



ELEMENTARY ✦ TEACHER INFORMATION

Where Montréal Began

FORT VILLE-MARIE, WHERE IT ALL STARTED

You will soon be visiting Pointe-à-Callière, Montréal Archaeology and History Complex with your students. The tour **Where Montréal Began** takes place in an exceptional archaeological and historical setting. Your students will have a chance to walk on a glass floor over the ruins of Fort Ville-Marie, where Montréal was founded in 1642.

BEFORE YOUR VISIT

ACTIVITY 1 Where it all started

Have your students reconstruct the timeline of the Fort Ville-Marie site. This will give them a better grasp of the various historical periods that will be covered during the tour at the museum.

OBJECTIVE

Learn about key moments in Montréal's foundation and the Fort Ville-Marie site, from the prehistoric period to the ruins' discovery by Pointe-à-Callière archaeologists, and place them in time and space.

COMPETENCIES DEVELOPED

- Interpret change.
- Use information.
- Make connections of continuity with the present.

MATERIALS REQUIRED

Worksheet **Where it all started**



40 MINUTES

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Have students form pairs and hand out the worksheet **Where it all started**. Review the information on the first page with them and have them answer the question about why Montréal was founded. The answer appears on page 14.
- 2 Next, have the students cut out the statements on page 7. They should then place them in order and glue them onto the timeline on page 6, using the images on the timeline as a guide.
- 3 Have the students share their work with the rest of the class. Refer to the answer sheet on page 8. Collect any questions that students have about the images or statements so that they can ask the tour guide at the museum.

ACTIVITY 2 People who made history

The first inhabitants of Ville-Marie, called “Montréalistes,” deserve our admiration because they were able to find solutions to the many challenges they faced day after day.

OBJECTIVES

- Learn about the obstacles that the Montréalistes had to overcome to survive.
- Become familiar with their way of life.
- Think about the meaning of resilience.

MATERIALS REQUIRED

Worksheet [People who made history](#)

COMPETENCIES DEVELOPED

Society being studied: 17th-century French society in New France

- Understand the organization of a society in its territory.
- Make connections between assets and limitations of the territory and the organization of French society in 17th-century New France.

 70 MINUTES

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Hand out the worksheet [People who made history](#). Explain how the 49 pioneers of Montréal had to adapt to totally new and very difficult living conditions.



GSM Project

- 2 The activity then has two parts.

First, have the students complete the puzzle about the obstacles that the Montréalistes had to overcome. They must unscramble the letters of the words in the right-hand column and use them to complete the statements to the left.

Then, have them check all the responses they feel are correct in the activity *How did the Montréalistes overcome the challenges and survive?* on page 9 of the worksheet.

The answers appear on page 16.
 - 3 Finally, lead a discussion about the bravery, determination, and resourcefulness that the colonists of New France needed to survive, become established, and thrive.
- Have the students think about how the pioneers' courage might inspire us today.



BEFORE YOUR VISIT

ELEMENTARY ✦ STUDENT WORKSHEETS

Where Montréal Began

ACTIVITY 1 Where it all started

In 1642, **Paul de Chomedey de Maisonneuve** and **Jeanne Mance** founded Ville-Marie (named in honour of the Virgin Mary), which would later become Montréal. It was strategically located on a point of fertile land between the St. Lawrence and a small river. Today, Pointe-à-Callière, Montréal Archaeology and History Complex is located on this very spot.

Fort Ville-Marie was built in 1642 and later expanded. It was surrounded by a palisade of wooden stakes for protection. Inside, settlers built the governor's residence, a large communal building where 60 people could live, a chapel that was also used as a school, a well for fresh water, and, eventually, a forge. Fort Ville-Marie disappeared long ago, but archaeological digs have unearthed relics that help us better understand what it was like.



Do you know why Montréal was founded?

Check what you think is the correct reason.



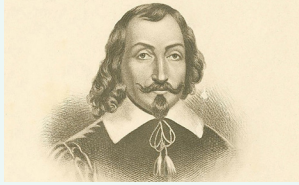






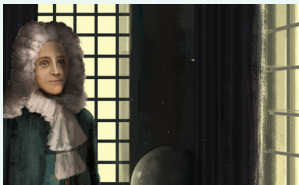

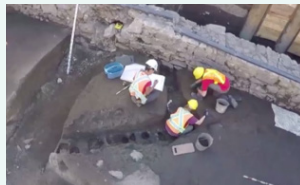




- They wanted to set up a fur-trading post in Montréal.
- They wanted to found, populate, and develop a French colony.
- They wanted to establish a mission to spread the Catholic faith among the Indigenous people, convert them, house them, and care for them.



NH Photographe

You will soon be visiting the site at Pointe-à-Callière where Montréal was founded over 375 years ago. Can you put the events that marked the site's history in the correct order?

Cut out the statements on the next page. Then, glue them in the correct order on the **timeline** (from 6000 years ago to the 2000s).

-6 000 to 1500	1535	1611	1643 - 1667
			
 [Dashed box for cutting]	 [Dashed box for cutting]	 [Dashed box for cutting]	 [Dashed box for cutting]
1667 - 1688	1688	1701	2000
			
 [Dashed box for cutting]	 [Dashed box for cutting]	 [Dashed box for cutting]	 [Dashed box for cutting]

Cut out the statements below and glue them onto the timeline on page 6 in the correct order (from 6000 years ago to the 2000s).



