



Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas

Let the Chesapeake inspire your 2023 History Day project.
Many of these topics can be researched at the [Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum](#).

Colonial and Revolutionary Era

- Roanoke Colony of Virginia
- *Peggy Stewart* and the Annapolis Tea Party
- Margaret Brent: Advocating for a woman's right to vote
- Captain John Smith: Exploring Virginia and the Chesapeake
- Culture conflicts in the Anglo-Powhatan Wars
- The Yaocomico, *The Ark* and *The Dove*, and the establishment of St. Mary's City

Early National and Antebellum Era

- Formation of Washington, D.C.
- The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad
- Samuel F.B. Morse and the invention of the telegraph
- Frederick Douglass and the abolitionist movement
- Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad

Civil War and Reconstruction

- Maryland and the secession crisis
- Anti-segregation transportation court cases such as Josephine Carr and the steamboat *Chester* (1872), the Stewart sisters and *The Sue* (1885), and *McGuinn v. Forbes* (1889)

Gilded Age to World War II

- Chesapeake and Ohio Canal
- "Blue Baby" operation developed at Johns Hopkins University (1944)
- The poultry industry and the transformation of Delmarva agriculture
- Pure Food and Drug Act (1906) and sanitation in oyster packing houses
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and waterfowl conservation
- Segregation and desegregation of Chesapeake beaches, resorts, and tourist attractions

Civil Rights Movement/Vietnam War to the Present

- Thurgood Marshall, the University of Maryland, and *Murray v. Pearson*
- William Preston Lane, Jr. and the Chesapeake Bay Bridge
- Rachel Carson, *Silent Spring*, and the environmental movement
- Desegregation of public school systems throughout Maryland and Virginia
- Gloria Richardson, the Cambridge Movement, and the riots of 1963 and 1967
- Chesapeake Bay Agreement of 1983 and the struggle to restore the Bay's health
- Breaking barriers, changing stereotypes: Women and minorities as Chesapeake "watermen"
- The invention and reinvention of the Chesapeake Bay's fisheries and fishing industries
- Disappearing Islands: Erosion, sea level rise, land subsidence, and climate refugees on the Chesapeake
- Space Telescope Science Institute, James Webb Space Telescope, and space exploration

For History Day support, contact
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