

Core Knowledge Curriculum Standards:

The exhibits at the Forney Museum of Transportation offer physical artifacts that illustrate ideas and topic which coincide with many topics included in the Core Knowledge Curriculum for from second through eighth grade as detailed below. Our artifacts can be used for any grade level or topic teachers find useful but these are some suggested items that the Forney exhibits.

2nd Grade

- Covered wagons and antique rail engines exhibit the types of vehicles used in Westward expansion.
- Two types of early Denver trollies on display exhibit early public transportation. This illustrates types of transportation used by the working class.
- Bicycles in the collection demonstrate early, simple machines. Through our bicycle collection, students can see the development of pedals and gears.

5th Grade

- Westward Expansion pre-Civil War: The museum displays examples of covered wagons and carriages as dominant forms of transit before the Civil War.
- Westward expansion post-Civil War: Rise of the railroad and movement west after the Civil War.
- The museum has a display of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, including a covered wagon and wax figures illustrating a popular conception of the West.
- The museum exhibits also display the increased prominence of rail travel in America in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

6th Grade

- The growth of railroads and industry is addressed along with the growing gap in social classes. These are displayed in the museum's exhibits through different types of rail coaches and both public and private types of transportation developed throughout in the early twentieth century.

7th Grade

- In relation to the history of technological advances, the museum has several examples of early Ford cars on display which are tangible results of the implementation of Henry Ford's assembly line.
- The museum also has an early example of an electric car from 1919 to showcase early uses of electricity.
- Early aviation can be addressed using the flight gear owned and used by Frank Vandarsarl, an early Colorado aviation pioneer, which is displayed here as is Amelia Earhart's car.
- In relation to World War II, we house the Union Pacific 4884, "Big Boy" steam engine which was used to move supplies and troops through the Rocky Mountain's difficult terrain.

8th Grade

- The rise of suburban living also led to an American lifestyle centered around the car. This is displayed in our collection through the great variety and ornamentation of the vehicles on display as visitors move into the postwar displays of the 1950s and 1960s.
- We house two versions of early Denver public transportation which illustrate the types of vehicles used by the working class in urban areas, another example of growing class divides in the twentieth century.
- Our exhibits also address the issue of the electric car and the environmental movement of the 20th century. Our earliest electric car dates to 1919 and it shows that the technology has existed for nearly a century but is only now being put in mass use. Students can be encouraged to discuss this.