



## **2021 Alabama History Institutes: Grades 3-6**

### **Telling the Story of Our Town: How to Inspire Your Students to Share the History of Their Hometown**

Little River Canyon Center, Fort Payne

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Come join us as we share examples from our hometown of Fort Payne to explain how to involve your students in learning about their hometown's history. We will discuss how the Creek and Cherokees settled our area and learn about famous Native American citizens such as Sequoyah. We will also share how the city's name is related to the Trail of Tears. The effects of the Civil War and how the Reconstruction Era and Northern investments created a "boom town" that led to the incorporation of Fort Payne and the developments of local businesses, parks, and homes. We will also discuss how a town adapts through wars, recessions, and other hardships. Our hope is to help you inspire your students to look at what makes your town special and learn how they can share what they learn through creative writing, story-telling, songwriting, and visual arts.

