

The
Homeplace
1850s
Working Farm

*Homeschool Scavenger Hunt
and Observation Book*

Recommended for Grades 5-12

Updated 2024

Welcome to the Homeplace!

Thank you for using the Homeplace as your outdoor classroom. We hope you enjoy following this guide through the farm and learning from our interpreters.

The packet is recommended for grades 5-12. That is a wide range, and is so intended that it keeps older/more advanced students engaged by allowing room for further exploration. Some questions are fairly technical, but can be scaled up or down depending on the student's interest and level of understanding. This is why interacting with our interpreters is so important; students may ask questions and seek more information as they are interested and able.

The Homeplace represents a single family that would have arrived in the early 1800s and have worked hard well into the 1850s to achieve the farm that you see today. A farm like this in 1850s Land Between the Rivers would have sprawled over 300+ acres, including more livestock, farmland, and barns. This is a typical middle/working class family that made up the majority of farms in Tennessee. The rivers played a major role in the economic advantages of the farm because of easy access to ports and markets where crops and livestock could be sold and transported. Every family member of all ages contributed to the farm in some way. At the Homeplace today, historical interpreters demonstrate this old way of life in order to educate visitors on our past and heritage. This guide will walk you through the farm and emphasize some key aspects of life in the 1850s, which we invite you to talk to our interpreters about to learn more.

We sincerely thank you for your visit and can't wait to see you on the farm!

- The Homeplace Staff



What to expect...

- ★ The items in this guide may not be in the same order on the farm, so don't worry about completing the activities in order! Take your time and explore the artifacts in each building.
- ★ If you can't find something, ask an interpreter. We are happy to help! We can also tell you more about these items if you have questions.
- ★ Remember to give the farm animals space. Only touch an animal if an interpreter is with you and tells you how to safely.
- ★ The same goes for wildlife. Don't disturb any wild animals or insects you find. Look with your eyes, draw pictures, and take photos.
- ★ This guide is separated into themes. You may choose to focus on one area more than others, especially for younger students. Use this as a starting point and let the farm lead you and teach you. Most questions can be answered through observation and by reading our interpretive signage, but some require talking to the interpreters, so don't be discouraged if you can't find the answer on your own. We love answering your questions!

Themes

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Around the House

What sources of light did they have? _____

What would a fireplace be used for? _____

What are some benefits and dangers of using a fireplace? _____

Who slept where? _____

How many people could have lived here? _____

What is a quilt? _____

Why do people make quilts? _____

In the Kitchen

Why was purchasing a stove so important to a middle class family? _____

What are some uses for gourds? _____

What did they eat? _____

What's missing?

What are some items in your house that require electricity that are absent or different here?

How did they communicate without computers or phones? _____

Where is the bathroom? _____

Everyday Life

List any musical instruments, toys, games, or other pastimes you find. _____

There are four main ways to preserve food. What are they? _____

What is an ash hopper? _____

What are some uses for lye? _____

How did they tell time? _____

How did they keep the sun out of their eyes? _____

Look for different types of buckets and baskets. What could they be used for? _____

Where did people find clean water? _____

How did they stay warm in the winter? _____

Or cool in the summer? _____

Think about your medicine cabinet at home. What would they have used in the 1850s? Did they have doctors like we do now? _____

Where did people find clean water? _____

Look for different types of buckets and baskets. What could they be used for?

Buildings

Compare all the buildings on the farm and record your observations.

What is the difference between a double pen and a single pen? _____

Do the houses have basements? Do you see a cellar? Why or why not? _____

What purposes do porches and breezeways serve? _____

What is the material between the logs on the houses? Why do you think the wood shed is different?

Notice how big the logs are! What kind of wood are they? _____

The doorways are so short! What are some reasons for that? _____

What's different about the glass in these windows compared to modern windows?

What else do you notice about these houses that is similar to or different from your house?

The Workshops

Single Pen House (Fiber Arts Workshop)

What does a loom do? What can you make on it? _____

Where did people get fabric in the 1850s? _____

What are some natural fibers that can be made into thread and yarn? _____

What are some natural materials that can be used to dye yarn? What colors do they make?

What was someone who made shoes called? _____

What were shoes often made of? _____

Tool Barn

How did they make fences? Firewood? _____

How is furniture made? What are some words to describe someone who works with wood?

What are some tools you recognize? Name a tool that you didn't know about before.

What can you make on the lathe? _____

How does a shave horse work? _____

What is hematite? _____

How is iron made? _____

Blacksmith Shop

How does the double bellows work? _____

What fuel does the forge use? How hot can it get? _____

Why do they use that fuel and not something else? _____

What are some uses for a blacksmith shop on a family farm? _____

Fields and Gardens

What is a cash crop? _____

What cash crops were common here? _____

How did they tend the field? _____

What are some garden tools they used? _____

Name some garden foods they grew by season:

Spring	Summer	Fall

Farm Animals

What are the three main uses for sheep?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

What are the three main uses for ducks, chickens, and other farm birds?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

What do pigs like to eat? _____

Why did low-middle class farmers keep pigs? _____

What is a mule? _____

How are horses and mules used differently? _____

What other animals might have been on a farm like this? _____

If you had an 1850s farm, what animals would you keep and why? _____

Nature

Observe the plants, animals, insects, and more around you!






