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Issue 4 2007-2008 Elementary

Laura Ingalls Wilder

Featuring Ohio's Academic Content Standards:

Little House I Spy with My Little Eye

Social Studies: History, Grades K-2 C; 3-5 A *Technology:*

Technology and Information Literacy, Grades 3-5 B, C

Ingalls Family Quilt of Needs: *Social Studies:* History, Grades

K-2 C; Economics, Grades K-2 A; 3-5 A

Language Arts: Writing Process, Grades K-2 All; 3-4 All

Writing Applications, Grades K-2 A, B

Writing Conventions, Grades K-2 A-D; 3-4 A-D

Pa's in the Field—Ma's Baking Bread: *Social Studies:*

Economics, Grades K-2 B *Math:* Number, Number Sense and

Operations, Grades K-2 A

Review—Rewrite—Reenact: *Language Arts:* Writing Process,

Grades K-2 All; 3-4 All; Writing Applications Grades K-2 A, B;

3-4 A; Communications: Oral and Visual, Grades K-2 E; 3-4

C, E

Traveling Through the Little House Time Machine: *Social*

Studies: History, Grades K-2 C

Laura Ingalls Wilder's Occupational Journey: *Social Studies:*

History, Grades K-2 B

Little House I Spy with My Little Eye

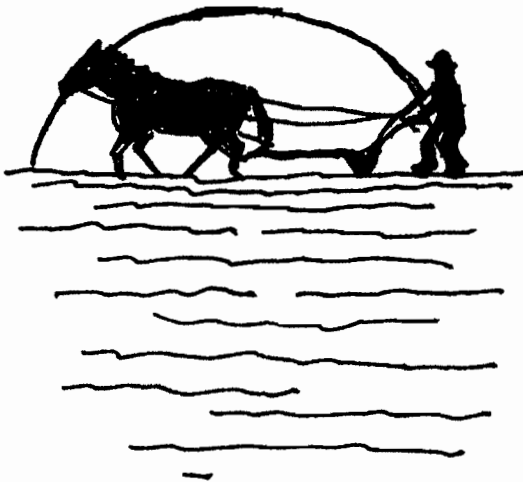
Everyone uses tools to get their job done. A school nurse uses a thermometer and bandages. A firefighter uses an ax and fire hose. A carpenter uses a tape measure and saw.

Name the tools you use on your job as a student.

Name a job and the tools that person would use on his/her job.

Use the pictures below of a family like the Ingalls doing the work that is needed to satisfy the needs of the family, and complete the statements by saying what tool each person is using.

I spy with my little eye:



Ma using a _____

_____ in the cabin to cook dinner.

Pa using a _____

_____ in the field to plant wheat.





Mary using a _____
in the cabin to sew a quilt.

Laura using a _____
in the chicken coop to gather eggs.



Are any of the tools that the family used still being used today? How has technology changed the tools they used and the tasks done?

Extension Activities

Research one of the tools used from the past by conducting an Internet search. Create a timeline of how that tool has changed over the years. Are there more or fewer ways to use the tool now than before? What could that tool look like and do in the future?

Ohio's Academic Content Standards

Social Studies: History, Grades K-2 C; 3-5 A

Technology: Technology and Information Literacy, Grades 3-5 B, C

Career Information
Economics

Ingalls Family Quilt of Needs



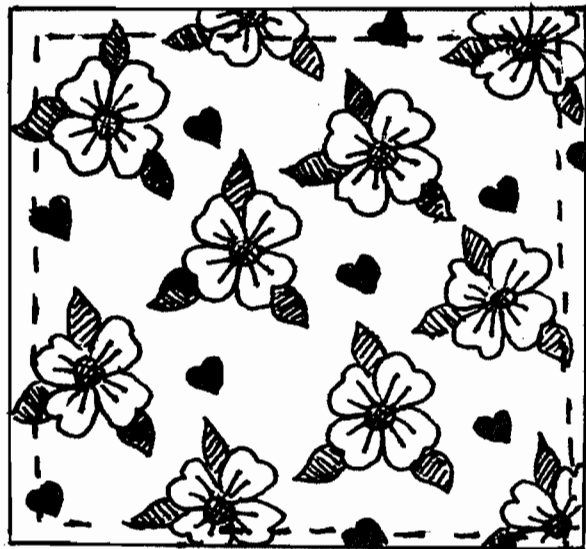
Everyone has needs. Our needs are satisfied by a limited amount of resources. When there are not enough resources to satisfy our needs there is a scarcity. The Ingalls family had many needs. They needed a covered wagon to make the trips. They needed a cow to provide milk for the family. They needed food to fulfill their hunger. They needed quilts to keep them warm at night.

They needed wood to burn to heat their

house. One winter there wasn't enough wood to satisfy their need—there was a scarcity of wood. To help meet the need for wood when there was none, other resources had to be used. Laura learned how to twist and bind hay tightly. The bundle became a substitute good for the wood and helped the family meet their need for heat.

