

Kern County Museum Project Kit #1

Congratulations! You're going to the Kern County Museum! Use these project ideas to enrich your educational experience. Read through them before you go to make sure you understand the terms and concepts, and to help you determine if you want to expand upon any of them. **You'll find fun facts and printable worksheets at the end of this packet.**

a- elementary level activity b- middle school level activity c- high school level activity

Language Arts

The Kern County Museum inspires the imagination! As you walk around, try to imagine what it would have been like to live during the times these buildings were built. Write your own fictional story.

- a. Write or draw a short story. Make sure to include characters, setting, and a plot.
- b. Write a short story. Make sure to include setting, characters, conflict, and resolution.
- c. Write a story. Include settings, characters, conflict, resolution, and character development. Try to incorporate some of the history of the era you are writing about as well.

Materials required: Notebook, pen/pencil

Submission: A copy of your writings/drawing, and any pictures/videos

Teaching or learning notes:

Applied Math

Oil production has been a critical part of Kern County history. The oil industry uses many types of math. Find examples of math throughout the museum.

- a. Find, identify, draw, and label the shapes you see at the museum. Talk about why that shape is important as a component of the item you're looking at.
- b. Why is it necessary to know math to build and operate oil rig machinery? Draw a picture and label the parts which require math, giving examples of the math used.
- c. Choose one feature of the museum to study a little closer. It could be a building, machine, tool, etc. What kind of math was used to create it? What math must be understood in order to operate/use it? Draw a picture of your feature including the math involved and write a short paragraph detailing the importance of understanding math.

Materials required: Notebook, pen/pencil, calculator or smartphone (optional)

Submission: Your calculations, estimations, and conclusions, and any pictures/videos

Teaching or learning notes:

Science

Learn more about the science of petroleum.

- a. Where does oil come from and what is it used for? Draw or write about your findings.
- b. Choose one thing that needs oil to function. Draw or write about its use, what it needs oil for, and why it is important to society.
- c. What is oil? How is it made in the earth? How do we extract it? What is it used for? What things in your daily life require oil for existence? Draw or write a detailed lifecycle for oil, labelled with descriptions. Include how oil is created through how you use it every day and how recycling can help reduce the need for more oil extraction.

Materials required: Notebook, pen/pencil

Submission: A copy of your drawings, diagrams, writings, and any pictures/videos

Teaching or learning notes:

Social Studies

Kern County has a rich and vibrant history. Take note of the some of the important events which occurred in the county and the impact they had on the people living here.

- a. Write or draw about the beginnings of Kern County and what it might have been like to have been there.
- b. Choose one person who was influential to the history of Kern County and detail who they were and their importance.
- c. Create a timeline for the history of Kern County. Include important dates, people, and places.

Materials required: Notebook, pen/pencil, smartphone (optional)

Submission: A copy of your writings/drawings, and any pictures/videos

Teaching or learning notes:

FUN FACTS

- The Kern County Museum contains over 50 historic structures and exhibits depicting the history of Kern County, California, and the West set amid 16-acres of beautiful grounds.
- The Beale Memorial Clock Tower was a gift to the City of Bakersfield from Truxtun Beale in memory of his mother, Mary Edwards Beale. Dedicated on April 2, 1904, the clock tower originally stood in the center of the intersection at Chester Avenue and 17th Street in downtown Bakersfield. In the summer of 1952, a series of earthquakes shook Kern County causing extensive damage to the clock tower. The clock tower was demolished in the quake's aftermath. Only the original clock works, bell, iron stairway, balcony railings and arch grillwork were saved. In 1961, a group of local citizens formed the Beale Memorial Clock Tower Restoration Committee to build a replica of the clock tower. The original pieces of the clock tower were incorporated into the rising masonry.
- In 1891, William Howell hired a local carpenter to construct this Queen Anne style Victorian home on the northeast corner of 17th and H Streets in Bakersfield. William Howell moved with his parents and sisters from Nebraska to Kern County in 1877. William became a court reporter for the Kern County Superior Court after his father died of pneumonia. William later became the County Auditor and a successful businessman.
- The 9,640-square foot Black Gold exhibition and surrounding 2.3 acres present a complete overview of how oil is created, different methods of discovery and extraction throughout history and the changing role of industry workers and their families.
- The Neon Courtyard is the village's growing collection of neon signs from a variety of Bakersfield's local iconic restaurants, shops and more - all restored to working order.

