Dear Teachers,

Mission San Juan Capistrano’s South Wing Museum rooms or the Padres’ Living Quarters exhibits meet California State Curriculum Standards for fourth grade Social Science as well as the Common Core State Standards in informational text reading. To enhance the student learning experience, the education and museum staff have incorporated interactive signs with illustrative drawings, props, and artifacts to convey the themes and topics of each space. This guide provides the topics covered in each room, to assist teachers coming on field trips to the Mission, or to provide information for extracurricular activities for students.

Educational Standards:

**Common Core State Standards**

(CCSS) English Language Arts Standards—Reading Informational Texts

Key Ideas and Details

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.3 Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text. Craft and Structure

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.5 Describe the overall structure (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution) of events, ideas, concepts, or information in a text or part of a text.

**California State Standards 4th Grade Social Studies**

4.2 Students describe the social, political, cultural, and economic life and interactions among people of California from the pre-Columbian societies to the Spanish mission and Mexican rancho periods.

4.2.5 Describe the daily lives of the people, native and nonnative, who occupied the presidios, missions, ranchos, and pueblos.
Padres’ Kitchen

The museum panels address Mission agriculture and ranching. Various museum panels compare and contrast the Mission’s agriculture economy to the Native American pre-contact hunting and gathering economy. The exhibit also addresses how livestock affected the Native American landscape and diminished food availability as the herds of animals grew in number. The growth in livestock directly influenced the local indigenous people to join the Mission community.

The Padres’ Kitchen also has displays of new foods and tools used by the Mission community in cooking staple meals like atole and pozole.

Padres’ Sitting Room or Office

The museum panels address the job roles of the two padres’ assigned to Mission San Juan Capistrano. Various museum panels discuss the legacy and role of the Franciscan missionaries, including Father Serra, and Father Boscana.

In addition, the room has various artifacts on display including a reproduction Baptismal Register, building tools, and musical instruments the Franciscans missionaries used in teaching the Spanish way of life to the Native Americans who joined the Mission community.

Padres’ Bedroom

The museum panels address the daily experience of the Franciscan missionaries who lived at the Mission by showing what an average daily schedule looked like. The panels also have quotations from eyewitnesses describing the living quarters of the California missions. Students will also be able to see reproduction furnishings like a wooden bed, and a small table.
**Padres’ Dining Room**

The museum panels address the importance of Mission visitors (both past and present). The panels address the Padres’ role in working with traders to get items they could not make onsite.

Reproduction ceramic plates are on display. They are based on original archaeological fragments found on site. The dining room table also displays a copper pot used by the Franciscan padres to make “hot chocolate.” Although the Franciscans, lived life modestly, they allowed for one creature comfort, importing chocolate.

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**Mission Model Room**

The museum panels within the Mission Model Room discuss the Mission’s secularization (1834), the Mission as a private ranch home for the Forster Family (1845-1865), and the Mission’s return to the Catholic Church by President Abraham Lincoln (1865).

Many items are displayed within museum cases such as branding irons, coins, flags, and other artifacts dating to each period.

The large Mission model in the center of the room helps students understand what the Mission originally looked like at its height, around 1806.