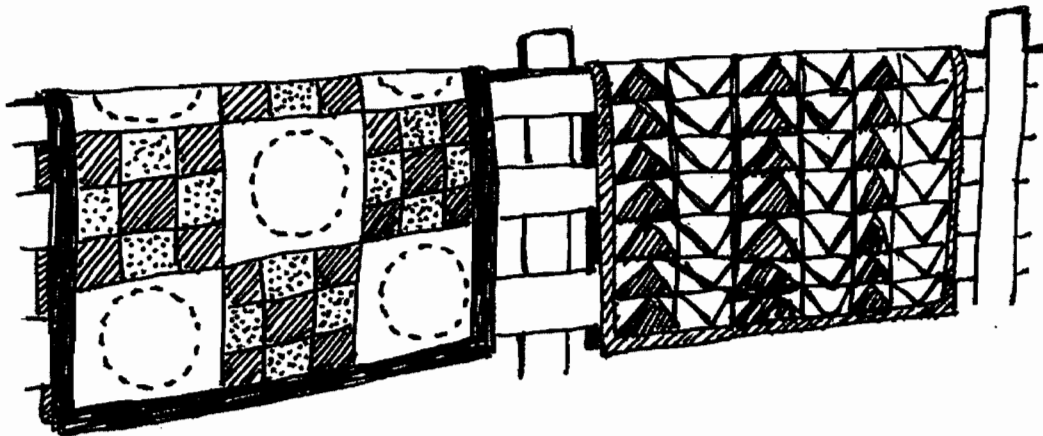
Using the pattern sheet, cut out two sides of each of the four triangles on the cut lines.

Calico was a popular fabric of the Ingalls' time. Decorate each triangle in a calico print pattern. Label each triangle with one of these four names: Laura, Mary, Ma and Pa. Cut out a 7 inch square of colored construction paper. Glue down the outside edge of the triangles to the colored construction paper leaving a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch border (see example). Think of a need that each of the Ingalls had. Fold back each triangle on the fold line and write what the need was.



Connect your quilt square with those of your classmates. Display the Ingalls Family Quilt of Needs for all to see. Complete the following:

- Choose one of the Ingalls family members. Chart or graph all of the needs the class has stated that member had.
- Write a paragraph stating a need of one Ingalls family member and ways the need could have been satisfied during his/her life. Write a second paragraph that states ways the need can be satisfied if the Ingalls family lived today. What workers help satisfy that need today? What kinds of companies employ those workers?
- Write a paragraph stating a need that you have and ways the need could be satisfied.
- Write about a time when there was a scarcity of resources and your need couldn't be satisfied. What did you do? What workers are related to the situation you wrote about?



Ohio's Academic Content Standards

Social Studies: History, Grades K-2 C; Economics, Grades K-2 A; 3-5 A

Language Arts: Writing Process, Grades K-2 All; 3-4 All

Writing Applications, Grades K-2 A, B

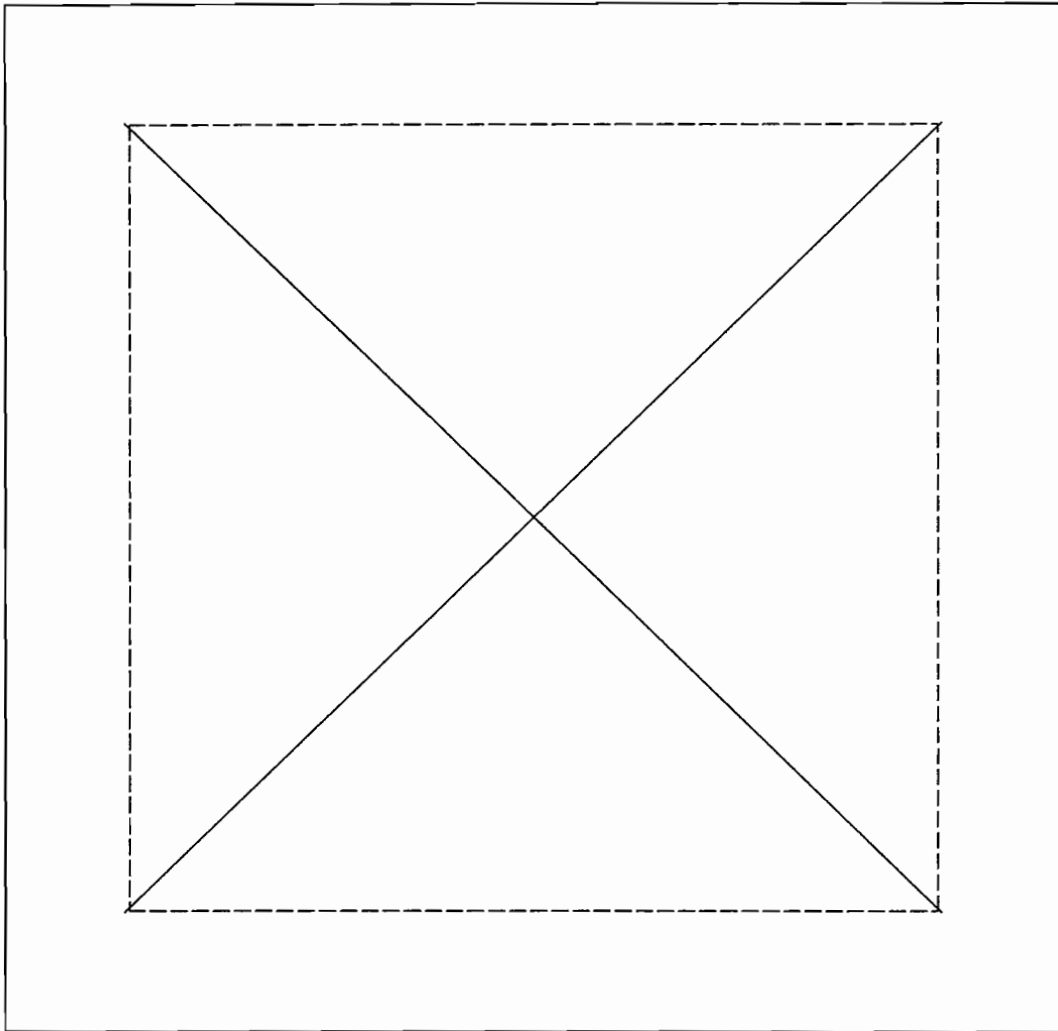
Writing Conventions, Grades K-2 A-D; 3-4 A-D

