

## Maritime History and Literacy Curriculum

*Penobscot Marine Museum's Curriculum was created by museum staff and has been field tested for two years in RSU#20's After School Program. Museum Education Director Betty Schopmeyer, MA, CCC-SLP, the primary author of the Curriculum, is a retired Speech/Language Pathologist with many years of experience in classroom language and literacy services as well as curriculum creation*

*"The curricula offered by Penobscot Marine Museum in our afterschool programs has helped the program to achieve it's goal*

*of improving student academic achievement.*

*This is evident by the students' increased vocabulary and im-*

*proved awareness of the geography of their area...industry, local Native American history, the shipping industry, and what it was like to live here 200 years ago. Our afterschool program has been so pleased with the learning that has resulted from these high quality lessons...."*

*RSU#20  
After School Program Administrator*



## Penobscot Marine Museum

Penobscot Marine Museum is the oldest maritime museum in Maine. Founded in 1936, it comprises 13 buildings in downtown Searsport, Maine, eight of which are on the National Register of Historic Places. The museum offers exhibits and activities in all aspects of maritime history and present day maritime topics. For more information please see our website and our education website listed below.

Penobscot Marine Museum

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Searsport, Maine 04974

207-548-2529 phone

207-548-2520 fax

[www.penobscotmarinemuseum.org](http://www.penobscotmarinemuseum.org)

[www.penobscotbayhistory.org](http://www.penobscotbayhistory.org)

## PENOBSCOT MARINE MUSEUM

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## Maritime History and Literacy CURRICULUM



# Penobscot Marine Museum's Maritime History and Literacy Curriculum

A new Curriculum is now available from Penobscot Marine Museum's Education Department. It consists of 15 units, each with 6 weeks of lesson plans. Lessons address maritime content, and include integrated language and literacy skills. The Curriculum uses high-interest, motivating activities. Lessons feature hands-on projects, specially designed games, books, reading, writing, listening and speaking activities, phonology components, and assessment protocols.

**Grade Level:** Each unit includes flexible content and skill expectations for two levels of presentation: younger and older elementary students.

**Maine Learning Results:** Each unit provides relevant Learning Results for both maritime content and English/Language Arts.

## Curriculum Units

### Unit 1: **Where Are We?**

Local geography and landmarks

### Unit 2: **Our Towns**

Basic facts, individualized to towns

### Unit 3: **Maine's Native Americans: Past and Present**

### Unit 4: **The Explorers Come to Maine**

What were they looking for and what did they find?

### Unit 5: **Maine's Riches: Fish-Part 1**

Marine life and classifications

### Unit 6: **Maine's Riches: Fish-Part 2**

The commercial fisheries

### Unit 7: **Maine's Riches: Fish-Part 3**

Fishing communities

### Unit 8: **Maine's Riches: Fish-Part 4**

Lobstering

### Unit 9: **Maine's Riches: Trees**

Lumber and Paper

### Unit 11 **Maine's Riches: Trees to Ships**

Shipbuilding

### Unit 11: **Maine's Riches: Ice and Granite**

### Unit 12: **Life at Sea**

### Unit 13: **Life on Shore in Maritime Communities**

### Unit 14: **Maine and the Orient-Part 1**

Economics

### Unit 15: **Maine and the Orient-Part 2**

Culture

## Literacy

Literacy is essential to the future of every student in every area of study. It rests on a foundation of competent and flexible language skill, which then translates to printed language, or reading. Our Curriculum reinforces many skills, from basic phonological awareness and vocabulary, through higher level linguistic skills such as idioms, multiple meanings, and definitions.

## Information on Content and Access

The **Curriculum** is available by individual unit to classrooms and out of school time learning sites.

**For more information on content and how to access the Curriculum, contact Betty Schopmeyer, Education Director at Penobscot Marine Museum at 207-548-2529x206 or email [bschomeyer@pmm-maine.org](mailto:bschomeyer@pmm-maine.org).**