

Wild Illinois History

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Wild Illinois History for kids



Journey back to a time of exploration with one of the first French trappers to reach the Illinois Territory. Play a game and learn how to make your own animal hide possibles bag.

[Play the game >>](#)

Make a Possibles Bag!



When voyageurs and early Illinois settlers ventured into the wild, they probably carried a small bag designed to hold "everything possible." The bag would hold flint and steel for starting a fire or lead balls for a musket.

[Make your own possibles bag >>](#)

Teachers' Page



Use the interactive activities on this site to explore Illinois history with late elementary students. You'll find lesson plans, activities, photos, posters and correlations to Illinois Learning Standards.

[Teacher resources >>](#)

Furbearers of Illinois



Learn about mink, raccoon, fox, coyote and more. Take a quiz about Illinois

wildlife.

Illinois' furbearers were valuable to early settlers and they are valuable today.

[Go >>](#)

Wild Illinois History is presented by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Illinois Teachers!

The activities on this site are correlated to Illinois Learning Standards. [Learn more.](#)



The IDNR is offering a "virtual" trip for late-elementary schoolteachers, students and their parents. With a few mouse clicks, students can journey back to the earliest days of the Illinois Territory when voyageurs and Native Americans hunted the prairies, forests and rivers. *Wild Illinois History* helps students in grades three through five focus on early French exploration, along with river and settlement geography. Students can learn how wildlife helped Native Americans and early settlers survive. They also can see how wildlife is a part of our lives today. A fictional French trapper in the 18th century Illinois Territory leads students on the trip. Brief story-telling slideshows are mixed with fun, interactive activities. For teachers, *Wild Illinois History* offers lesson plans, activities, photos, posters and correlations to Learning Standards.

Wild Illinois History may be accessed at the following Web page.

<http://wildillinois.org/>



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