

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