The best time for this activity is May-August.

List the types of trees you find: _____

Did you find the kind that the houses are built out of? _____

Draw and label some leaves that you see:

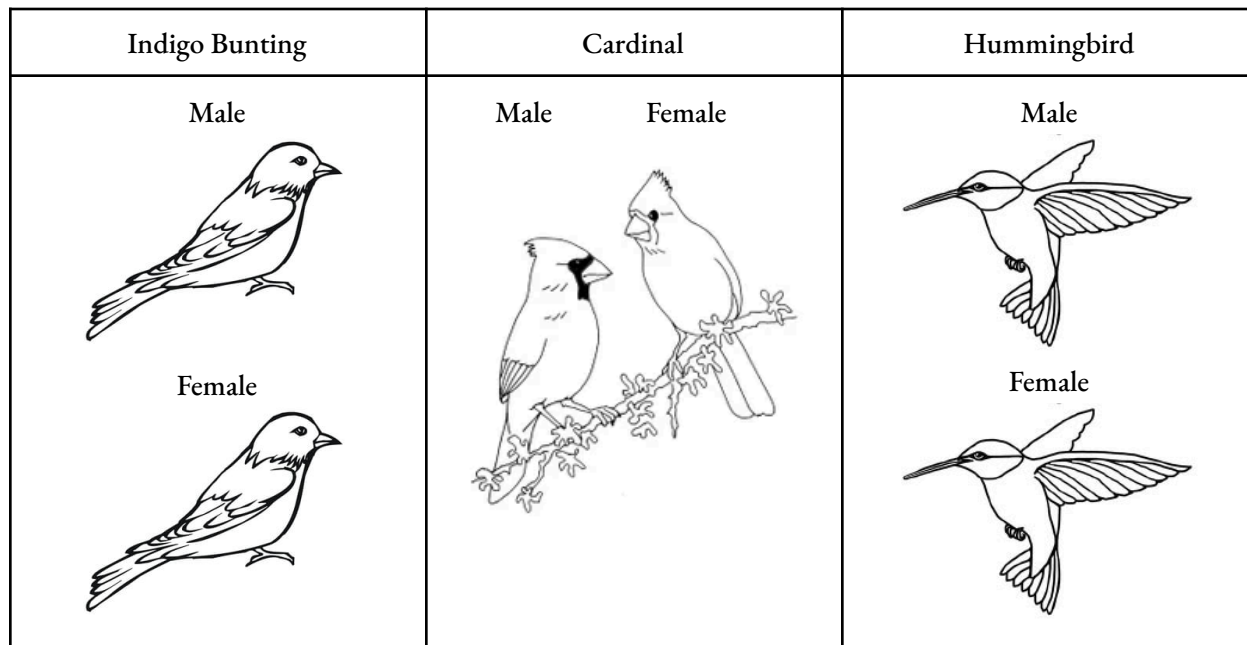
When you see one of these flowers, color it in:

Purple Coneflower	Black Eyed Susan	Trumpet Vine	Zinnia	Wild Rose
				

Did you know that some flowers are edible? As an interpreter if there is one you can try!

What other flowers do you see? Draw them:

When you see one of these birds, color it in:



Why are male and female birds different colors? _____

What other birds do you see? _____

List some insects that you see: _____

(Use the backside of the page to draw them if you want!)

Have you found any plants that can be used to dye yarn? _____

What season is it right now? _____

What is the weather like here today? _____

What do you think you would have been doing on a day like this in the 1850s?

Ask an Interpreter

Pick an interpreter to interview using the questions below. Feel free to add your own!

Interpreter's name: _____

What is your favorite building and why? _____

What is your favorite activity or craft? _____

What is your daily routine on the farm? _____

What brought you to work at the Homeplace? _____

Please tell me about the clothes you're wearing. Are they comfortable? What are they made of?