Economics

Self Awareness



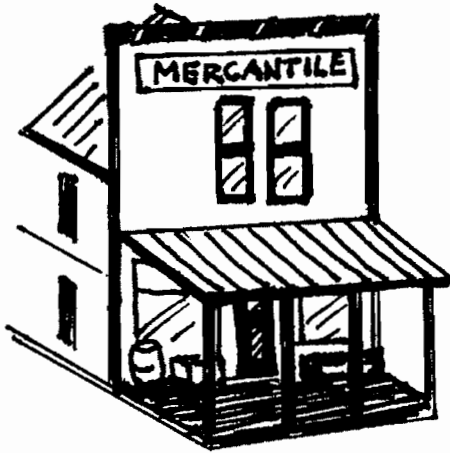
Ingalls Family Quilt of Needs Pattern



Cut line ———

Fold line - - - - -

Review—Rewrite—Reenact



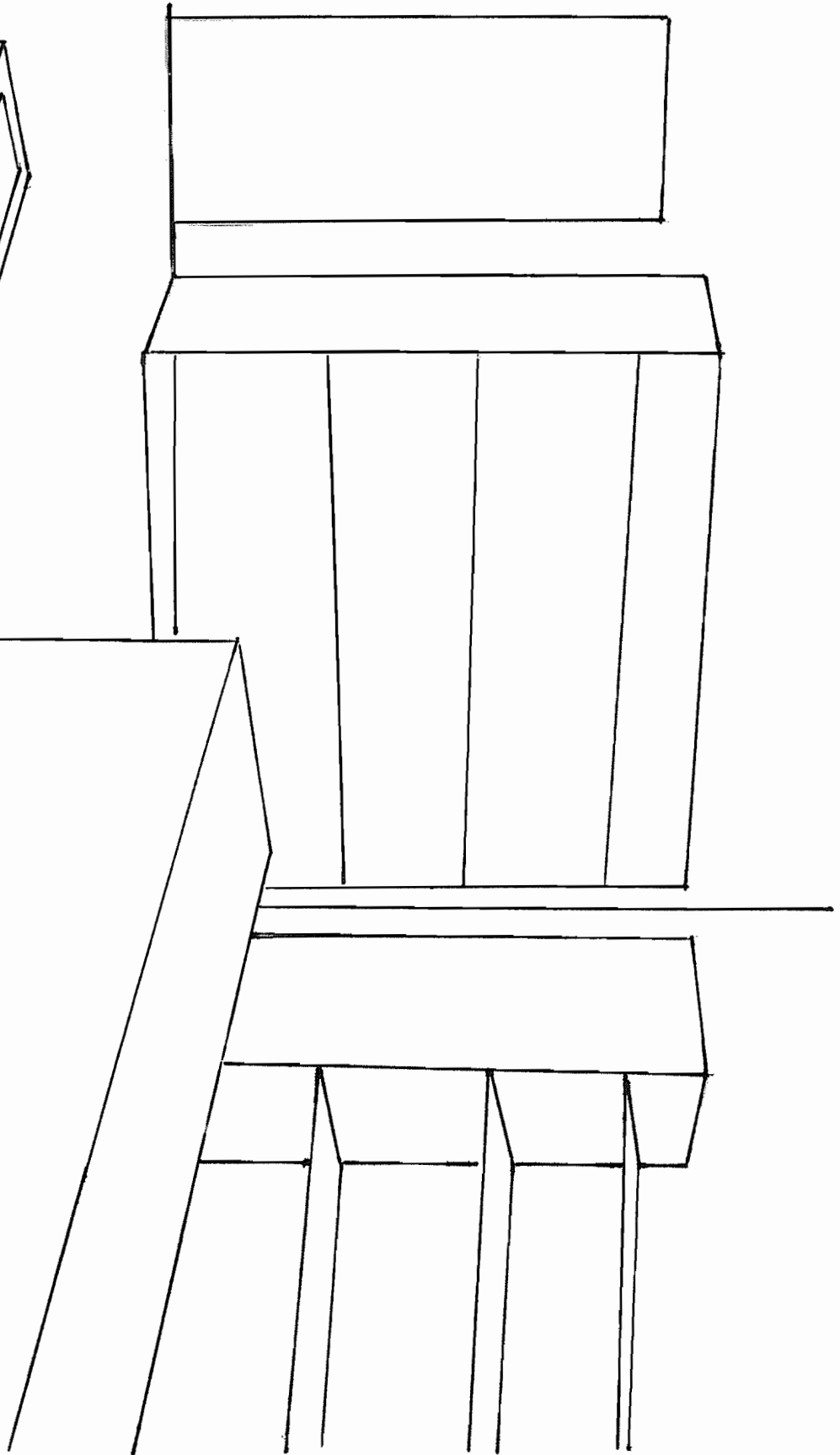
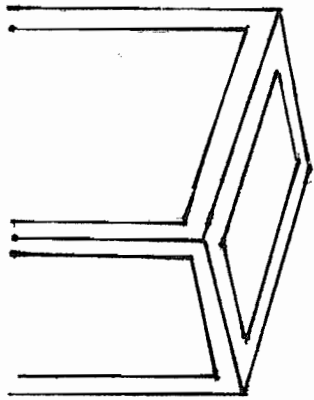
In the television series “Little House on the Prairie” Ma and Laura would frequently visit the Olson’s Mercantile. The Mercantile was a general store. Every town had a general store. It is where Ma bought products that were not produced at home. It sold dry goods (fabric, thread, needles, ribbon and other items needed to make clothing), hardware items (nails, shovels,

