

Warrenville History Lessons & Activities

1. Communities – What do they have to offer?
Activity – Semantic Map: Brainstorm and list organizations in our community i.e. Schools, Churches, Recreation, Government, Business offering Goods and Services
2. City Government – Mayor, City Administrator, Council Model
Activity – WS on City Official and discuss Map of 4 Wards
3. Read and Discuss the booklet on *How the Warrens Came to Illinois*.
Activity - It is written in a question and answer format to generate cause and effect discussions.
4. Map Skills
Activity 1– Create a large map of 1833 Warrenville with river and forest only. Julius Warren chose this spot because the wide area on the river would make a good mill pond. Then add and discuss streets as town was organized by Julius Warren the town founder. First St.(Winfield Rd.), Second St., Third St. (Batavia Rd.) and Fourth St. running N and S. Then add Big Woods Rd. (Warrenville Rd.), Main St., Jackson, Jefferson and Washington Streets and discuss the need to be near the river.
Activity 2- Map of Warren Family Highlight the journey from Westfield, NY to IL Read some passages from *Come Fly to the Prairie* that document the adventures of the journey pp 24-29.
Activity 3 – Map of Warrenville 1874/1844 Color in River blue and roads brown, reviewing the name changes roads have today and elimination of Washington St.
Activity 4 – Look at map of Warrenville today. Find the square of 1844 Warrenville and color it in yellow. Compare the growth of the town from then to now. Discuss Warrenville being surrounded by lots of green space: N is Blackwell FP, E is Herrick Lake, S is McDowell Woods and E is Fermi Prairie. Teach the song *This Town is Your Town*
Activity 5 Look at the Chicago Metro Map and identify Warrenville’s location. Discuss our address system 28W means that house is 28 miles west of State St. and 3S means it is 3 miles south of Madison Ave.
5. Teach lesson on Greek Revival Architecture – Why we have it and what are the characteristics
Activity 1– Label Greek Revival Architecture Characteristics on a residence and a public building (See brochure for information)
Activity 2 – Build Greek Revival paper models and create the town Use map of Warrenville from *In and Around Historic Warrenville* as a Reference
Activity 3 – Teach song *If I Had a Hammer, I’d Build a Greek Revival House*
6. Col. Julius Warren –
Activity 1 -Read through the booklet about Col. Warren and all that he did for the town.

- Activity 2** -Teach the son *The Legend of Col. Warren*.
- Activity 3** - Read *The Important Book* by Margaret Wise Brown. Discuss the pattern the author used. Together write a page about Col. Warren using the pattern. Use info from *Life and Times of Warrenton* and *In and Around Historic Warrenton* for background on Julius Warren.
7. Teach information about Col. Warren's House from *In and Around Historic Warrenton*. Write another page using the pattern from *The Important Book* to write about this historic home.
8. Warren Tavern – Teach information about Col. Warren's Tavern from *In and Around Historic Warrenton*.
- Activity 1** – Fill in Cloze activity on the Warren Tavern
- Activity 2** – Learn song *Warrenton Gals*
- Activity 3** – Have students practice and perform Reader's Theater about a situation that took place at the Tavern.
- Activity 4** – Learn to square dance to *Warrenton Gals*
9. Gristmill – Use the book *The Gristmill* by Bobbie Kalman and the museum brochure to learn what a gristmill is, how it works, what it grinds, the dangers and social aspects the mill brought to town and its importance to the farmers. Students take notes on what they learned using a Semantic Map.
10. Teach about the historic Albright Building using information from the book *In and Around Historic Warrenton* and the museum brochure
- Activity 1**– fill in the dates on the timeline documenting the time periods
- Activity 2** – 3-4 grade students can fill in a cloze activity about the building
- Activity 3** – Teach song *Albright, Used for Many Things*
11. Warrenton Schools – Teach students about Warrenton schools using information from *In and Around Historic Warrenton*.
- Activity 1** -Take notes on these topics.
- Li'l Red Schoolhouse
The Seminary
Seraph Warren Holmes
Holmes School
- Activity 2** – Teach song *Seraph Warren from New York*
- Activity 3** – Play games of the 1800's
12. CA & E Railroad –
- Activity 1** -Read article on the railroad and take notes by highlighting important things learned in each paragraph.
- Activity 2** Learn songs: *I've Been Working on the Plank Road* and *Chicago, Aurora, Elgin*
13. Teach about Roundhouse using information from the book *In and Around Historic Warrenton* and make a list of all the things it has been used for.
14. Teach about the Warrenton Cemetery using information from the book *In and Around Historic Warrenton*
- Activity** Teach Cemetery Vocabulary and students match terms with meanings.

15. Potawatomi – CD with PowerPoint presentation on this Native American tribe that camped in this area.
 - Activity 1**– Read article and highlight information learned.
 - Activity 2** – Compare the Native Americans with the early settlers using a Venn Diagram.

16. Timeline – Cut and glue timeline of growth of the town.
17. Take a Field Trip around Warrenville visiting
 - City Hall and meet the Mayor in the Council Room
 - Mayor Brummel – City Hall 393-9427
 - Tour around the Historic Downtown
 - Visit the Warrenville Cemetery
 - Pam Lowe -
 - Tour Historic 4th Street
 - Visit the Albright Museum
 - Carolyn Wondrow 393-4568
 - Visit the Warren Tavern
 - Jenny Lund 393-6026
18. Give a performance of the songs you have learned about your town