The Historic Dyess Colony: Boyhood Home of Johnny Cash site tour is a great supplement to the classroom curriculum for K-12 grade students. During guided tours, students not only learn about Johnny Cash’s role in Arkansas’s musical legacy, but also how certain historical time periods, such as the Great Depression, New Deal, and the Flood of 1937 impacted the people and culture of the Arkansas Delta region. The topics discussed during the tour are aligned with the Arkansas Department of Education Social Studies and Arkansas History Curriculum Frameworks. Additionally, several on-site programs coincide with the Common Core Standards for English Language Arts.

The Historic Dyess Colony: Boyhood Home of Johnny Cash, as a historic site, is a cultural document—a primary source—that can be “read” and analyzed by students. Through analysis of certain historical events, cultural changes, and the musical influence of Johnny Cash, students garner an understanding of how the site fits into a larger historical narrative and reflects a diverse cultural heritage.

The guided tour and on-site programs offer an interactive opportunity to apply a “reading across the curriculum” approach that is aligned with the Reading Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies for grades 6-12.

*For a complete description of the Reading Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, please visit http://www.arhistoryhub.com/frameworks/

As you prepare for your class’ tour of the Historic Dyess Colony: Boyhood Home of Johnny Cash, the below list can serve as a guide for where the tour content fits into specific Arkansas History/Social Studies curriculum frameworks. The tour can either be used to address a specific subject such as the Great Depression in Arkansas or the tour can provide a multi-subject review for students. Please consult the heritage site staff on how the tour can be tailored to meet your classroom curriculum needs.

**K – 8 Social Studies Curriculum Frameworks:**

K-4 Geography: Culture & Diversity

G.2.K.2: Discuss the location of a community and the ways that location affects the people of a community (e.g., Arkansas Delta region).

G.2.1.2: Explain ways in which the location of a community affects people’s lives, dress, and occupation (e.g., Arkansas Delta region & Cash family’s experiences at Dyess).
K-4 History: Regionalism & Nationalism

H.6.1.3: Identify historical sites of Arkansas (e.g., Dyess Colony Administration Building & Boyhood Home of Johnny Cash).

H.6.2.3: Discuss historical people of Arkansas (e.g., Dyess colonists, Johnny Cash’s contribution to Arkansas’s musical heritage).

H.6.3.2: Examine historical people and events in Arkansas (e.g., the Cash family, The Great Depression, and New Deal).

K-4 History: Continuity & Change

H.6.K.6: Discuss how historical events relate to present day (e.g., stories of Cash family members’ lives, Johnny Cash’s life in Dyess inspiring his musical work and its legacy).

H.6.1.6: Explore people events from the past using primary and secondary sources (e.g., Dyess colonists’ photographs, family artifacts, books).

H.6.2.6: Determine how photos and documents are used to gather information about the past (e.g., Dyess colonists’ photographs and letters).

H.6.3.7: Analyze a timeline that illustrates selected historical events (e.g., Dyess colony progression timeline, Cash family’s timeline).

H.6.4.10: Examine artifacts relating to events in Arkansas history (e.g., objects located in the Dyess Colony Administration Building and Boyhood Home of Johnny Cash).

Grade 5 – 8 Geography: Culture & Diversity

G.2.5.3: Recognize examples of cultural diffusion, cultural exchange, and assimilation (e.g., Dyess colonists’ way of life).

G.2.6.3: Identify the occurrences of cultural diffusion, cultural exchange, and assimilation in local and national history.

G.2.7.1: Examine creative work as examples of cultural heritage (e.g., music by Johnny Cash)

Grade 7 – 12 Arkansas History Curriculum Frameworks:

Great Depression – GD.8.AH.7-8.4, 9-12.4: Discuss the effects New Deal programs had on society in Arkansas during the Great Depression.

GD.8.AH.7-8.5, 9-12.5: Explore economic and social consequences of the Great Depression.

World War II – WWP.9.AH. 7-8.2, 9-12.2: Describe the social and economic effects of World War II on Arkansans (e.g., impact on Dyess Colony).

WWP.AH.7-8.12, 9-12.8: Identify significant contributions made by Arkansans in the following fields: art, business, culture, medicine, and science.