Our History Begins Here. Let Us Start You on the Journey.

Share your completed coloring pages with us!
Tag @thomasvillehistory on Facebook and Instagram and use #ourhistorybeginshere!
Hello, from Thomasville History Center!

Pleased to meet you, friends! This is your guide to discovering all of Thomasville’s treasures at home and across the community.

When you see a 🎈 that means there’s something you can find!

When you see a 🎨 that means there’s something you can color, a question you can answer, or an activity you can complete!

When you see a 🤔 that means you’re about to learn something new!

When you see a 🛠️ that means there is something you can make!

Remember, some items with a 🔮 don’t have to look exactly like the picture. Use it as inspiration to explore something new, find things that are alike, and things that are different.

Thomasville History Center Word Search
Can you find all of the words that describe the History Center? Words may be horizontal (left to right), vertical (top to bottom), or diagonal (across).

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Thomasville
History
Center
Museum
Dawson Street
Fountain
Bowling Alley
Courthouse
Log House
Story
Explore
Discover
Community
Preservation
Historic District

D H M X U M G L U H D T D I S C O V E R
B Y I O A R X Q Z O I A H O O X Y C M B
C V T S N G O P F O U N T A I N C E M P
V O V D T Q G K H V W F U Q A U X N I R
I Z U A A O G U C S S L A C H S P T Z E
J E L R V E R Z I G R V T W R Q N E G S
X D D W T M X I V J Z F T B V M E R K E
J L R P O H A B C M E D A G J U X S B R
F Y D W K E O I F D E A A Z Q S P C O V
B L L Y B T J U V U I W I S E E L O W A
D L C X H H E P S U R S O I N U O M L T
S O A C I O Z Z T E C O T I A M R M I I
T G H S X M U T Y B P N Z R O E E U N O
O H Q Z Z A B H N Q Z S W Q I S T N G N
R O J L K S Q X H I S T O R Y C H I A X
Y U P K H V S S W A H R L B L M T T L M
L S Q Y I I E G X V B E F Y E N M Y L I
K E T O Q L A P S C H E A K G R N P E M
P X D A Z E Y Z M E A R P N W F E T R
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Civil War & Reconstruction 1861-1875

Thirteen southern states seceded from the Union in 1861 to make the Confederate States of America after many years arguing over slavery. The bloody Civil War lasted until 1865 and was followed by Reconstruction, the legal process for seceded states to return to the Union. In that time, the 13th, 14th, and 15th Constitutional Amendments abolished slavery, made former slaves citizens, and gave African American men the right to vote.

Did You Know?
For several days in December 1864, Thomasville had a prisoner of war camp for Union soldiers with 5,000+ prisoners from Andersonville. A deep ditch surrounded the temporary camp like a fence. Roughly 500 soldiers died of typhoid during their stay.

Archaeologists and historians still study the site to learn about the soldiers’ time there. Cadaver dogs help them discover what remains underground using their powerful sense of smell. You can visit the POW campsite on Wolf Street.

Which side of the War did the soldiers who were held at Thomasville’s POW camp fight for? ______________

Make Your Own Spy Cipher

Supplies:
- Print the next page
- Scissors
- Thumbtack or brad
- Paper
- Pencil

Instructions:
Cut around the outside edge of each circle; stack the small circle on top of the big circle so you can see both rows of letters. Use a pencil to gently poke a hole in the center dot, be sure you go through both pieces of paper. Use a thumbtack (ask a grown up to bend the pointy end) or brad to secure the two circles. The top circle should be able to spin on top of the larger circle.

Follow the instructions below to make and break coded messages!

Make a Coded Message
Pick a letter from the outside disk. Match your letter to the letter on the inside disk that is directly below it. These two letters make your cipher key. The cipher key is shared with another spy so the coded message can be de-coded.

Example
Cipher Key:
Outside Disk: T
Inside Disk: D
Cipher Key=T:D

Message: CIVIL WAR SPIES CRACKED CODES
In Code: MSFSV GKB CZSC MBKMUON MYNOC

You Try it! Cipher Key: T : D
Message:
In Code:


Example Cipher Key:
Outside Disk: T
Inside Disk: D
Cipher Key=T:D

Message: CIVIL WAR SPIES CRACKED CODES
In Code: MSFSV GKB CZSC MBKMUON MYNOC

You Try it! Cipher Key: T : D
Message:
In Code:
Could You Be a Civil War Spy?
Lt. Henry O. Flipper

Lt. Henry O. Flipper, a Thomasville native, became the first African-American graduate of West Point in 1877. Henry was born into slavery in 1856. His parents were Isabella and Festus Flipper. Festus was a carriage maker and shoe maker. Lt. Flipper served with the U. S. Army 10th Cavalry known as the “Buffalo Soldiers.” This nickname was given to the African-American calvary unit by Native Americans. While out West, Lt. Flipper was accused of a crime he did not commit and was forced to leave the military. He went on to a different career and died in 1940. Long after his death, the President of the United States pardoned Flipper of the crime. Today, we celebrate Lt. Flipper’s achievements.