



News from the Education Department

By Jeana Ganskop, Education Director



Camp kids having fun!

Let's start with a quick recap of summer at PMM. We hosted many campers at our Kids Camps and enjoyed additional young people during our Free Kids Wednesdays (these continue until we close!). We brought our interactive booth to festivals and events and engaged with 100s of people at Carver Memorial Library summer reading kickoff, Blue Hill Maritime Heritage Festival, Belfast Harbor Fest, Camden Windjammer Festival, RSU 20 Open House, Searsport Rec Mosman Park Outdoor Movie Night, and most recently at Northportpalooza. When the American Cruise Lines ships were docked in Bucksport, we welcomed their passengers for museum visits. We also engaged with three different RSU 20 summer school classes, two of which were multi-visit collaborations. Finally, museum staff and guest chanteyman Stephen Sanfilippo led groups of visitors in chanteys during monthly chantey singalongs. We're considering collaborating with other locals to keep chanteys going through the winter. If you would be interested in participating in chantey singalongs once or twice a month in the winter, please send me an email to sign up for the email list jganskop@pmm-maine.org.

We still have a couple more weeks that we're open to the public. If you haven't visited yet, please stop by! We have a few fall field trips and Homeschool Days planned. We also have some big events coming up. Stop by today (9/27) for **Searsport's Fling into Fall**. There are

activities throughout town ending with a bonfire and dance at the Searsport Public Safety building. Next Saturday (10/4) is **SardineFest!** We've been gearing up for this all year and the day is packed (like a can of sardines) with activities! Our last event during our open season is **Twilight Tours** on October 11th. Come hear spooky stories of those lost at sea. After we close, we have some holiday workshops, and look for the return of Member Mondays in January.

Our last day of the season is Saturday, October 11th. Sometimes people ask what I do when the museum is closed to the public. First, I take a few days off and maybe go on a vacation! Then I jump back in, getting ready for **winter workshops** and **kids camps**. A big part of my winter activities includes planning for next year. I work with the rest of the core staff to develop an interesting and engaging schedule of activities and events. I also help posting for and hiring interns (look for those jobs in late December) and, if needed, other seasonal staff (usually posted in March).

Letter Writing—How to Write a Letter

What should you include in a letter? We'll use Clytie's letter as an example.

1. In the upper right corner, put a **heading**. This can include the date and your location.



Clytie wrote:

San Francisco Nov. 6th, 1878

There are many ways to write a date. A few examples are "November 6th, 1878," and "11/6/1878."

2. Next, start your letter with a **greeting**. You could say, "hello" or "hi" followed by the name of the person you are writing to. Clytie



started her letter with
Dear Brother Fred.

Usually the greeting starts at the left side of the paper.

3. After the greeting comes the **body** of your letter. This is everything you want to say! You might start with an update on how you're feeling and what you've been up to.
4. Once you've said everything you want to say, you are ready for a **closing**. This is often centered or toward the right side of your paper. Clytie wrote *good bye from your loving sister*. You could also use "Sincerely" or "As ever" as your closing.



5. Finish your letter with your **signature!**
Try writing your name in cursive.

What am I looking forward to working on most this off-season? Our field trip offerings keep getting better and better, and I'm excited to do some research and make some adjustments to existing programs, plus launch a new one that uses primary sources and meets state standards about letter writing!

Do you have questions about what we do in the off-season? Send them to jganskop@pmm-maine.org and we'll answer them in the next newsletter.