

School Programming – Maison Alphonse-Desjardins



For more than 30 years, we have been offering free learning activities that connect with the social competencies taught in schools at the charming Maison Alphonse-Desjardins, a Victorian mansion in Old Lévis. The activities introduce students to local history, awaken them to cooperative values and help them discover the life and work of Alphonse and Dorimène Desjardins, local community builders who were named Persons of National Historic Significance in Canada.

Activities are also available in French. We'd be happy to help you pair your visit with a visit to one of our cultural partners or reserve a room for lunch.

Free in-person activities

Age level	Name of activity	Duration	Description
Early childhood	Travel Back in Time	45 minutes	Click here
Pre-K and K	Make Your Own Piggy Bank	75 minutes	Click here
Grades 1 and 2	Storytime	75 minutes	Click here
Grades 3 and 4	All About Alphonse and Dorimène Desjardins	90 minutes	Click here
Grades 5 and 6	Once Upon a Time in 1900	90 minutes	Click here
Secondary	Desjardins Group: The Making of a Movement	60 minutes	Click here

Free virtual activities

Age level	Name of activity	Duration	Description
Grades 1 and 2	Virtual Tour of the Desjardins Home	60 minutes	Click here
Grades 5 and 6	Solve the Mystery	60 minutes	Click here

Contact us:

shad@desjardins.com



1 418-835-2090,
extension 5562507

1 866-835-8444,
extension 5562507

desjardins.com/school-activities





Early childhood

Travel Back in Time

Travel back in time to 1906 and learn through play in this unforgettable experience. Children will have the opportunity to:

- Go on a scavenger hunt for 100-year-old artifacts throughout the historic mansion
- Dress up in period clothing

Duration: 45 minutes

Location: Maison Alphonse-Desjardins, 6 rue du Mont-Marie, Lévis



Pre-K and K

Make Your Own Piggy Bank

Come make your own piggy bank! Students will:

- Make a piggy bank and learn about coins and how much each is worth
- Learn about the benefits of saving
- Travel back in time and dress up in period clothing

Social competency: To construct their understanding of the world

Duration: 75 minutes

Location: Maison Alphonse-Desjardins, 6 rue du Mont-Marie, Lévis



Grades 1 and 2

Storytime

Come experience storytime like never before! Students will be invited to:

- Recreate the life story of Alphonse and Dorimène Desjardins
- Compare life in the early 20th century to life today
- Practise cooperation through role-playing games

Social competency: To construct their representation of space, time and society

Duration: 75 minutes + 30 minutes (optional preparatory activity)

Location: Maison Alphonse-Desjardins, 6 rue du Mont-Marie, Lévis



Grades 3 and 4

All About Alphonse and Dorimène Desjardins

Learn the story of Alphonse and Dorimène Desjardins. Students will have the opportunity to:

- Retrace important events in the couple's history using an illustrated timeline
- Go on a scavenger hunt for 100-year-old artifacts throughout the historic mansion
- Dress up in period clothing to act out a play in the Desjardins kitchen

Social competencies: To understand the organization of a society and to interpret change in a society and its territory

Duration: 90 minutes + 30 minutes (optional preparatory activity)

Location: Maison Alphonse-Desjardins, 6 rue du Mont-Marie, Lévis



Grades 5 and 6

Once Upon a Time in 1900

Travel back to the early 20th century and meet a couple whose ideas about cooperation changed their life and the lives of their fellow Canadians! Students visiting the historic mansion will:

- Immerse themselves in the life and times of Alphonse and Dorimène Desjardins
- Learn about the harsh living conditions of French Canadians at the turn of the 20th century with our permanent exhibition
- Learn more about what the future held for farmers and townspeople of the time with our «game of fate»

Social competencies: To understand the organization of a society and to interpret change in a society and its territory

Duration: 90 minutes + 30 minutes (optional preparatory activity)

Location: Maison Alphonse-Desjardins, 6 rue du Mont-Marie, Lévis



Grades 9 to 11

Desjardins Group: The Making of a Movement

A short walk from the Maison Alphonse-Desjardins, come discover the rich history of Desjardins Group with the POP-SAC-À-VIE exhibition. Students will be invited to learn more about:

- The Great Depression and its consequences in Quebec
- World War II and how it transformed society in Quebec
- The Quiet Revolution and its effects
- Independence

Duration: 60 minutes

Location: Desjardins Building, 59 avenue Bégin, Lévis



Grades 1 and 2

Virtual Tour of the Desjardins Home

Travel back in time to 1906 and enter the welcoming home of Alphonse and Dorimène Desjardins without leaving your classroom. A tour guide will take your students on a virtual journey where they will:

- Learn the fascinating history of this extraordinary couple
- Go on a scavenger hunt for 100-year-old artifacts throughout the historic mansion
- Compare life in the early 20th century to life today

Social competencies: To construct their representation in space, time and society and to interpret change in a society and its territory

Duration: 60 minutes + 30 minutes (optional preparatory activity)

Location: Livestreamed in your classroom*



Grades 5 and 6

Solve the Mystery

Solve the mystery surrounding an event attended by Alphonse Desjardins. With the help of a guide, you'll have to solve riddles and find clues hidden throughout the historic mansion. As they work to solve the mystery, students will:

- Learn the story of Alphonse and Dorimène Desjardins
- Learn how Quebec society lived in 1906
- Understand the historical context for the founding of the first caisse populaire

Social competency: To interpret change in a society and its territory

Duration: 60 minutes

Location: Livestreamed in your classroom*

* Your class may be paired with up to 2 additional classes during your virtual visit.