axes, wire, glass), groceries (sugar, flour, coffee, penny candy), household items (dishes, pots and pans), and even gift items (combs, figurines, jewelry, dolls and other toys). The products were stored in barrels, baskets, bins, sacks, wooden crates, and canisters. They were placed on shelves and hung from wire that was strung overhead. Very special items may have been displayed in glass cases. Ma would bring eggs she gathered to the Mercantile to trade them for products she needed. This bartering process was very common.



Review

Review a scene from the television series where Ma is at the Mercantile. What products are in the Mercantile and how are they stored or displayed? Why did Ma go to the Mercantile? Draw a picture of the scene.



Laura Ingalls Wilder's Occupational Journey

It is predicted that in your lifetime you will change jobs about nine times (Source: U.S. Department of Labor). Three of those changes may be a change in career directions (Source: Wittenberg University Career Services).

The Ingalls' travels took them to eight locations before Laura was twelve years old. Pa said, "My wandering foot gets to itching." Over that time Pa had many different jobs:

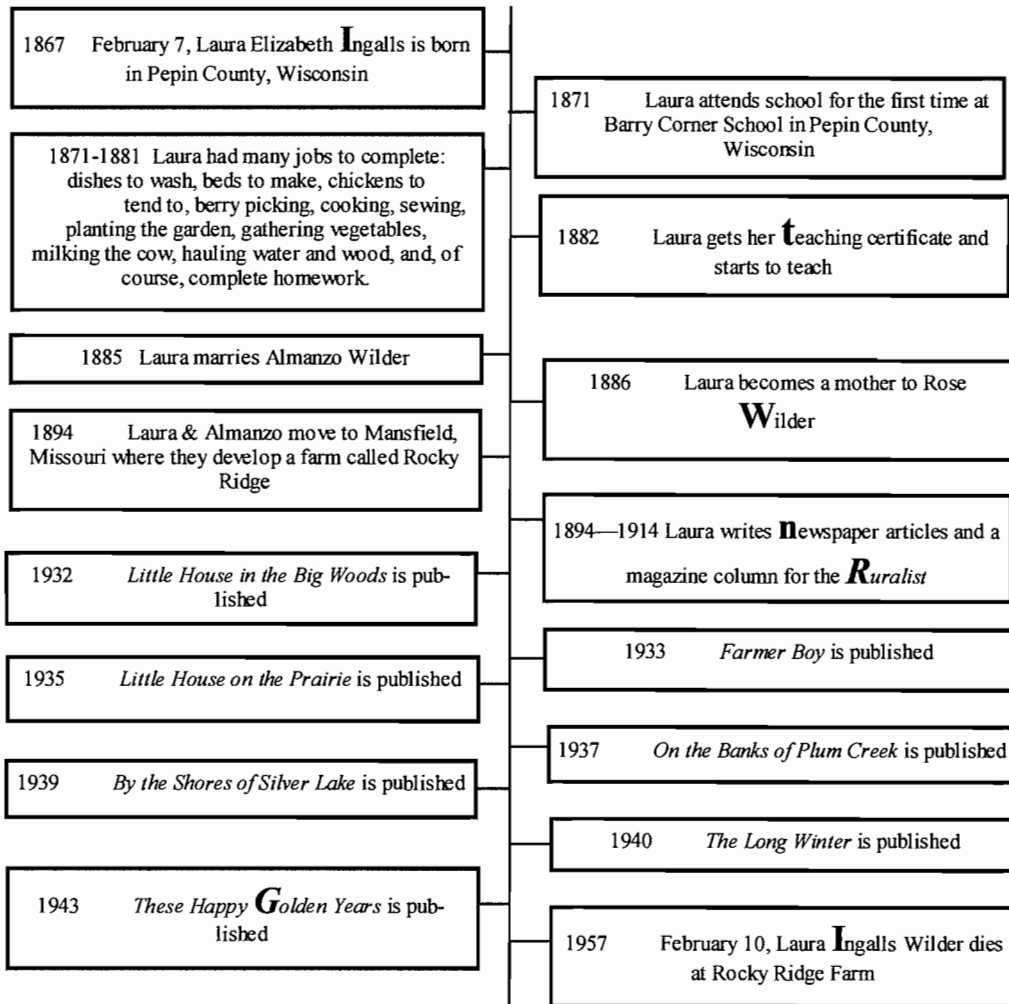


- butcher
- storekeeper
- Justice of the Peace
- railroad construction camp timekeeper

- carpenter
- hunter
- trapper
- farmer
- hotel manager



From the time Laura was young she had jobs to get done. Laura demonstrated many skills doing these jobs. Follow Laura's Occupational Journey Timeline and find out what skill proved most valuable.



Unscramble the **bold** letters to discover the skill Laura had that proved most valuable.

