

Activity: History Stumpers

Exhibit: Miniature Railroad & Village®

Grades: 6 - 12

The Miniature Railroad & Village displays replicas of dozens of real historic sites in Western Pennsylvania. Some sites still exist today, while others have been gone for years. The History Stumpers quiz encourages students to examine the display closely, to link the replicated sites to their importance in the social, economic and industrial history of the region, and to start conversations with Miniature Railroad staff.

Instructions

1. Distribute copies of the History Stumpers to your class. Make two-sided copies if you can so the quiz is easier to handle.
2. Students can work individually or in teams to answer the questions and find the items on the display.
3. In some cases, students will need to ask questions of the Miniature Railroad & Village staff. This is encouraged!
4. Once an answer is identified, students should find the identified site on the Miniature Railroad display and write the question number in the appropriate location on the map.

An answer key with a map is included.

This exercise addresses Pennsylvania Department of Education Academic Standards for Pennsylvania history sections 8.2.9 and 8.2.12.

Enjoy!

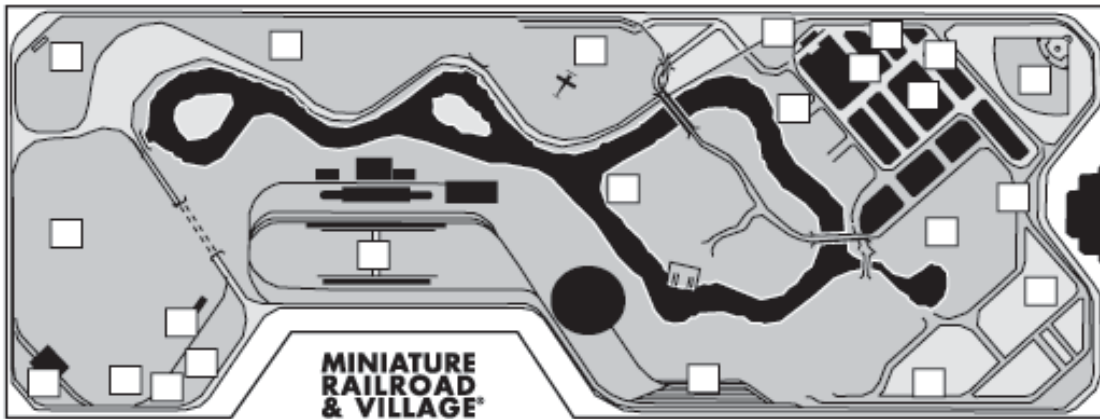


CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER
One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh

History Stumpers

Miniature Railroad & Village®

Instructions: Identify the person, place or thing that completes the question for each answer given. Next, find the corresponding location on the Miniature Railroad display. Write the number of the question in the appropriate box on the map below.



1. Seen on daily public television programming by millions of children, this famous neighborhood house has become a universal symbol of wholesome values and childhood education.
What is _____ ?
2. Designed for converting coal into usable material for the steel making process, 100,000 of these 12x8 foot structures could be found in Fayette County around the turn of the 20th century.
What are the _____ ?
3. Robert Lee Vann published and edited his preeminent Black newspaper which grew into a strong voice for civil rights and economic empowerment at this site.
What is the _____ ?
4. The oldest surviving structure in Allegheny County, it was originally built as an outlying redoubt by Colonel Henry Bouquet then used later as a private residence.
What is the _____ ?
5. With a view of three states and seven counties, this unique hospitality spot hosted such famous guests as Greta Garbo, Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, George Burns and Joan Crawford.
What is the _____ ?
6. Located along the Pittsburgh Seam, this natural resource industry produced the primary source of heat for homes, office buildings, factories as well as fuel for steam locomotives, river boats and electric plants.
What are _____ ?
7. Saxonburg's first house and home to the mastermind of many locks and dams in Pittsburgh, the world's first wire cable suspension aqueduct bridge, and the engineering of the Brooklyn Bridge in New York.
What is _____ ?
8. Living here, families collected tolls for the maintenance of our nation's first national road—Route 40.
What is the _____ ?



