



# Enriching Activities for Students- Before and After Your Visit

A visit to a museum is always a fun and exciting time for students and you can make their visit even more meaningful with a few simple, classroom based activities. These quick activities can prepare them for the trip and enhance engagement at the museum, while reflective activities after the excursion will reinforce concepts learned.

A variety of discussion questions and activity suggestions are provided here along with pictures from the Museum collection. Use our ideas or create your own activities using these materials!

# Pre-Visit Activities

Pre-Visit Activity Sheets are also available under Teacher Resources on the website, which introduce vocabulary and core themes.

- Discuss museum rules and etiquette with the class. How is visiting a museum different from visiting another cultural site or attraction such as the Statue of Liberty or Empire State Building? Why are museums an important part of communities? What do we learn from museums?
- Make an experience chart to discuss what students know about the Museum, what they might see and what they want to learn. Save this chart for discussion after the trip.
- Practice inquiry-based learning using the images provided. Ask the questions: What do you see? What is happening? Who is in the photograph? What can we learn about the Intrepid Museum from what we have observed?
- In pairs, students compare and contrast two aircraft photographs. Answer questions about shape and design, color, and possible function.
- Look at the picture of *USS Intrepid* in 1944. What was going on in the world in 1944? Discuss the role and function of an aircraft carrier during this time period.
- For those classes studying WWII, watch the movie *Flags of Our Fathers*, based on the book by the same name, and frame a class discussion around heroism and the affects of war on the human psyche. *Note: This movie is rated R for violence and may require special viewing permission from parents.*
- There are many topics of exploration in the “Curator’s Corner” blog on the Intrepid website main page. Students may read one or more of the blog entries and report on the topics discussed. Follow this link- <https://www.intrepidmuseum.org/CMSPages/BlogRss.aspx?aliaspath=/CuratorsCorner/%>
- Your class may enjoy taking a virtual tour of many of the ship’s spaces by accessing the website at <http://www.intrepidmuseum.org/The-Intrepid-Experience/Exhibits.aspx>. Click on “Virtual Tour” in the left hand navigation bar.

# Post-Visit Activities

Post-Visit Activity Sheets are also available under Teacher Resources on the website, which review core themes and workshop materials.

- Review the experience chart the class generated before the visit. Where their assumptions true? What did they learn? In teams, research any topic they want to know more about.
- Students may write and illustrate a visitor's guide to the Museum based on their visit. What should others know before coming to the Museum? What is the "must see" exhibit at the Museum?
- Examine the picture of *USS Intrepid* sailing up the Hudson River in 1957. In what ways has the city changed since that time? How has the ship changed since that time?
- Use the two pictures of *Intrepid* to compare and contrast the ship as a museum versus the ship as an active naval vessel. Thinking back to your visit, what sorts of modifications had to be made to make *Intrepid* into a museum for the public?
- Using the pictures of crew onboard *Intrepid* as inspiration, write a "day in the life" narrative. What would a sailor do from dawn to dusk if he was a crew member? What would he see, hear, feel and talk about?
- Pick a time period (WWII, Cold War, Vietnam) and imagine that you are a crew member aboard *Intrepid*. Write a letter home to your family describing what you do each day and some of the places you have visited.
- 2011 celebrates the 100<sup>th</sup> year of naval aviation. Students can research different aspects of naval aviation, from the first flight, to innovative devices used onboard aircraft carriers, and naval inventions from other countries. Use some of the pictures of our Aviation Collection as inspiration!
- For those classes studying WWII, watch the award-winning film *Letters from Iwo Jima*. Frame a class discussion around how history can be told from many different perspectives. *Note: This movie is rated R for violence and may require special viewing permission from parents.*
- We want to hear from you! Share your experience with *Intrepid*! Mail your class projects and responses to:

Intrepid Education, One Intrepid Square, 12<sup>th</sup> Ave. & 46<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10036.



**Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum at Pier 86**



**1944 USS Intrepid, Philippine Sea**

## 1957 Intrepid Passing NYC Financial District





**At work on the USS Intrepid**



**Cleaning an aircraft elevator**



**Mess deck**



**Mikoyan Gurevich MIG-15**



**Piasecki HUP/UH-25 Retriever**



**Chance Vought F-8K Crusader**



**Lockheed A-12 Blackbird**