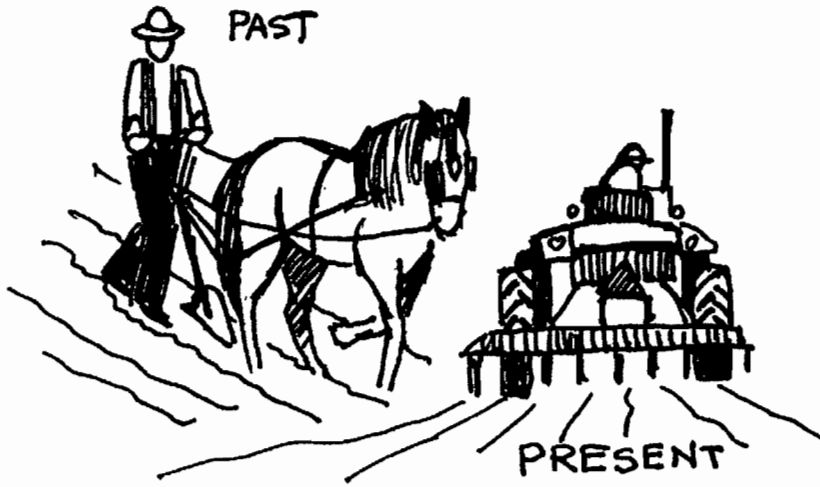
Design your own Occupational Journey Timeline. Think about the things that you like to do and the things that you do well. Choose at least nine different jobs that you can pursue along your journey. Your journey should cover your working life—it is estimated that you will work about 35—40 of your adult years. Be creative when designing your timeline so that it reflects your interests and skills. Examples: If you are interested in jobs that are in the health care field, perhaps your timeline can be a thermometer. If you are interested in construction, your timeline might be a tape measure.

Ohio's Academic Content Standards
Social Studies: History, Grades K-2 B

Self Awareness
Future Trends
Career Information
Employability Skills



Pa's in the Field—Ma's Baking Bread



Pa was always happy tending to his field. Farmers today know that they need to plow the field to prepare it for planting. Pa knew this too and plowed his field with a horse drawn plow.

Using the graphic organizer below, compare the qualities (features, how it is operated, advantages/disadvantages) of the two pieces of farming equipment.

Qualities Unique to Pa's Plow	Qualities that Pa's Plow and the Modern-Day Plow Both Possess	Qualities Unique to the Modern-Day Plow

Let's pretend that Pa Ingalls is a farmer today and plants his field with wheat seed.

The Facts: It costs \$8.75 to buy a 50-pound bag of wheat seed. It takes about 2-½ 50-pound bags of wheat seed to plant an acre. An acre can yield an average of 57 bushels of wheat for grain. A farmer can expect to receive \$6.75 to \$8.00 per bushel of wheat for grain.