<p>Four sturdy bastions are built around Fort Ville-Marie to protect the Montréalistes from Iroquois attacks.</p>	<p>The Fort is no longer used defensively. It houses soldiers and traveling fur traders who come to trade with the Indigenous peoples.</p>	<p>The war with the Iroquois has gone on too long. With the help of his allies, Governor Callière convinces 39 Indigenous nations to sign the historic Great Peace of Montréal.</p>	<p>Jacques Cartier travels to Hochelaga, a village near Mount Royal inhabited by St. Lawrence Iroquoians.</p>
<p>Archaeological digs done by the Pointe-à-Callière Museum show that the birthplace of Montréal has been found!</p>	<p>Samuel de Champlain searches for a good spot for a colony. He finds the future Pointe à Callière and tries to grow some crops there.</p>	<p>Historical period. Indigenous peoples occasionally use the point for sleeping, hunting, fishing, and cooking.</p>	<p>The site is acquired by the new governor, Louis-Hector de Callière, representative of King Louis XIV. He covers the site with earth to build a large estate and luxurious chateau.</p>

SOURCES

Tour scenario for "Where Montréal Began", guided tour of the permanent exhibition of Fort Ville-Marie and the Callière estate.

Andy Riga, "Imagine what else lies under Old Montreal", Montreal Gazette, May 17, 2017.

<http://montrealgazette.com/feature/375-years-later-montreals-lost-fort-ville-marie-resurfaces>

Binh An Vu Van, "Retour au berceau de Montréal", Radio-Canada, Découverte, 28 avril 2017.

<http://ici.radio-canada.ca/nouvelle/1030141/fort-ville-marie-berceau-montreal-archeologie-pointe-calliere-debut-fondation-colonie-maisonneuve-mance-youville-premier>

Pointe-à-Callière, "When Montréal Was Founded", 2017, 64 pp.



ACTIVITY 2 People who made history

The first inhabitants of Montréal were called “Montréalistes” (and not Montrealers, like today). Leaving their lives in France to found Ville-Marie was a daring adventure for these brave women and men.

Today, it is difficult for us to imagine how hard life was for these people, day after day. The 49 pioneers who founded Montréal deserve

our respect. Together, and with the help of their Indigenous allies, they were able to find solutions to the challenges they faced. And there were many challenges!

Did you know that the Huron and Algonquin were allies of the French? The formidable Iroquois, who had been at war with the other Indigenous nations, sided with the English.

What obstacles did the Montréalistes have to overcome to be successful in their mission?

Unscramble the letters of the words in the right-hand column to complete the sentences.

→ Working the **E A R T H** (clearing, ploughing, planting, etc.) was difficult.

A E H R T

→ They also had to chop down trees and split logs to get wood for **E** and construction.

A E G H I N T

→ The Montréalistes were not very **E R S**.

E M N O R S U U

→ There was a lack of specialized **W K S** and services.

E K O R R S W

→ The **O O** might attack by surprise at any time.

I I O O Q R S U

→ In summer, thousands of **M Q U** plagued the inhabitants.

E I M O O Q S S U T

→ Every **T**, there was a risk of famine.

E I N R T W

→ Winters were more harsh, **and** **than** in France.

C D O L

G L N O

→ There could be up to three metres of **on** the ground, which could make getting around very hard.

N O S W

→ There was also the threat of **D A**.

A D E E I S S

Despite all this, resources were abundant, and the people hoped for a better future than in France. Not to mention more freedom!

...
How did the Montréalistes overcome the challenges and survive?

Check all the answers you think are correct.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wage war against all Indigenous nations. | <input type="checkbox"/> Return to France. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Learn about the local resources: furs, wood, fish, fertile land, etc. | <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt Indigenous modes of transportation: snowshoes, canoes, sleds for transporting items over the snow. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Learn how to hunt, fish, farm the land, and raise animals. | <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt certain Indigenous clothing for winter, such as mittens and moccasins. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make a pact with the Chinese. | <input type="checkbox"/> Make friends with British soldiers. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make their own tools and other items for everyday use. | <input type="checkbox"/> Start families and take in new recruits. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use tractors. | <input type="checkbox"/> Motivation, strength, and solidarity. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trade to acquire other goods. | |

Did you know that in the time of New France, "Canadien" referred to French colonists?

...
The colonists of New France needed to be brave, determined, and creative in order to survive.

Do you think their courage can still inspire is today? How?

SOURCES

Tour scenario for "Where Montréal Began", guided tour of the permanent exhibition of Fort Ville-Marie and the Callière estate, December 2016.
André Lachance, *Des Français en Amérique: L'adaptation des premiers colons*, Éditions Cap-aux-Diamants (2004), pp. 11-15.

ACTIVITY 1 Where it all started, p. 6

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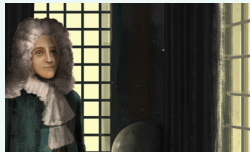


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<p>The Fort is no longer used defensively. It houses soldiers and traveling fur traders who come to trade with the Indigenous peoples.</p>	<p>The site is acquired by the new governor, Louis-Hector de Callière, representative of King Louis XIV. He covers the site with earth to build a large estate and luxurious chateau.</p>	<p>The war with the Iroquois has gone on too long. With the help of his allies, Governor Callière convinces 39 Indigenous nations to sign the historic Great Peace of Montréal.</p>	<p>Archaeological digs done by the Pointe-à-Callière Museum show that the birthplace of Montréal has been found!</p>

ACTIVITY 2 People who made history, p. 8

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G L N O
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ACTIVITY 2 People who made history (continued), p. 9

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Answers will vary.

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