

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE MUSEUM
PRE-VISIT MATERIALS
(Grades 2-5, 7-8)

**GETTING AROUND:
TRANSPORTATION IN THE PALMETTO STATE**

TO THE TEACHER:

The pre-visit packet contains lesson background, curriculum standards, and terms and definitions.

GRADES:	2-5,7-8
LENGTH OF LESSON:	45-60 minutes
CLASS SIZE:	30 students max.

During the lesson, docents will:

- ❑ Introduce forms of transportation found in South Carolina from 1830s to mid 1900s
- ❑ Examine the development of transportation technology.

What do planes, trains, and automobiles have in common? They all carry goods and people from one place to another, in other words, they provide transportation. Technological advances in the early 1820s began South Carolina’s transformation from a rural, agriculture-based society into a thriving industrial economy with factories, cities, and towns. Steamboats replaced dugout canoes that once navigated our state’s rivers. Did you know that the first steam locomotive to establish regularly scheduled passenger service debuted in South Carolina in 1833? It was called The Best Friend. By the early 20th century, automobiles were rapidly gaining popularity as the preferred mode of transportation.

Transportation technology has definitely made “getting around” easier. To prepare for your visit, have students address the following:

1. What do you think of when you hear the word, “transportation?”
2. How many of you have more than one car in the family?
3. How many different kinds of transportation can we name in one minute?
4. Why are different kinds of transportation needed?
5. How do you think transportation was different 100-200 years ago from today?

Social Studies Curriculum by Grade according to South Carolina State Standards	
2nd grade	2-2.4
3rd grade	3-5.1; 3-5.4
4th grade	4-1.1
5th grade	5-3.1; 5-3.3; 5-4.1
7th grade	7-1.2
8th grade	8-1.1; 8-5.3

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

1. **adze** - An axe-like tool with a curved blade used to work wood.
2. **boiler** - An enclosed vessel in which water is heated to a temperature that produces steam.
3. **canal** - A manmade waterway used for transporting goods and people.
4. **cotton box** - A 19th century term used in South Carolina for a canal boat.
5. **cylinder** - The chamber in which a piston of an engine moves.
6. **cypress** - A type of sturdy tree used for dugout canoes.
7. **drawknife** - A knife with a handle at each end of the blade that is used to shave a surface, such as wood.
8. **dugout canoe** - A boat or canoe made by hollowing out a log.
9. **flywheel** - A rotating wheel used to control the speed of a steam engine.
10. **harness** - The equipment placed on a horse so that it can pull a wagon.
11. **lock** - A section of a canal, closed off with gates, in which a vessel may be raised or lowered by the raising or lowering the section's water level.
12. **locomotive** - A type of engine that pulls or pushes passenger and freight cars on a railroad track.
13. **maul** - A heavy, long-handled hammer used to drive stakes or wedges.
14. **piston** - A cylinder that fits into a larger cylinder and moves rapidly back and forth.
15. **safety valve** - A valve that opens when pressure reaches a dangerous level.
16. **steamboat** - A boat that is powered by a steam engine.
17. **steam engine** - An engine in which the energy of steam is used to drive pistons.
18. **toll** - A fixed charge vessels had to pay to go through canal locks.
19. **towpath** - A path along a canal used by animals towing boats.
20. **wedge** - A piece of metal or wood used for splitting wood.