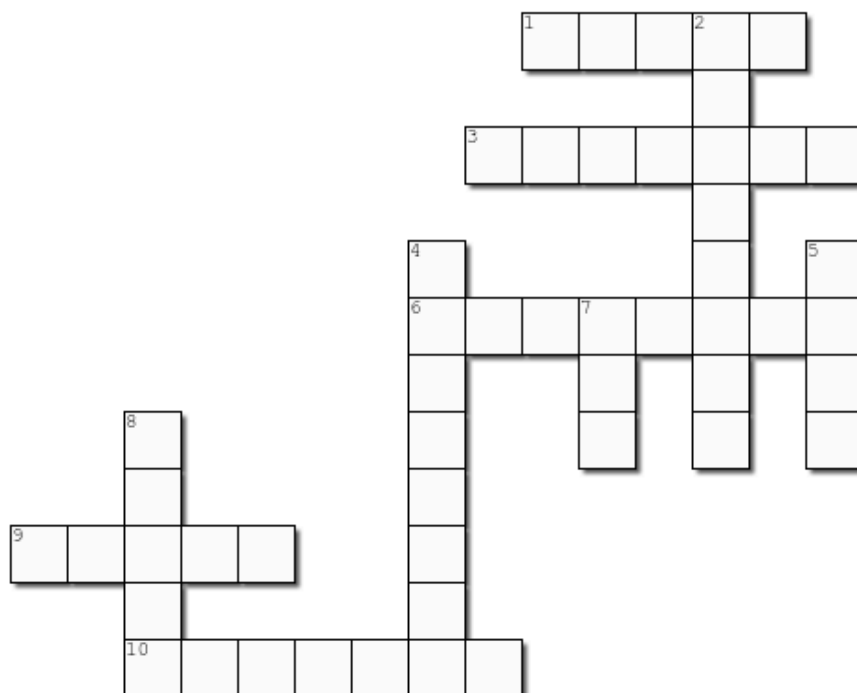
What is your educational background? How is that relevant to your job here?

Do you have a special interest you'd like to tell me about? _____

Write your own questions:

More Activities

Crossword



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

1. The family's main mode of transportation
3. How fibers like wool are combed and organized
6. Iron ore found in Kentucky and Tennessee
9. Birds' lightweight summer feathers that are used to write with or make fans
10. The second bed that slides out from under the large bed

Down

2. How yarn and thread are made; on a _____ wheel
4. Fuel for the forge made from burning wood in the fireplace
5. The thread or yarn that runs horizontally when weaving
7. What comes out of fires and goes into the hopper to make lye
8. A piecework blanket given as a gift or made to record a special event

Mad Lib

Ask someone with you (or even an interpreter or desk clerk!) to fill in the blanks, but don't read the story to the person you're asking until all the blanks are filled.

A Day on the Farm

Mom got up early this morning to cook some . She realized she forgot and sent dad to the general store to buy some. While he was there, he met a farmer named who talked to him for a long time about and said that the cure to everything was to in the pasture for a few hours and to enjoy some with the farm animals. Brother woke up late because he had a dream where he was with on . He asked mom why breakfast wasn't ready. Dad came back just then and said that a was in the road and he had to to move it so he was late. After breakfast, sister did her first chore, . Brother went with dad to the tool barn to build a . Mom stayed in the house to and all day. In the evening, family played card games and ate cookies. They stayed up until telling scary stories. Brother made one up where a vampire was in his bedroom and said he would steal brother's favorite if he didn't . Mom told a funny story where a was a and it turned scary when he lost his and had to ask for help. They all slept soundly until the woke them up the next morning, cawing like a rooster.

Word Scramble

Unscramble these words of things you saw on the farm:

wolp _____
 mheram _____
 nayr _____
 dnrega _____
 cuetbk _____
 ohccalra _____

niemhcy _____
 nedcla _____
 aettihme _____
 rsohe _____
 evtos _____
 hlate _____

Recipe Math

Use the table to the right to help!

Orange pound cake needs $1\frac{1}{4}$ cup buttermilk. If you only made half the pound cake, how much buttermilk would you need? _____

A gingerbread recipe calls for 5 tablespoons of brown sugar. How many teaspoons is that? _____

A 1, 2, 3, 4 cake recipe is as follows:

1 cup butter

2 cups sugar

3 cups flour

4 eggs

Rewrite 1, 2, and 3 in ounces:

_____ oz butter

_____ oz sugar

_____ oz flour

Our recipe for applesauce spice cake is pretty small. We need to make 4 of them. If 1 cake needs $\frac{3}{4}$ cup applesauce, how much applesauce do we need for 4 cakes? _____

KITCHEN CONVERSIONS

DRY MEASUREMENTS

CUP	TBSP	TSP	FL OZ	ML
1	16	48	8	237
$\frac{3}{4}$	12	36	6	177
$\frac{2}{3}$	$10\frac{2}{3}$	32	5	158
$\frac{1}{2}$	8	24	4	118
$\frac{1}{3}$	$5\frac{1}{3}$	16	3	79
$\frac{1}{4}$	4	12	2	59
$\frac{1}{6}$	$2\frac{2}{3}$	8	$1\frac{1}{3}$	40
$\frac{1}{8}$	2	6	1	30
$\frac{1}{16}$	1	3	$\frac{1}{2}$	15

LIQUID MEASUREMENTS

GAL	QT	PT	CUP	FL OZ
1	4	8	16	128
$\frac{1}{2}$	2	4	8	64
$\frac{1}{4}$	1	2	4	32
$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	2	16
$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	8
$\frac{1}{32}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	4
$\frac{1}{64}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	2

WEIGHT MEASUREMENTS

OUNCES	GRAMS	OUNCES	GRAMS
1	28	6	170
2	57	7	198
3	85	8	227
4	113	9	255
5	142	10	284