You do the math:

- Pa wants to plant 40 acres of wheat seed. How many total pounds of wheat seed does Pa need to plant the 40 acres?
- How many 50-pound bags of wheat seed will Pa buy?
- How much will Pa spend on the wheat seed?
- It is a favorable growing season and Pa's field yields 60 bushels per acre. How many total bushels does Pa's field produce?
- The commodities market is also favorable and Pa receives \$7.25 per bushel. How much money does Pa receive for his harvest?
- Besides Pa's initial investment of wheat seed, what other costs do you think Pa endures in order to produce the 40 acres of wheat?

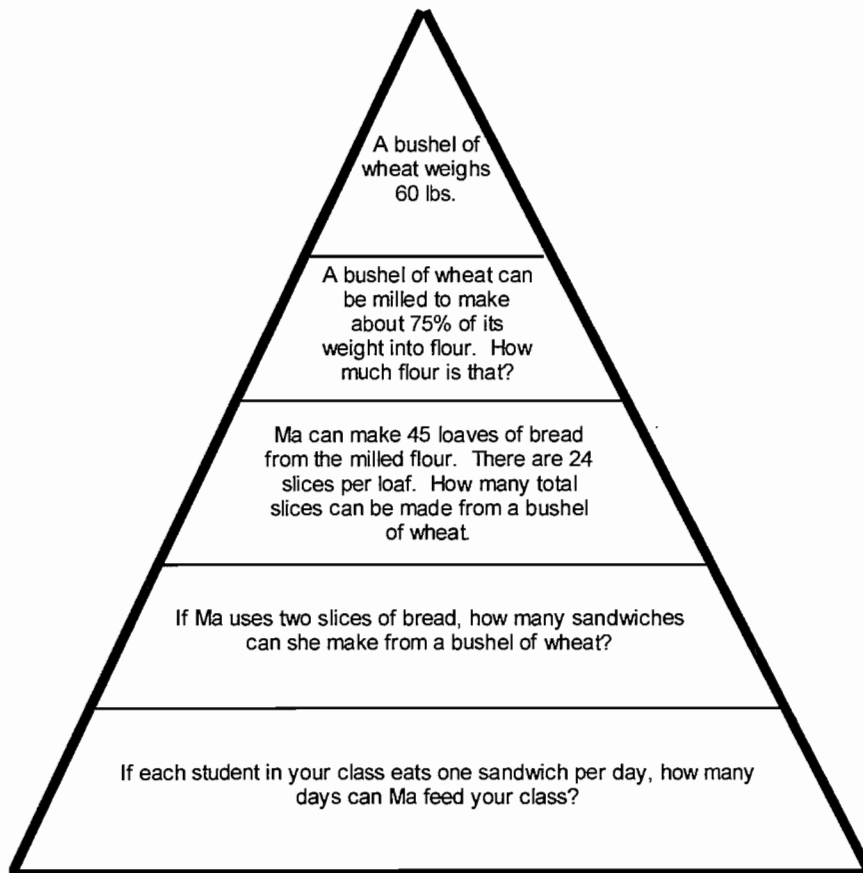
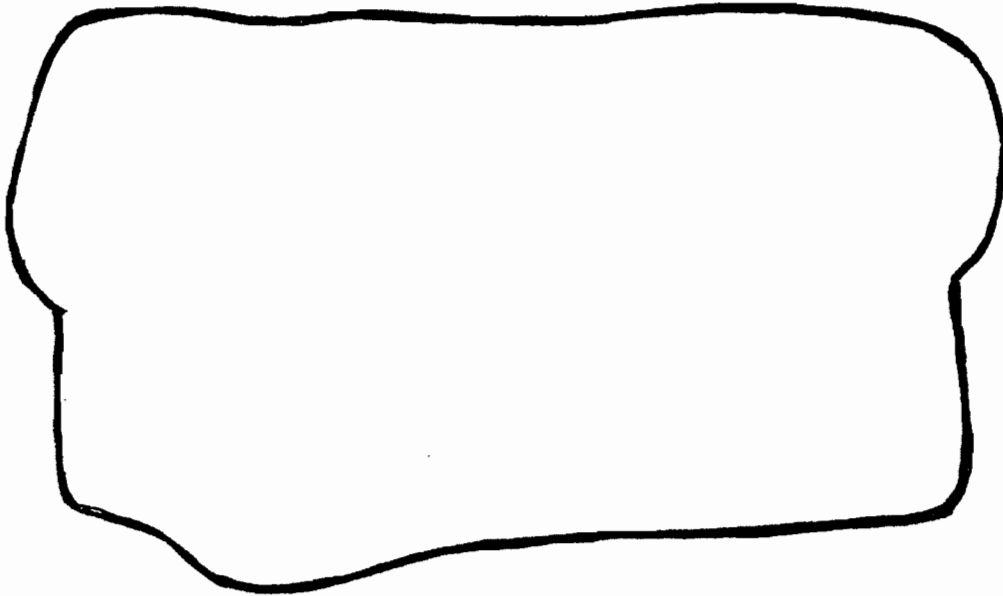
Look into the future:

- After Pa plants his 40 acres disaster hits—a drought occurs. The field only produces 25 bushels per acre. How many total bushels does the field produce?
- There is a high demand for wheat; however, there is a low supply. This drives the cost up to \$8.00 per bushel. How much will Pa make on his wheat crop?

