Lesson 11: Surviving in Frontier Iowa

Learning Goals:
Students will assimilate the knowledge they have gained about pioneer life and apply it in a simulated frontier setting.

Iowa History Benchmarks:
4. Pioneer Life on the Prairie
   c. For most settlers, living on the prairie meant a change in farming and household practices.
   d. Pioneer raised or made most of the items they needed for daily life.

Materials:
Surviving in Frontier Iowa (1 copy for every 4 students)

Activities:
1. Divide the class into small groups of 4-5 students.
2. Distribute one copy of the activity sheet to each group.
3. Allow time for each group to complete the task making their survival selections.
4. Convene the group and share each group's survival decisions.
SURVIVING IN FRONTIER IOWA

Suppose your group has decided to stake out a claim in Frontier Iowa.

You can carry only ten of the items listed below. Rank the ten items 1-10 that you would choose in order of their importance to you. Begin with the most important item.

_____ breaking plow     _____ china
_____ 100 lb. bag of potatoes     _____ hoe
_____ extra pair of boots     _____ silverware
_____ bushel of shelled corn     _____ matches
_____ flintlock and musket     _____ 5 lbs. tea
_____ pedal organ     _____ bag of mixed herbs
_____ stove     _____ Bible
_____ ax     _____ tobacco
_____ change of clothing     _____ spinning wheel
_____ canvas tent     _____ whiskey