

Self-Identity- Bahamian Way of Life (Abaco)



Abaco is the second largest island of the Bahamas. Abaco is divided into **two parts, Little Abaco and Great Abaco**. Abaco has many small cays. The main settlements of Abaco are **Hope Town** and **Marsh Harbour**. It is famous for **boat building**. Boats were built there for over **200 years**. Some parts of a boat are the **boom, rudder, mast, and sail**.

The local wood from Abaco, the **Mahogany, dogwood, horseflesh and corkwood** are the trees used in boat building. The **felled**, a corkwood tree near Hope Town is used to make the frame and the sloops. The **crooks** of the tree will give extra strength to the sloop. For **planking**, the pineboard imported from Canada is used.

The **seams** will be sealed with cotton before the boats are painted. Other workers make the **mast, a boom, a rudder, and a sail**. The sloopes are almost ready for the regatta. Other types of boats are built such as the **smacks, dinghies, and large cargo schooners**.

Boat building is a long tradition by the Lowe family of Abaco. The Lowes learned to build boats from their grandfathers. They do other things to provide for their families.

The people of Abaco also do a lot of fishing. This is similar to the people in Bimini. As we know, Bimini is famous for deep sea fishing. People in Abaco use nets

and wire pots. The Lowes like other people on family islands worries that there are fewer fish in the sea nowadays. They also obey the fishing laws.

The Lowes are also **farmers**. Some crops that grow on Abaco are limes, oranges, and grapefruit. Vegetables also grow on the island. These are grown on a **plot**. The food is for their family. Any surplus is taken to the mailboat which carries it to Potters Cay Dock in Nassau where it is sold. The money they get goes to buy fertilizer and things for the family.

Answer the following questions.

Select the **TWO** main settlements on Abaco.

What is Abaco famous for?

fishing

boat building

farming

The residents of Bimini and Abaco both practice

fishing

boat building

farming

Name **TWO** boats other than sailing sloops.

Name any four parts of a boat made in Abaco.

Other than boat building, what are **TWO** other ways the Lowes support their family?

How do fruits and vegetables get to Nassau?

Where in Nassau are fruits and Vegetables sold that come from the Family Island?

Complete the chart by selecting the part of the boat that is made from the different parts of the tree.

Parts of the tree	The parts of the boat
felled	
crook	
pineboard	

Name **TWO** trees that are used to build boats.