

## **Activity 18**

### Let's Be Pioneers



**Activity:** 

**Curriculum Fit:** 

Students plan and perform pantomime skits to illustrate mastery of vocabulary and content

**Grade 2 - Social Studies** 

Unit 2.2: A Community in the Past

Outcomes: 2.2.3 Appreciate how connections to a community contribute to one's identity
2.2.6 Analyze how the community being studied

emerged, by exploring and reflecting upon the question: What individuals or groups contributed to the development of their community?

**2.27** Examine how the community being studied has changed, by exploring and reflecting upon the question: In what ways has our community changed over time

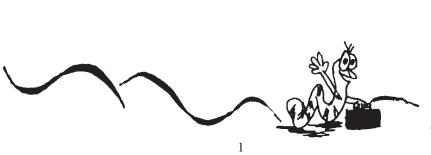
#### **Grade 2 - English Language Arts**

**Outcomes: 2.2** Discuss, represent or write about interesting or important aspects of oral, print or other media tests

**3.4** Share, with familiar audiences, ideas and information on topics

4.3 Use effective oral and visual communication







Grade 4 - Social Studies: Alberta Topic B: Alberta: Its People in History

**Major Generalization 1**: Sub-Generalization - Albertans have been affected and challenged by historical events.

**Outcomes**: Process Skills: Gather information by identifying time and place relationships

**Outcomes**: Communication skills: Orally present information on a period of Alberta's history, based on prepared notes and supported by pictorial materials giving consideration to the audience, use of social studies terms, content and organization

**Outcomes**: Communication skills: Role play a historical event or show Albertan's adjustment to a changing lifestyle

#### Grade 4 - English Language Arts

**Outcomes: 3.4** Communicate ideas and information in a variety of oral, print and other media texts, such as short reports, talks, and posters

**4.3** Present to peers ideas and information on a topic of interest in a well-organized form

**4.3** Add interest to presentations through the use of props, such as pictures, overheads and artifacts

**Agriculture Concepts:** Technology and capital intensity

Cognitive Level: Application, Synthesis

Materials Required: Action cards provided.

**Time Required:** One class period.

#### Background -- For the Teacher

In this activity students focus on the community aspect of the lifestyles of the early settlers. Some things the settlers did cooperatively, such as barn-raising; other tasks they did independently, such as planting crops. Discuss the reasons behind both the self-reliant behaviour and the co-operative behaviour. The students will plan and perform pantomime skits using action cards depicting either an independent or a cooperative activity. The skits not only reinforce learning in the social studies area, but also allow for practice in language arts skills.

#### **Procedure**

#### **Preparation**

1. Separate and mount action cards on stiff backing, or laminate cards.

#### **Procedure**

- 2. Separate class into groups of 3 or 4 students.
- 3. Have one person in each group pick an action card from the pile of cards which are face down on the table.
- 4. Give students 5 minutes to prepare pantomime role play.
- 5. Have audience guess the action.
- 6. Continue with other groups until everyone has had a chance to present or until class time is up.

#### Conclusion

7. Have students write a short story "A day in the Life of a Pioneer" in which they incorporate some of the action words read on the cards.

#### **Discussion Questions**

- 1. What do you like about being a pioneer?
- 2. What would you miss if you were a pioneer instead of a student today?
- 3. Would being a pioneer be easier or harder than being a student today? Why?

#### **Related Activities**

1. Divide class into larger groups of 6 - 8. Have each group write a skit about an aspect of rural life that they found especially interesting. These skits may be presented to the class or to the school at an assembly.

# Sheet One Pioneer Action Cards



CLEARING LAND FOR FARMING	PLANTING CORN	HARVESTING WHEAT
SHEARING SHEEP	PICKING WILD BERRIES	BARN RAISING
FEEDING THE CHICKENS	WEAVING CLOTH	CHOPPING WOOD



### STUDENT RESOURCE

## Sheet Two Pioneer Action Cards

MAKING	GATHERING	PLOUGHING
BUTTER	EGGS	THE FIELDS
GRINDING	BUILDING A	BAKING
FLOUR	LOG CABIN	BREAD
QUILTING	HUNTING	MILKING
BEE	DEER	THE COW