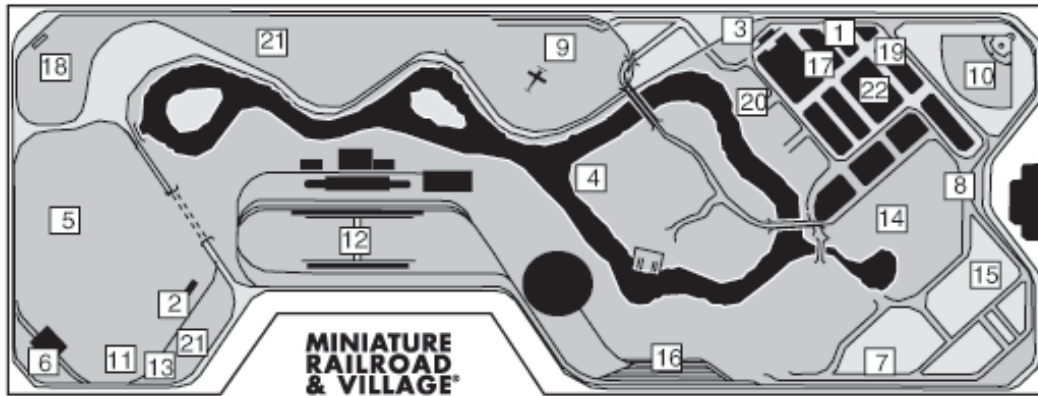
CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER
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9. This location is named for the Pittsburgh native who would be the first man to fly across the continent—a journey which took 49 days and 69 crash landings in 1911.
What is _____ ?
10. With its headquarters in Pittsburgh, the renowned Homestead Grays and Pittsburgh Crawfords produced Hall Of Fame players including Cool Papa Bell, Josh Gibson and Satchel Paige.
What is the _____ ?
11. Celebrated 40 days after Christmas, the tradition of Candlemas Day was brought to western Pennsylvania by German Immigrants, who in 1887 declared the holiday official.
What is _____ ?
12. With a host of operations and the natural resources in abundance, this Pittsburgh industry forged our nation, producing more material than all other US cities combined.
What is the _____ ?
13. McKinley and Roosevelt used this method to rally supporting voters during the 1900 presidential campaign using their winning slogans “Continue Prosperity!” and “A Full Dinner Pail!”
What is a _____ ?
14. Here Professor Samuel Langley performed experiments that would lead to the first sustained mechanically powered flight, developed the system of standardized time, and created a device by which similar technology is used today by NASA to measure the radiation of the sun.
What is the _____ ?
15. This modest white clapboard structure was the childhood home of the author of what has been deemed the second most important piece of 20th century journalism, “Silent Spring.”
What is the _____ ?
16. It was the first railroad to use telephones on trains, baggage check system, loudspeakers in yards and the Westinghouse airbrake system.
What is the _____ ?
17. What began as a civic organization grew in number and purpose to lead a major demonstrations throughout the country, including one down the Monongahela Wharf in 1914. The group eventually won the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
What is the _____ ?
18. Invented by an Allegheny City local and introduced in 1893 at the Chicago World’s Fair, this original engineering wonder stood 264 feet tall, held 2,160 patrons and earned \$726,805.50 during the event.
Who is _____ ?
19. Said to resemble a “bake oven,” this historical landmark was designed by Henry Hobson Richardson, the architect of the Allegheny County Courthouse and Pittsburgh’s old jail.
What is the _____ ?
20. Originally built for transporting materials as well as people, 17 of these unique operations dotted Pittsburgh’s mountainsides in the early 1900s. Today, this one lands near Station Square.
What is the _____ ?
21. These company owned and operated patches provided housing, goods and services to employees using “scrip” as their form of currency. Hint: There are 2 of these located on the exhibit.
What are _____ ?
22. Beginning here with bare wires, crackling spark coils and homemade vacuum tubes, the first commercial radio station would become KDKA, spearheading today’s 35 billion dollar-per-year radio industry.
What is the _____ ?

