DAILY Warm-Up 5

Name _____ Date _____

COLONIAL TOOLS AND WEAPONS

Life in Colonial times could be very difficult. The right weapons or tools for a job made it a little easier.

A sickle is a tool with a sharp blade. It has a short, wooden handle. It was used to cut grass or grain. Sickles were very helpful when clearing tall grasses for a new home or garden.

An ax, or axe, is another useful tool. Colonial axes had long wooden handles. The top of each axe was made out of hard silver. It could be used for chopping wood. If you wanted to build a cabin, you needed an axe.

Pistols and rifles were just as important as the other tools. They were used to protect the families from wild animals and bandits. Rifles were also used for hunting. They had long, wooden barrels. They were very heavy.

Tools and weapons were important for getting food, staying safe, and making life easier. Life depended on good tools.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Which tool was used for cutting grasses and wheat?
   a. rifle
   b. axe
   c. sickle
   d. pistol

2. If you wanted to hunt animals, you would use . . .
   a. a rifle.
   b. an axe.
   c. a rope.
   d. a sickle.

3. The author's purpose for this passage is to . . .
   a. entertain the reader with funny information about tools.
   b. inform the reader about the job of the axe.
   c. show the importance of tools and weapons to the Colonial families.
   d. teach the reader how to use a sickle.

4. Another name for an *ax* is . . .
   a. a wagon.
   b. an axe.
   c. a sickle.
   d. a horse.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

DAILY Warm-Up 6

Name _____ Date _____

COLONIAL ANIMALS

In Colonial times, people used animals for many things. Horses moved people from place to place. Plowing the fields was done by oxen because they were strong. Cows and goats gave milk for butter and cheese. Chickens provided eggs and meat. Bees made honey that Colonists used to sweeten food and drinks. They also made beeswax that could be used for candles.

Many Colonists built outside stalls to house their larger animals, such as horses and cows. Others built barns with pens inside them. Chickens were put inside coops made of wire and wood, with a door at one end. Pigsties were built for the pigs. These were wooden pens with large flat places for them to sleep or lie down.

Beehives were made out of wood or straw. These hives were put in gardens so that the bees could collect pollen from flowers and make honey.

Taking care of the animals was needed to take care of one's own family.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Why did the Colonists care for their livestock?
   a. so the animals would enjoy summer vacation
   b. so the animals would grow very large
   c. so the animals would provide food and transportation for them
   d. so the animals would have a nice place to live

2. A *coop* is a type of . . .
   a. shelter for birds.
   b. hole in the ground.
   c. rock in a garden.
   d. wagon on a farm.

3. If your family owned a horse in Colonial times, you would most likely use it for . . .
   a. hanging your clothes on.
   b. getting from one place to another.
   c. making milk for butter and cheese.
   d. racing.

4. Most enclosures for the animals were made of . . .
   a. mud.
   b. gold.
   c. silver.
   d. wood.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

DAILY Warm-Up 7

Name _____ Date _____

THE WILDERNESS

The Pilgrims came to the New World to find a new life. They did not know how hard it would be. They did not know they would live in such wilderness.

The land needed clearing. Rocks and tree stumps were pulled from the ground. Logs from the trees were used to make homes and furniture. Scraps became firewood. Crops had to be planted and barns had to built.

The Pilgrims had to build the barns before they built their own homes. Otherwise the animals wouldn't survive the long winter. The first homes were little more than holes dug in the ground. The dirt was cold and damp, and the fires filled the homes with smoke.

Eventually, the Pilgrims made houses out of wood. They used axes to chop trees and strip bark off the logs. They cut notches in the wood to help lock the logs together. Each house was just one room in which the whole family cooked, ate, and slept. The homes all had a fireplace in the room that was used for heat and light. There was no electricity.

When the Pilgrims came to America, they faced challenges they had never imagined.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. *Wilderness* probably means . . .
   a. a park with animals.
   b. a place in a big city.
   c. a zoo.
   d. a place not yet touched by humans.

2. Which tool was most helpful when building cabins?
   a. an axe
   b. a rifle
   c. a sickle
   d. a petticoat

3. In the passage above, the fireplace was used for . . .
   a. water and heat.
   b. heat and light.
   c. a place to cook and make candles.
   d. cooking and cleaning.

4. The second paragraph is mainly about . . .
   a. the importance of the fireplace.
   b. what the Pilgrims had to do to create a place to live.
   c. planting crops and baking bread.
   d. a trip to Alaska.

LIVEWORKSHEETS