

Gilbert's Interesting Facts and Treasures

Teachers and Parents: come to HD South to learn all about this community through history and art. Bring your students, bring your friends, bring your family. And when you're done, consider bringing Gilbert's history to life in your classroom, home study, or Scout group with a traveling G.I.F.T. Trunk.

A G.I.F.T. Trunk is filled with **Gilbert's Interesting Facts and Treasures** and is a portable, interactive opportunity to bring Gilbert history to life. Activities are designed for 3rd and 4th grade to meet the state social studies standards but can be readily adapted for different age groups.

Early Gilbert in Time and Space G.I.F.T. Trunk

Theme:

Gilbert began as a small farming community in the Salt River valley and has developed into a large suburban town in the eastern part of metro Phoenix.

Activities:

Using maps to understand the physical and geographical context of Gilbert, your school, and HD South;
Matching historical town photographs with a historic map; Making a Gilbert history timeline.



From Alfalfa to Butter G.I.F.T. Trunk

Theme:

Alfalfa, originally grown by homesteaders and farmers to feed their livestock, became such an important commodity that Gilbert was known as the Alfalfa Hay shipping Capital of the World during World War I.

Activities:

Using real alfalfa plants as a reference when coloring an alfalfa plant coloring sheet; Playing a card game to learn about the process of farming alfalfa; Viewing a presentation about making butter; Sprouting and growing alfalfa seeds.



A G.I.F.T. Trunk may be borrowed for up to two weeks and are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. For more information on the activities and how you can check out a trunk from HD South, please use our [contact form](#).