

# AMERICAN COWBOY TEACHER GUIDE (K-6TH GRADE)

**DESCRIPTION** From the beginning of the day before the sun rises to the end of the day after the sun sets, a cowboy's job requires long hours and hard labor. In this program, students discover the cowboy's workaday life by considering: What was a cowboy's day like? Where did he eat, sleep, and socialize? What did he wear and what equipment did he use? Students will find the answers to these questions and more while honing their observation skills and imagining themselves in the saddle throughout the Museum exhibitions.

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**THEME** The cowboy way of life contributed to economic growth in the West.

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**DETAILS** **Grades:** K- 6th  
**Length of Tour:** 60 minutes  
**Student Capacity:** approximately 15 students per docent  
**Subjects:** History, Social Studies

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**LEARNING OBJECTIVES** By participating in this program, students will be able to:

1. Identify a bunkhouse and chuck wagon and the purpose of each.
2. Explain the day-to-day life of a cowboy from where he slept, to what he ate, and what he wore.
3. Draw comparisons between their lives today and cowboys' lives.

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**VOCABULARY** **Bunkhouse** – a communal building where cowboys relaxed, slept, and rested in between round-ups/trail drives.  
**Chuck wagon** – the mobile kitchen used on a round-up or trail drive; contained the cook's supplies.  
**Cowboy** – a man, typically on horseback, who herds and tends to cattle. Also referred to as vaquero, drover, buckaroo, and more.  
**Prosperity** – the state of being successful and having a lot of money.

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**GALLERIES**

- American Cowboy Gallery
- Prosperity Junction

*Tour may be modified to accommodate group size, time constraints, and/or gallery availability.*

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