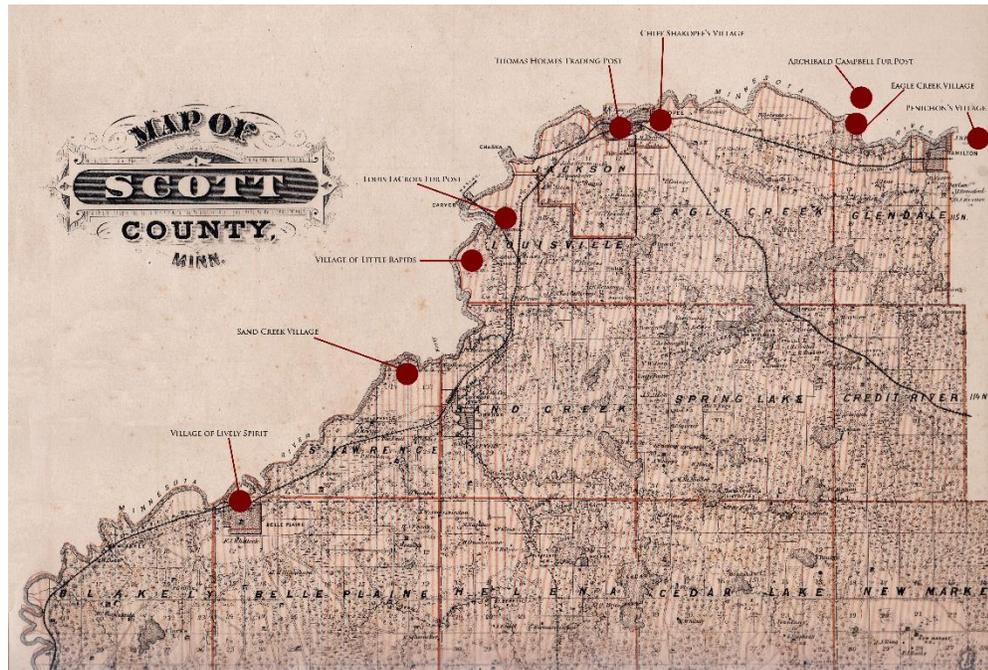


The Minnesota River Fur Trade

A Scott County Historical Society Trunk Program for
Grade 6



“The Minnesota River Fur Trade” Program Overview

- **Program Summary:** This trunk program will give students the opportunity to explore the Dakota settlements and the European fur trading activity along the Minnesota River in Scott County. Students will analyze historical maps and artifacts, take part in mock fur trades, present information to the class, and participate in group and class discussions. This program is part of the Scott County Historical Society’s “Collections in the Classroom” initiative, which uses museum artifacts to teach students about local history. It aligns with Minnesota state academic standards in social studies and English language arts.
- **Program Learning Objective:** Students will be able to identify and describe the natural resources and wildlife found in and around the Minnesota River that made it an ideal spot for both Dakota settlements and European fur trading activity. Students will be able to describe the impact of the European fur trade on the Dakota people who lived in the area.
- **Minnesota State Academic Standards:** This program meets the following Minnesota state academic standards and benchmarks:
 - Social Studies—
 - 6.3.1.1.1: Create and use various kinds of maps of places in Minnesota.
 - 6.3.3.6.1: Locate, identify and describe major physical features in Minnesota; explain how physical features and the location of resources affect settlement patterns and the growth of cities in different parts of Minnesota.
 - 6.3.4.10.1: Describe how land was used during different time periods in Minnesota history; explain how and why land use has changed over time.
 - 6.4.1.2.1: Pose questions about a topic in Minnesota history, gather a variety of primary and secondary sources related to questions, analyze sources for credibility, identify possible answers, use evidence to draw conclusions, and present supported findings.
 - 6.4.4.16.1: Describe European exploration, competition and trade in the upper Mississippi River region; describe varied interactions between Minnesota’s indigenous peoples and Europeans in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.
 - English Language Arts—
 - 6.7.3.3: Write narratives and other creative texts to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.
- **Program Goals:**
 - To help students develop their historical thinking skills by analyzing and interpreting primary sources.
 - To help students gain knowledge about the history of Scott County.
 - To give students the opportunity to connect with history in an enjoyable, hands-on manner.
 - To support teachers and to help the Scott County Historical Society further its mission to share Scott County history and cultural heritage.