

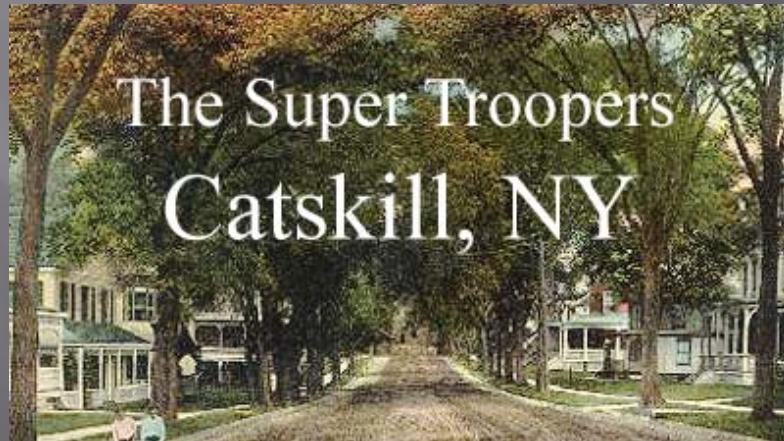
Welcome to Catskill, NY!



"A Small Town Rich in History and Charm"

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Lesson Plan

Overview: Students will visit Catskill to see key sites related to the tercentenary and quatercentenary. Students will become familiar with the city of Catskill and the important locations and buildings in the city related to the tercentenary and quadricentennial celebrations. Students will visit: Catskill Town Hall, Cedar Grove (The Thomas Cole National Historic Site), and the Beattie-Powers House.



Lesson Plan

Target level: 5th grade

Learning Intelligences Used:

Visual – Students will go on tours at each location and observe the architecture and landscape of Catskill.

Naturalist – Students will observe the landscape and nature of the environment.

Interpersonal – Students will work cooperatively in groups to answer questions.

Linguistic – Students will write reports on the locations they visit.

Standards:

Standard 1: *History of New York* - Students will use a variety of skills to display understanding of major ideas, themes and turning points in the history of New York.

Standard 3: *Geography* - Students will use a variety of skills to display understanding of the geography of the interdependent world (local, national and global) including the distribution of people, places, and environments.

Lesson Plan

Objectives:

Comprehension - Students will describe and identify the landscape and architecture of historical Catskill.

Synthesis - Students will compose, construct and assemble information to create a unique representation of their visit.

Materials:

- 1 camera per group (digital or disposable)



- Notebook or paper to write on



- Pen or pencil to write with



Lesson Plan

Procedure:

- Students will visit the above listed locations in Catskill. They will sit for a lecture from Lost Catskill with Ted Hilscher or a lecture at the Beattie-Powers house, learning about Power's government involvement.
- Students will visit the Town Hall and learn about more local lawmaking from the early 20th century. They will also observe architecture, as at the other locations.
- Each group will brainstorm the kinds of laws needed in the early 1900s. Attention will be paid to the population of the area, the major forms of commerce, and new technologies. Each team will propose one law.
- Students will visit the Thomas Cole National Historic Site and observe the landscape and his artwork of Catskill.
- Students will take pictures of the landscape and architecture of the sites they visit, and make notes about the significance of the places. They will work in groups to take pictures and record observations.

Closure:

Students will take what they have observed on their visit to Catskill and assemble a group project. They may either make a pamphlet or a poster compiling the historical places in Catskill. Posters will be hung on the walls and copies of pamphlets will be made for students to share.

Cedar Grove: The Thomas Cole National Historic Site



218 Spring Street
Catskill, New York



Near the entrance to the Rip Van Winkle Bridge at the foot of the Catskill Mountains in the Hudson Valley River.

Phone: (518)-943-6533

Hours:

The Main House and Studio are open by guided tour
May-October.

Tours are offered Thursday-Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The house is open Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day, and
Columbus Day 1-4 pm.

Cedar Grove: The Thomas Cole National Historic Site

Admission:

\$7 per person

Seniors and students with ID are \$5 per person

Admission to the grounds is free of charge

History and Site:

In 1815 the Federal-style main house was built, and a farm property of about 110 acres was quickly added. Despite fronting the Hudson River, the Cedar Grove house was also built along a turnpike road that crossed through the western part of the estate where the land slopes away from the river. As such, Cedar Grove has always enjoyed an orientation towards the western Catskill Mountains, the scene of Thomas Cole's inspiration. Along with the house, Cedar Grove has a cluster of outbuildings. Several of these are significant for their use as studios during periods of Thomas Cole's career.

Beattie Powers House



Prospect Avenue
Catskill, NY 12414

Phone: (518)-943-4764

History and Site:



James Powers was a businessman and State Assemblyman who built the house at Beattie-Powers Place in 1839. The house, with sweeping views of the Hudson River, and the historic site of Olana remained in his family for over 100 years. In the early 1990s, Mary Dean Beattie left the estate to Catskill and its residents. The Friends of Beattie-Powers is working to restore both the park and the house with the hope that when the public sees this beautiful gift left to them, they will support their efforts. Programs and events are planned at Beattie-Powers Place for the entire community to enjoy.

Historic Catskill Point and Freightmasters Building



1 Main Street

Catskill, NY 12414

Phone: (518)-943-4764

History and Site:

A picturesque public park located on the Hudson River where the Hudson River Day & Night Line River boats dropped off America's first vacationers for visits to Catskill Mountain resorts and hotels. The park has public boat docks for day use and a large restored warehouse site for performing arts, farm markets, shows and exhibitions. For the tercentenary, Catskill Point was the location where the ships docked.

Tercentenary Celebration

The 1909 Tercentenary celebration in Catskill began on Tuesday, October 5, 1909 and continued through Wednesday, October 6. When the celebration started, about 10,000 people had traveled from all parts of Greene County to join the local population in the Hudson-Fulton Celebration. By Tuesday night, people paraded as music and lights gave the whole town a festival appearance.

On Wednesday, the formal ceremony began at 10am with the secretary of the Greene County Society raising the American Flag. By 10:30am, the steamer Ursula, carrying the Reception Committee, sailed to meet the flotilla and escort it to Catskill, which signaled people to move to the Point. At 11am, barges carrying historic floats arrived from New York and were toured. At noon, the Clermont and the Half-Moon docked and members of the Athabasca Tribe of Red Men canoed to the ship and offered gifts, which the Half-Moon graciously accepted (Hall, 988). Meanwhile, a 21 gun salute was fired to honor the arrival of Governor Hughes. When the Governor came on shore, carriages took him to Court House Square. At the Court House John Elliot, a Catskill student, delivered the welcome address to the Governor. When Elliot finished, the Governor spoke and then the guests were taken to lunch with the Commissioner and Mrs. James Philip at Cedar Grove.

By 1:15pm a blast from the fire whistle announced that the divisions should form at their headquarters. At 1:30pm a second blast told the divisions to go to their parade entry points. At 2pm a third blast started the parade (Hall, 994). Once the parade was over, a reception for the Governor was given at the armory. During the late afternoon, the Half-Moon, Clermont, and flotilla officers were taken by a special train up to the mountains to hear the legendary stories of Irving's tales of Rip Van Winkle. At 7pm, a display of fireworks was set off on the banks of Catskill Creek. After the display, the finale of the celebration was a military ball.



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