Ma found enjoyment in baking bread for her family. Imagine Ma mixing the ingredients, kneading the dough by hand, letting it rise and baking it over a fire or in a wood burning stove. Perhaps if Ma lived today she would become a commercial baker. Do you think Ma would appreciate the technological advances that would help her make bread today?



Write a paragraph describing the process and tools Ma would use today to make bread.



Describe how Ma and Pa are both consumers and producers.

To what present-day industries or companies could Ma and Pa sell their goods?



Extension Activities

For a complete look at the process of growing wheat to making bread check out the following website:

<http://www.ndwheat.com/uploads/resources/371/story-of-wheat-nd2005.pdf>

Create a marketing plan and advertisement for Ma and Pa's products.

Make a timeline that maps out the process of making bread to getting it home from the store. Include all the workers involved in the process on your timeline as they relate to each step.

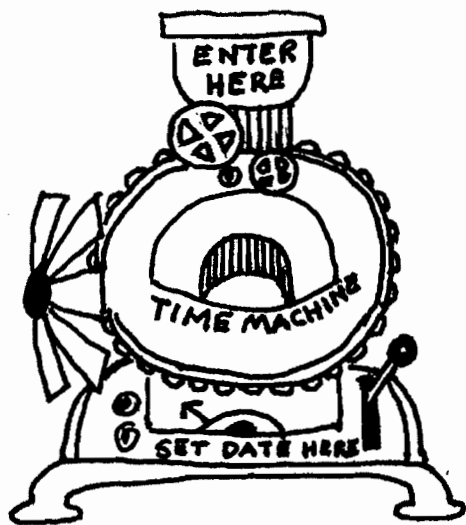
Ohio's Academic Content Standards

Social Studies: Economics, Grades K-2 B

Math: Number, Number Sense and Operations, Grades K-2 A

Career Information
Economics

Traveling Through the Little House Time Machine



Travel through time with Laura Ingalls Wilder. The year is 1874; Laura is 7 years old and living “On the Banks of Plum Creek.” After an investigation of Laura’s life during this time, complete the Windows of Time that surround the 1874 Time Machine on the next page.

After answering the 1874 questions, complete the following.

Laura travels to present day. Complete the Windows of Time that surround the Present Day Time Machine to let Laura know what she will find.

Answer these questions:

What were two problems that Laura and her family had in 1874? How did they solve their problems?

Describe two problems Laura could face if she was living in present time. How can she solve these problems?

Describe how Laura would be dressed when she enters present day. Draw a picture of how a present-day Laura would dress.

1874

Draw a picture of
Laura's house.

What forms of
transportation did
Laura use?

What tools were
used by Laura and
her family?

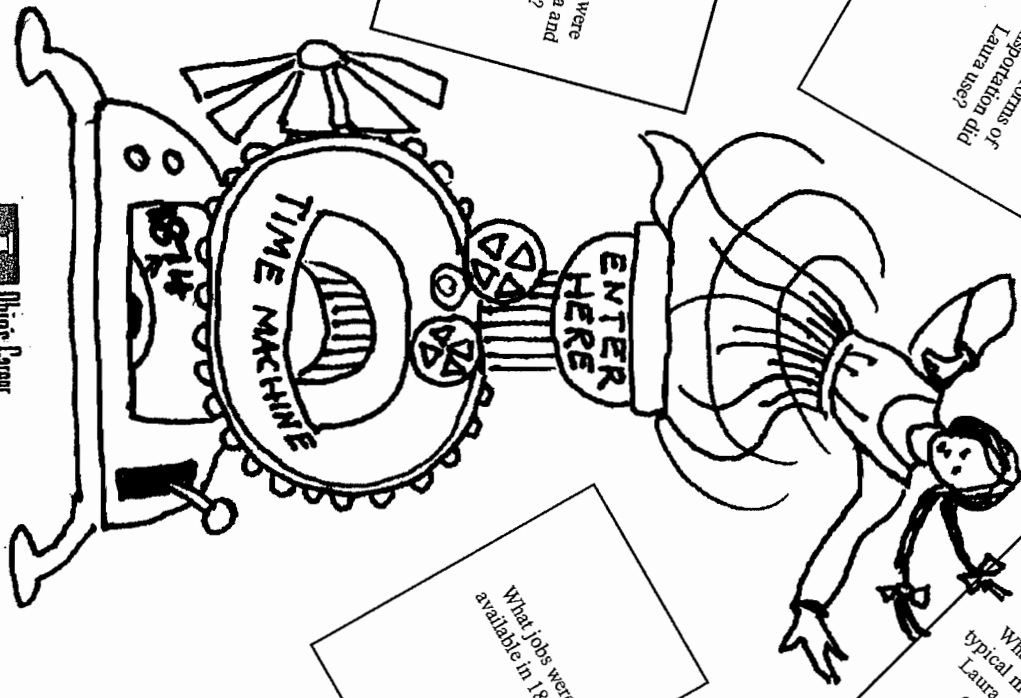
Describe how Laura
was educated in
1874.

