north were so threatened the ramifications of his invention, that they started a campaign to discredit Dr. Gorrie as a crackpot. Their smear campaign worked, and poor Dr. Gorrie died penniless. Floridians had to suffer another 69 years before the first Carrier air conditioner was introduced.

• Thousands of British Royal Air Force soldiers were taught to fly in Florida during World War II.

Florida has an incredibly rich history teeming with fun facts and unique stories that are sure to capture your child's attention. It is the goal of this class to make Florida history come alive through a series of engaging high-interest historical fiction novels, informative handouts, video clips, web-linked reading assignments, hands-on activities, numerous suggested field trips, research projects, and games.

Students will be exposed to the historical, geographic, political, economic, and sociological events, which influenced the progression of Florida's diverse heritage through Spanish, French, British and American occupations, Florida's Native American population, United States annexation and territorial experience and statehood. Our year will conclude with a special look at our local and state government, as well as the abundant history of our state capital.

FLDOE Course Number: 2100030 Grades 6-8, 1 social studies credit 2100350 Grade 9, 1 social studies credit

Supplies Required: Dividers for a three-ring binder (ideally one pack of 5), notebook paper, colored pencils, pencils and a 1 to 1½ " view binder (Instead of having a traditional textbook, students will be given numerous handouts for reading. This will also hold all notebooking pages, weekly assignments, maps, and any other projects we complete in class. *Please have your child bring this binder on the first day of class.*



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Books: A Land Remembered, Volume 1, Student Edition by Patrick D. Smith ISBN-10: 9781561642236 ISBN-13: 978-1561642236



Blown Away by Joan Hiatt Harlow



The River Way Home by Mary E. Dawson



I will organize several field trips throughout the school year. Feel free to attend as many as you can, but participation is optional.

Field trips include:

- St. Augustine: The Fountain of Youth Archaeological Park, Castillo de San Marcos, and other interesting historical sites in the St. Augustine area (September or October 2020)
- Fort Christmas History Day (February 2021)
- Orange County Regional History Center (November 2020)
- McLarty Treasure Museum and/or Mel Fisher Museum

• Tallahassee - Tour the Capital and the Capital Museum, Governor's Mansion, Supreme Court, and visit any number of other historic sites in the area (Fort Gadson, Hernando de Soto State Archeological Site, Lake Jackson Mounds, and on and on). This would be a final two-day long trip for families interested in summing up Florida History and detailing our final unit on Florida government. I will make group tour arrangements if there are at least 10 participants (children and adults) (April or May 2021).

• Monthly class cost: \$8.00 per week

• Materials Fee: \$30 each semester (may not be required for second semester)*

Minimum # of students: 5 Maximum # of students: 20