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Nonfiction: American History

Date _____

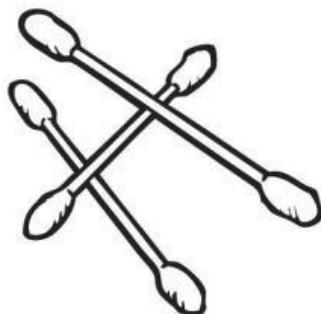
COTTON SWABS

On a sunny morning a mother wanted to clean her baby's ears. She thought and thought. She found a toothpick, and then she got a piece of cotton.

This mother put the cotton on the end of the toothpick. She put it in the baby's ear. It worked! The baby had clean ears.

Do you know what this mother made? She made a cotton swab. She told her husband. His name was Leo. Leo liked the idea. He took a stick made out of wood, and he put cotton on each end. He called them Baby Gays.

Today we can buy them in the store. They are made out of white cardboard and cotton. The name has changed to Q-tips®. We use them to clean small things. We use them for glue. We use them to spread paint. We use them for many things. And, we still use them to clean ears.



STORY QUESTIONS

- 1.** The first cotton swab was made out of . . .
 - a. a straw and a brick.
 - b. a toothpick and a piece of cotton.
 - c. a stick and a stone.
 - d. a box and a rock.

- 2.** What could be a different title for this passage?
 - a. "A Baby's First Day"
 - b. "Rolling with the Baby"
 - c. "Cleaner Ears"
 - d. "My White Cotton"

- 3.** Today, cotton swabs can be used to . . .
 - a. do many things.
 - b. only for cleaning ears.
 - c. only for gluing things.