What was a
typical meal that
Laura would
enjoy?

What jobs were
available in 1874?

What chores did
Laura
have in 1874?

What did Laura
and her family do
for entertainment?



PRESENT

What forms of transportation can Laura use today?

Draw a picture of a house that Laura would live in today.

What technology advancements does Laura find in the present day?

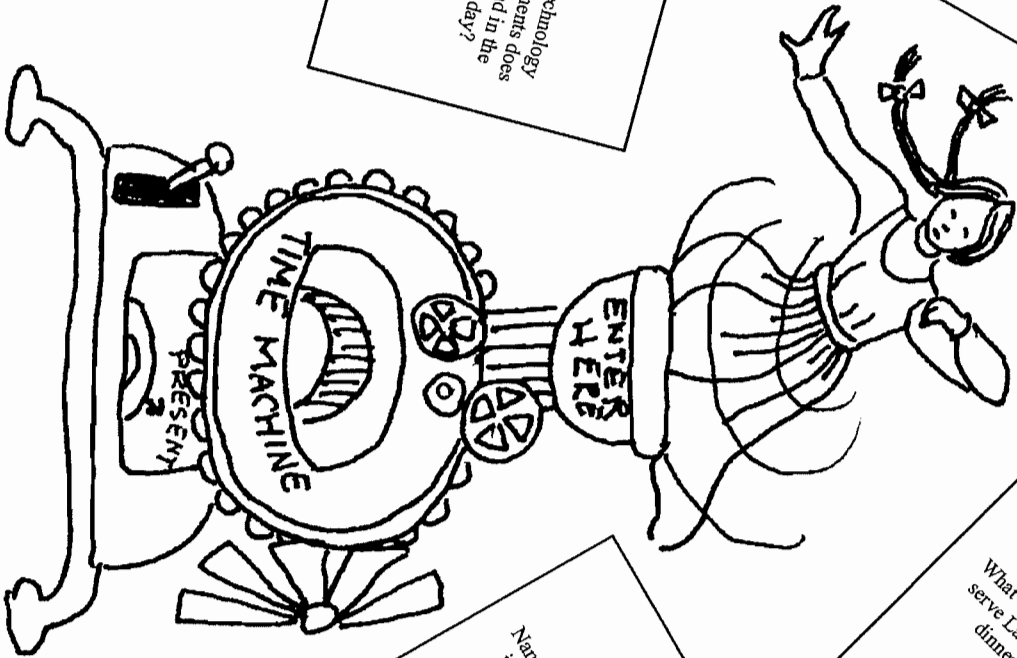
Describe how Laura would be educated today?

What would you serve Laura for dinner?

What chores would Laura have to do in the present time?

Name ten different jobs that Laura might find interesting to her.

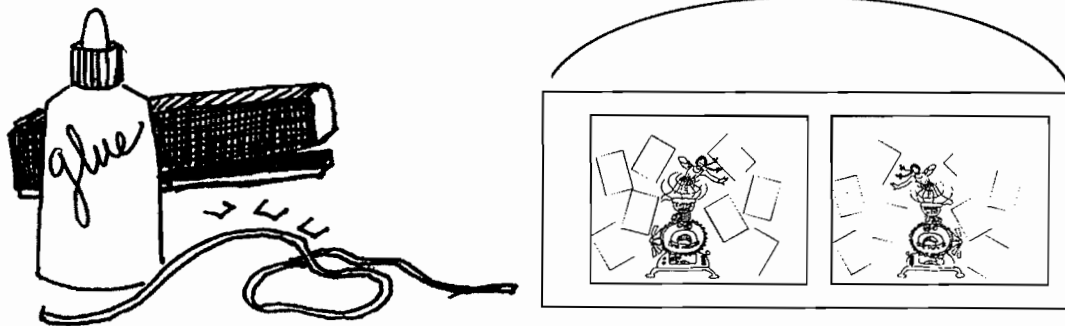
What would you do to entertain Laura?



Would you like to have lived as part of Laura's family in 1874? Write a paragraph explaining your answer.



Place the two Time Machine pages back-to-back and glue them together. Laura will enter the Time Machine in 1874 and exit in Present Time. Staple a piece of yarn to the time machine and hang.



Make a time machine page showing your future 20 years from now.