

- **National Standards: Connections, Standard 3.1 – Students reinforce and further their knowledge of other disciplines through foreign language.** The Amish Experience provides excellent opportunities to bolster knowledge and understanding of subject areas such as history, humanities, and sociology. Students will discover the Amish and their way of life, following the heritage of a group of people escaping persecution in Europe to pursue a life of new opportunities in the newly established Pennsylvania farmlands. Understand why the “plain” culture is the way it is. “What is Rumspringa?”
- **Pennsylvania Standards:**
  - **12.3.3D Apply cultural information from a variety of sources in the target language for use in other subject areas:** The Amish Experience provides a source of informative, educational intrigue for your students. Explore a different culture, manifested in the midst of changing political and religious idealism, honed through interaction with, and filtration of, the “outside world.”
  - **12.3.4D Synthesize cultural information acquired in the target language for use in other subject areas:** The Amish Experience will focus your students on issues pertinent to many subject areas such as freedom of speech, personal choice in the midst of heavy tradition, different cultures living side-by-side, and the history of settling Pennsylvania Dutch Country and the current ramifications of that heritage. Provide your students with cross-cultural critical thinking skills needed in every-day life. “Someone would sail all the way from Rotterdam, Holland, to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in the 1800s to pursue freedom of religion?”
  - **12.3.4C Analyze perspectives, beliefs, and assumptions evident in the target culture and other cultures:** The Amish Experience represents the premier cultural and interpretive center on Old Order Lancaster County Amish way of life, and can not only expose students in a relevant and accurate manner to the differences, and likewise the common traits, between target cultures and the “plain” lifestyle, but also show students how to think about, and interact with, a different culture. “Why do they dress that way?”
  - **12.5.1A Know where in the local and regional community the target language and culture are useful:** Especially important for German language classes, the Pennsylvania Dutch culture is a direct representation of the German heritage, culture, and language in America as a whole, and Pennsylvania specifically. Other target languages benefit from the heritage of language, culture, and the constant metamorphosis of these in the face of a rapidly changing world. The Pa Dutch culture is useful to every target language because students will see how in one world each culture must react and address like ideas and events in their own way. “The Amish can have telephones, but not radios?”
  - **12.5.3A Identify employment areas in the local community where the target language is used and how and why the target language is necessary:** The Amish Experience shows your students how the Amish in Lancaster County of today are fully integrated in an entrepreneurial boom. Small cottage industries have sprung up all around the Amish community, creating millions of dollars of revenue, and countless job opportunities. German language or English language; both are used as the language of business.
  - **12.5.4A Assess available opportunities in the local community to continue involvement with the target culture for lifelong learning and personal enjoyment:** The Amish Experience opens the minds of students to the enjoyable experience of living next to a very different culture in a very harmonious way. The differences are there, but a common strain in human thinking and living trumps these differences and creates a tapestry of interwoven traditions and customs. “It really doesn’t matter if your refrigerator runs on electricity or propane gas!”

**Meeting the Standards for World Language Instruction does not have to be standard!**

**Educate Excitingly!**



**Student travel teaches understanding of other people and cultures in the global community. Meeting different people and experiencing other places can significantly enhance students’ understanding of the world they live in.**

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Amish Experience  
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