

Internet Barn Scavenger Hunt

Subject: Social Studies: Agriculture

Grade Level: 7-8

McRel Standards: US History Era 6: The development of the Industrial United States (1870-1900)

Benchmark: Understands how the rise of corporations, heavy industry, and mechanized farming transformed American society.

Iowa Model Core Literacy: Writing: Uses writing as a tool for learning

Curriculum: Uses an effective writing process

Anticipatory Set: How are the designs of farm buildings (barns) today different from those in the late 1800s, and the early 1900s?

Purpose: Students will use the internet to search for information concerning barns and barn raisings:

Objective: Students will develop an understanding of the importance of the barn in our nation's history by searching for information on barns on the internet.

Teaching to the Objective:

1. Hand out internet search questions to students.
2. Explain the difference between search engines and URL addresses.
3. Have students search to find the answers to questions.
4. After completion—have students share whether finding the information was difficult or easy.
5. Have students share information that they found and the web sites where they found the information.

Internet Scavenger Hunt

Look for the answers to these questions as you search the internet. Write down your answers and then as a class share the information that you found. What new knowledge do you have about barns after doing the search?

Where do we get our ideas about barns?

1. Find a barn on the internet that is featured in an advertisement? What product is being sold? Why do you think that the company decided to use a barn in its ad?

2. How were barns used as road side advertising? Why do you think that this was done?

3. Find a image of a barn that is made specifically for children. What is the title of the image or what is it printed on? Does it look like a real barn? Why or why not?

4. Find a photograph of an illustration or artist's picture of a farm printed over 100 years ago. What is its title? How do you think the artist or photographer wanted you to feel when you look at the picture?

What is a barn?

1. What are three different farm jobs that would be done in a barn

2. List one advantage of each of these types of barns:
 - a. English Barn
 - b. Midwest Open-Ending Barn
 - c. Pennsylvania Barn
 - d. Connected Barn

e. Round barn

3. Find a barn that reminds you of the following descriptive words. Write the name of the barn next to the words and tell where you found the barn.

A work of art

A dome

A church

A skeleton

Barn Raising

1. Where on the internet can you find information about a barn raising 100 years ago?
2. Where can you find information about a barn raising today?
3. Imagine that you needed to build a new barn. Where would you go to find information about the process? Where would you get information about designs?
4. Where would you find information about mortise and tenon joints?
5. Where would you find information about joints and beams held together with nails?
6. Will you choose nails or mortise and tenon joints to connect the beams? Why?
7. Would you use tin or wood to cover the outside of your barn? Why?

8. What kinds of shingles will you use on the roof or will you use another material? Why

Changing Barns

Find three types of barns that have developed because of new technologies or ideas about agriculture. Write the names of the barns and describe one of its improved features.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Will Barns Survive?

1. Describe one reason historic barns are threatened today?
2. Describe two different ways historic barns are being preserved.
3. What do you think? Is it important to preserve historic barns? Why or why not?

Some questions used in this internet scavenger hunt came from the Barn Again! traveling Exhibit by the Smithsonian.