



## ***Needles & Threads*** **Pre-Visit Information**

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### **Program Information**

#### **Description**

As workers in a 1929 garment factory, students become cutters, sewers, or management personnel and learn about the requirements of skilled and unskilled workers. Students will work in their respective jobs and will then be assessed by the management on the results of their work. Each student also takes home a felt pocket completed by the sewers.

#### **Objective**

Students will develop an understanding of factory working conditions, the impact of immigration, and benefit of location for industrial achievement. Students will identify the difficulties workers faced at the turn of the century and effects the development of technology had on the day to day lives of factory workers.

At the end of the program, students will be able to:

- Distinguish among past, present and future time.
- Describe people, places and events in the past.
- Describe the production process.
- Explain how technology affects the way people live, work and play
- Describe how transportation links people and places.
- Explain why some locations are better than others for specific human activities.

### **Preparing for Your Visit**

Before taking part in *Needles & Threads*, it is a good idea to spend some time talking with your students about what they can expect at the Museum, and discuss the kinds of information that will be covered during the field trip.

### **Classroom Discussion: Pre-Visit**

1. What is a garment factory?
2. Why do you think there used to be so many garment factories in Baltimore?
3. What kinds of jobs do you think people had in garment factories?
4. Do you think clothing is made the same way today as it was in the late 1800s, early 1900s?

### **Classroom Resources: Pre-Visit**

1. [Virtual walk-through program](#): check out the museum's virtual space in advance to give your students an idea of what to expect.
2. [Student Youtube Playlist](#): introduce your students to a few of the industries in advance of the tour.

### **Important Words & Concepts**

*Industry*: another word for work

*Garment Factory*: a factory where people make clothing

*Patapsco River*: the river that runs through Baltimore

*Immigrant*: someone who comes from one country to live in another

*Civil War*: a war between the North and South of the U.S. from 1861-1865

*Union*: an organized association of workers formed to protect and further their rights and interests

*Skilled Jobs*: jobs that take months, or even years of training to learn how to do

*Unskilled Jobs*: jobs that can be learned in a single day, or less

### **Trip Tips**

To ensure a successful field trip to the Baltimore Museum of Industry, students should:

- Stay with their chaperones at all times
- Use their inside voices
- Walk at all times
- Raise their hands when they have a question or comment
- Treat teachers, chaperones and peers with respect
- Follow the lead of the Museum Teacher throughout the program