History Stumpers

Miniature Railroad & Village®

Answer Key



1. Seen on daily public television programming by millions of children, this famous neighborhood house has become a universal symbol of wholesome values and childhood education.
What is the Mister Rogers' Neighborhood house?
2. Designed for converting coal into usable material for the steel making process, 100,000 of these 12x8 foot structures could be found in Fayette County around the turn of the 20th century.
What are the beehive coke ovens?
3. Robert Lee Vann published and edited his preeminent Black newspaper which grew into a strong voice for civil rights and economic empowerment at this site.
What is the Pittsburgh Courier Building?
4. The oldest surviving structure in Allegheny County, it was originally built as an outlying redoubt by Colonel Henry Bouquet then used later as a private residence.
What is the Fort Pitt Blockhouse?
5. With a view of three states and seven counties, this unique hospitality spot hosted such famous guests as Greta Garbo, Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, George Burns and Joan Crawford.
What is the S.S. Grandview Ship Hotel?
6. Located along the Pittsburgh Seam, this natural resource industry produced the primary source of heat for homes, office buildings, factories as well as fuel for steam locomotives, river boats and electric plants.
What are coal mines?
7. Saxonburg's first house and home to the mastermind of many locks and dams in Pittsburgh, the world's first wire cable suspension aqueduct bridge, and the engineering of the Brooklyn Bridge in New York.
What is the John Roebling house and workshop?
8. Living here, families collected tolls for the maintenance of our nation's first national road—Route 40.
What is the Searight toll house?



CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER
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9. This location is named for the Pittsburgh native who would be the first man to fly across the continent—a journey which took 49 days and 69 crash landings in 1911.
What is Rodgers Field?
10. With its headquarters in Pittsburgh, the renowned Homestead Grays and Pittsburgh Crawfords produced Hall Of Fame players including Cool Papa Bell, Josh Gibson and Satchel Paige.
What is the Negro National (baseball) League?
11. Celebrated 40 days after Christmas, the tradition of Candlemas Day was brought to western Pennsylvania by German Immigrants, who in 1887 declared the holiday official.
What is Groundhog Day?
12. With a host of operations and the natural resources in abundance, this Pittsburgh industry forged our nation, producing more material than all other US cities combined.
What is the steel industry? Represented by the Sharon Steel Mill.
13. McKinley and Roosevelt used this method to rally supporting voters during the 1900 presidential campaign using their winning slogans “Continue Prosperity!” and “A Full Dinner Pail!”
What is a whistle-stop tour? Shown at the Avella train station.
14. Here Professor Samuel Langley performed experiments that would lead to the first sustained mechanically powered flight, developed the system of standardized time, and created a device by which similar technology is used today by NASA to measure the radiation of the sun.
What is the Allegheny Observatory?
15. This modest white clapboard structure was the childhood home of the author of what has been deemed the second most important piece of 20th century journalism, “Silent Spring.”
What is the Rachel Carson homestead?
16. It was the first railroad to use telephones on trains, baggage check system, loudspeakers in yards and the Westinghouse airbrake system.
What is the Pennsylvania Railroad (PRR)?
17. What began as a civic organization grew in number and purpose to lead a major demonstrations throughout the country, including one down the Monongahela Wharf in 1914. The group eventually won the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
What is the women’s suffrage movement?
18. Invented by an Allegheny City local and introduced in 1893 at the Chicago World’s Fair, this original engineering wonder stood 264 feet tall, held 2,160 patrons and earned \$726,805.50 during the event.
What is the ferris wheel?
19. Said to resemble a “bake oven,” this historical landmark was designed by Henry Hobson Richardson, the architect of the Allegheny County Courthouse and Pittsburgh’s old jail.
What is the Emmanuel Episcopal Church?
20. Originally built for transporting materials as well as people, 17 of these unique operations dotted Pittsburgh’s mountainsides in the early 1900s. Today, this one lands near Station Square.
What is the Monongahela Incline?
21. These company owned and operated patches provided housing, goods and services to employees using “scrip” as their form of currency. Hint: There are 2 of these located on the exhibit.
What are company towns?
22. Beginning here with bare wires, crackling spark coils and homemade vacuum tubes, the first commercial radio station would become KDKA, spearheading today’s 35 billion dollar-per-year radio industry.
What is the Frank Conrad house?