



Boone County Conservation District

Living History Program for 4th Grade

Pioneers on the Prairie

Students will spend the day learning about the pioneers that settled this area, including their lifestyles, education, and their impact on the landscape. Students will prepare lunch over an open fire, tour an authentic log cabin, and visit our one room schoolhouse.

Cost: \$4.00 per student from Boone County schools; \$8.00 per student from out of county schools.

Location: Roger D. Gustafson Nature Center, 603 N. Appleton Road, Belvidere, IL

Food List

Please bring the following items:

- 12 medium potatoes
- 10 large carrots
- 4 large onions
- 2 cups sugar
- 14 cups flour
- 3 cups navy beans (*pre-soaked overnight*)
- 2 pounds lard or shortening
- 2 pounds cubed ham (pre-packaged)
- 1 dozen eggs
- 1 bag popcorn kernels
- 4 cups rice (uncooked, not instant)
- 1 box of orange spice tea bags

Unless there are food allergies or issues, we strongly encourage your students to eat what they will be cooking and not to bring lunch from home.

The amounts listed are for a group of 30 people.
Please modify for larger groups!

We suggest collecting items a day or two before to ensure that you have everything.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Make sure everyone dresses for the weather, including chaperones!

No open toes or heels please.
Sweatshirt or a jacket when it is windy or cool. Raincoat or poncho when raining.

We will be outside all day, rain or shine.

Everyone should have a nametag.

Please divide your class into FOUR groups **prior** to your visit.

Bring **one** adult for each group.
Our cabin cannot accommodate more than 35 people.

Scheduling begins in September for program dates in October & November.

To reserve your spot or if you have further questions, please call (815) 547-7935.

Suggested pre-visit activities:

- Have students create a timeline of their own lives
- Have students create a family tree

Post-visit activity packet: *PIONEERS* - **Link to activity packet (English):** [Pioneers-teacher-packet.pdf](#)
Link to activity packet (Spanish): [Pioneers-teacher-packet-Spanish.pdf](#)

Extension Opportunity: IDNR Resource Trunk - *PRAIRIES* (We are a lending site. Call/email BCCD to reserve.)

Recommended Reading

Sarah Plain and Tall by Patricia MacLachlan
Little House on the Prairie series by Laura Ingalls Wilder
One Day in the Prairie by Jean Craighead George
A Walk in the Prairie by Rebecca L. Johnson (non-fiction)
Pioneer Girl: A True Story of Growing Up on the Prairie
by Andrea Warren (non-fiction)

A list of the standards addressed in this program can be found on the back.

Illinois Social Science Standards

Geographic Representations: Spatial Views of the World

SS.G.1.4: Construct and interpret maps of Illinois and the United States using various media.

Human-Environment Interaction: Place, Regions, and Culture

SS.G.2.4: Analyze how the cultural and environmental characteristics of places in Illinois change over time.

Human Population: Spatial Patterns and Movements

SS.G.3.4: Describe some of the current movements of goods, people, jobs, or information to, from, or within Illinois, and explain reasons for the movements.

Historical Sources and Evidence

SS.H.2.4: Using artifacts and primary sources, investigate how individuals contributed to and the founding and development of Illinois.

Causation and Argumentation

SS.H.3.4: Explain probable causes and effects of events and developments in Illinois history.

Next Generation Science Standards

Earth and Human Activity

4-ESS3-1. Obtain and combine information to describe that energy and fuels are derived from natural resources and their uses affect the environment.

Engineering Design

3-5-ETS1-2. Generate and compare multiple possible solutions to a problem based on how well each is likely to meet the criteria and constraints of the problem.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

Earth and Human Activity
Engineering, Technology, and the
Application of Science

Science & Engineering Practices

Asking Questions and Defining Problems
Developing and Using Models
Analyzing and Interpreting Data
Designing Solutions

Crosscutting Concepts

Cause and Effect
Stability and Change
Influence of Engineering, Technology, and
Science on Society and the Natural World

Vocabulary Words

Ancestors
Antibiotic
Chinking
Corral
Descendants
European
Immigrants
Infection
Invention
Kishwaukee River
Landscape
Native American
Pioneer
Population
Potawatomie
Prairie
Statehood
Timeline
Transcontinental
Transportation