

SPRING BREAK

challenge #5

During Spring Break, we challenge you to get out and explore Maple Ridge with your families! Every day, we will share a local historic location for you to discover, along with some great discussion and learning points to engage with local history.

We encourage you to print off pages 2 & 3 for your kids (or save this document to a mobile device), and go on a new adventure every day during Spring Break.

While you're out and about, check out the local EARTH DAY initiative at www.mrearthday.ca with dozens of other challenges and local gems to visit! Be sure to snap a photo during your adventures and share it on social media with #emergeMR for a chance to win some great prizes!



**MAPLE RIDGE
MUSEUM**
& COMMUNITY ARCHIVES

Port Haney Brick & Tile Company



P02720 Brickyard buildings prior to becoming the museum (1981)

The Haney Brick & Tile company was a very successful business and it was the biggest brick company in Maple Ridge. The bricks and tiles would be sold and shipped as far away as Victoria for use in building construction. The brickyard employed up to 90 people at once, from many cultural backgrounds (especially immigrants from India and China), but as technology advanced, the labour force was reduced. The introduction of machines into the industries automated a lot of the work, which required less people. It also took away many very physical demanding jobs and made work much easier. For example, Haney Brick & Tile got their first excavator in 1929. Prior to that, all of the clay had to be dug and moved by hand like in the photo to the right.

When you think about the major industries in the pioneer days of the Lower Mainland, what comes to mind? Farming, forestry, transportation are often the top three! Did you know though that Maple Ridge had a major brick making industry as well? Many Europeans who moved to the area in the late 1800s and early 1900s discovered that the rich clay deposits along the river and the easy access to transportation (by river or rail) could yield a prosperous business in making and selling bricks. Many small brick-making operations had existed in Haney for years, but the founders of the Port Haney Brick & Tile Company started up their business in 1907. Over 70 years of operation, this company had only 3 different managers: Mr. Burnet, Mr. Hadgkiss, and Mr. Findlay. These men, along with their families, lived in the Manager's House while they were in service of the company. Today, this house is the Maple Ridge Museum and it sits beside the old Brickyard office and "Jim Hadgkiss Park".



P03474, 1910-1915, Four laborers at Haney Brick and Tile digging up clay.

Today's Challenge



Visit the Maple Ridge Museum today, explore the exhibits, and learn more about the incredible history of Maple Ridge! See if you can locate all of the following items:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ◇ A stone arrowhead | ◇ An unfired brick |
| ◇ A cedar basket | ◇ A clay pot |
| ◇ Alice Marc's chair | ◇ The clinker fireplace |
| ◇ The pedoscope | ◇ The telephone exchange |
| ◇ Sam Robertson's grindstone | ◇ The railroad model of old Haney |

NOTE: The museum is currently open on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays from 1pm to 4pm.

For more at-home learning:

Port Haney Brick & Tile company: <http://mapleridgemuseum.org/port-haney-brick-and-tile-company/>

The Brickyard office: <http://mapleridgemuseum.org/brickyard-office/>

Maple Ridge Museum online learning lessons: <http://mapleridgemuseum.org/online-learning/>

The history of brick & brickmaking: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brick>