Kern Pioneer Village

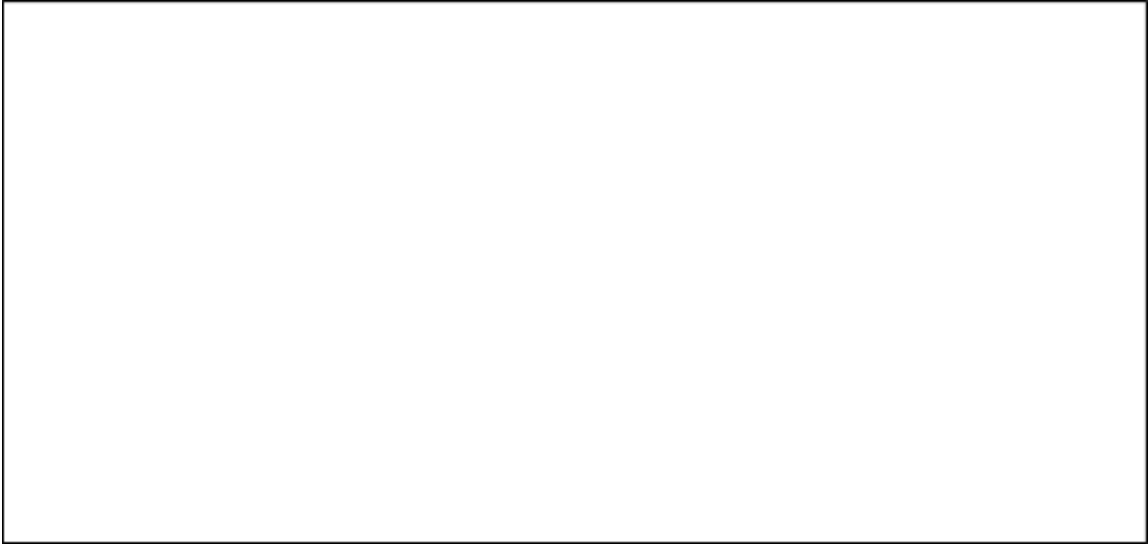
1. Draw a picture of your favorite building.



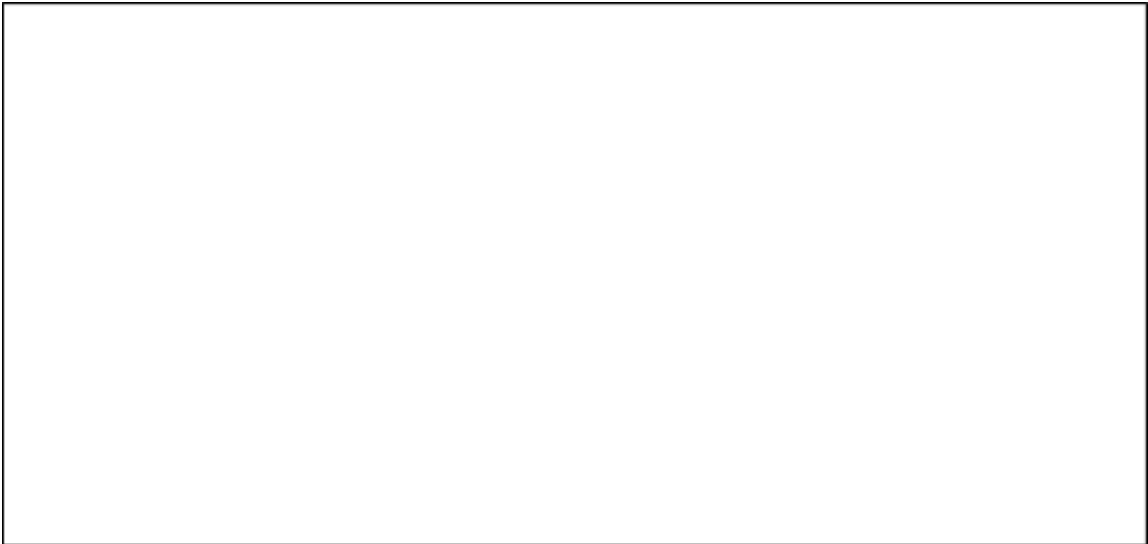
2. Describe your favorite building and why you love it.

3. What is one thing you learned about Bakersfield history?

4. Draw an architectural aspect you thought was interesting.



5. Describe or draw landscaping you thought was interesting.



6. How many homes are in the village? How many other buildings?

BONUS:

Pioneer Village Scavenger Hunt!

- Something gold _____
- Something that you can eat on _____
- Something that hangs _____
- Something old _____
- Something smaller than your hand _____
- Something larger than your car _____
- Something modern _____
- Something that holds water _____
- Something with triangles _____
- Something made out of wood _____
- Something made out of glass _____

