

Goldie's Kids Club Activities

Check out the list of [Goldie's Kids Club activities](#) that celebrate important moments and cultures that have shaped the state. These activities are recommended by staff from the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs.

Goldie at Home

Explore the [Goldie at Home activities](#) below for interactive fun that introduces young historians to Iowa history.



[Snapshots of Suffrage](#)

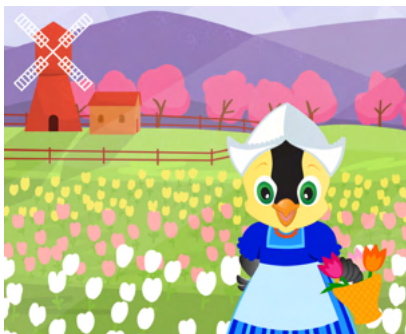
You can read a book, but did you know you can read a photo as well? Photographs are a great way to see a snapshot of the past. This [visual literacy activity](#) addresses how to look beyond the surface of an image and become detectives searching for clues to better understand a historic photo. The State Historical Society of Iowa not only cares for thousands of historic objects, but also is home to many photographs from Iowa's past.



[Celebrating Ramadan](#)

Have you ever heard of Iowa described as a "salad bowl?" It is a metaphor, and it can mean a place where we are all together, exchanging and combining ideas and beliefs, but we also have distinct cultural identities that make us all unique. Iowans may live together but practice different cultures, religions and holidays - including Ramadan. This is a celebration that happens during the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar, and it is exceedingly holy for the world's roughly 1.8 billion Muslims.

This [Goldie at Home activity](#) will teach you about Iowa's unique Islamic history through primary sources. You will also make a Good Deed Tree, which incorporates the concepts of kindness, generosity and discipline that are encouraged during Ramadan.



[Dutch Windmills](#)

Iowa is home to many people from different places around the world. This [Goldie at Home activity](#) focuses on a particular group, the Dutch, and the iconic windmills that can be found around Iowa and in the Netherlands. Although Iowa's famous tulip celebrations have been canceled this year, celebrate the Dutch at home by creating your very own miniature windmill. Tulips and Dutch Letters not included.

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At-Home Expeditions

Explore the state through [exclusive online activities](#) to bring history alive from the comfort of your own home!



Iowa State Fair

The internationally-acclaimed Iowa State Fair annually attracts more than a million people from all over the world, and it is one of the oldest and largest agricultural and industrial expositions in the country.

Highlights from [At-Home Expedition: Iowa State Fair](#)

- Iowa State Fair Word Search Puzzle
- Goldie at Home Activity: DIY Carousel
- Virtual Historical Walking Tour
- From the Vault: Iowa State Fair Collections

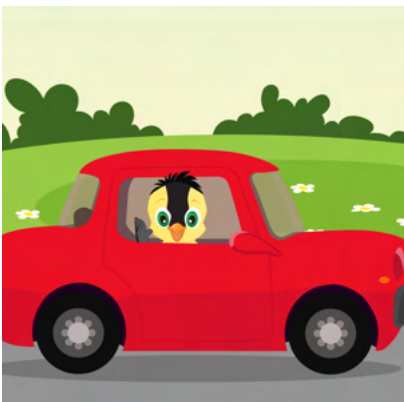


World War II

Official records report that 226,638 men and women from Iowa served in the armed forces during World War II. The United States entered the war on December 8, 1941, the day after the Japanese had attacked U.S. military and naval bases at Pearl Harbor. Iowa's support of the war effort was largely focused on food production. In total, 8,398 Iowans died in the armed forces during World War II.

Highlights from [At-Home Expedition: World War II](#)

- Goldie at Home Activity: Propaganda Posters
- World War II Propaganda Posters from the State Historical Society of Iowa
- Video: An Iowan Joins the Tuskegee Airmen
- Meskwaki Code Talkers



Automobiles

The arrival of the automobile made a huge impact on Iowa, especially farm families. Today, automobiles are almost universal among Iowans, and access to affordable, reliable and convenient transportation is a critical factor in modern life.

Highlights from [Automobiles](#)

- Goldie at Home Activity: Electric Car
- *The Goldfinch: The Automobile Age*

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Innovative Iowans

Explore the [Innovative Iowans program](#) that includes interactive activities that connect history with STEAM education – science, technology, engineering, art and math. The easy-to-follow instructions require few materials and can provide children with a fun, hands-on approach to Iowa history.



[Oral History Interviews](#)

The State Historical Society of Iowa is home to numerous oral history interviews with Iowans that can help preserve important cultural practices. [Collecting oral history](#) is a way to record memories and first-hand accounts from an individual with personal knowledge of a historical event. It allows history to be combined with storytelling, which is giving a human's perspective on history. This activity asks you to become a historian and record the past through a recorded oral history interview.

Storytime

Read this [Storytime](#) book recommendation and try out this hands-on activity that has an Iowa history connection. This activity and storytime celebrates the important role of Black children in the civil rights movement.



[A Sweet Smell of Roses by Angela Johnson](#)

A Sweet Smell of Roses by Angela Johnson, with illustrations by Eric Velazquez, highlights the important, but sometimes forgotten, role of children in the American civil rights movement. This [book and activity](#) tells the journey of two young girls joining a march in their community that is led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. As the girls return home following the speech, they are inspired to fight for freedom and justice. After reading the story, create a white dove out of paper plates to celebrate the inspiring words of Dr. King.

On January 18, 2021, the United States commemorates Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Although Dr. King was not from Iowa, he visited the state multiple times during his lifetime to speak about civil rights issues. His first trip to Iowa was in 1959, and he spoke at the University of Northern Iowa, then called Iowa State Teachers College. He and his wife, Coretta, also made visits to towns like Mt. Vernon, Waterloo, Davenport, Cedar Rapids and Des Moines. King's last visit to Iowa was in 1967 when he visited Grinnell.