

Ayers House Museum School Experiences 2018



Visiting Ayers House Museum gives people the opportunity to feel as though they have stepped back in time. Educators and children love seeing and touching objects from the past.

Being in a stately home doing activities that connect to the past gives them a taste of what life was like for those upstairs and downstairs. When students return to school their imaginations are fired up and they want to learn more.

These are the programs we have on offer in 2018.

Spit and Polish

Grades two to four
Duration 90 minutes

During their visit the children pretend they are visiting Ayers House to gain employment as servants. The program is facilitated by a teacher who plays the role of Housekeeper. Activities include tray carrying, bell recognition and polishing the staircase. The children explore our hands-on Victorian kitchen, recite a nursery rhyme in the nursery and look at the guest bedrooms.

The children learn about the workings of a Victorian household, the role of servants and something of the skills needed to progress in the colony of South Australia in the 19th Century.

Dancing and Deportment

Grades five to seven
Duration 90 minutes

This theatrical program is conducted with the education presenters wearing period costumes. During their visit the students pretend they are newly arrived emigrants who are visiting Ayers House to meet the Ayers children. In the course of their visit they brush up on their etiquette, sing and learn to dance a quadrille. They then explore visit the rooms of the house that pertain to the upper class.

The children learn about the workings of a Victorian household, 19th Century attitudes to gender, class and social conventions and something of the skills needed to progress in the colony of South Australia.

Fun and Games

Grades one to two
Duration 90 minutes

The session balances instructed activities with self-directed exploration. It includes games such as *Oranges and Lemons*, a memory-tray and a visit to the nursery.

Children can dress up or play games such as dominoes, pick-up-sticks and knuckle bones. The session concludes with the children making a peg doll to take home.

The session is not conducted with the facilitator in role. Parent helpers and teachers are asked to please assist during the peg doll making session.

Ayers House Tour (+ optional activity)

Grades four to twelve
Duration 60 minutes or (90 minutes for tour + activity)

Give your students the chance to be immersed in a grand Victorian home. A tour will help them understand some of the history of the house, the family who lived here and make connections to South Australia's colonial history.

The tour can be tailored to suit both secondary and primary students. If desired it can be followed by a practical session of either hand sewing or writing Copperplate script using pen and ink.

Collaboration: Choose your Own Adventure

Ayers House Museum welcomes collaboration with primary and secondary educators. It would be a wonderful venue to teach photography, visual art, literature and creative writing.

Get in touch to discuss your ideas about how to make the most of this spectacular teaching environment.

Program	Spit and Polish	Dancing and Department	Fun and Games	Ayers House Tour + activity
Year Level	Grades 2-4	Grades 5-7	Grades 1-2	Grades 4-12
Group Size	30	50	25	30
Duration	90 minutes			
Session times	10:00am-11:30am or 12:30pm-2:00pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday			
Address	Ayers House Museum 288 North Terrace Adelaide			
Coach Parking	Unavailable			
Public Transport	Good public transport options			
Cost	\$7 per child, accompanying adults: FREE			
Meeting Point	Western veranda at the side of Ayers House Museum. Please wait there and you will be met by the National Trust School Programs Presenter.			
Eating Facilities	The Western veranda is well sheltered from rain and sun. <i>If there is a function in the Conservatory, please could you be mindful of noise.</i>			
Toilet	There is a disability-friendly toilet off the Western veranda and two toilets on the first floor of Ayers House Museum.			
Invoice	Invoices are issued after the visit.			
Contact	Helen Lawry, Education Presenter hlawry@nationaltrustsa.org.au 8223 1234			