

TOOLS AND TECHNOLOGY ON FARMS AND RANCHES

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PURPOSE

Students will synthesize and demonstrate their knowledge of the tools, and technology associated with farming and ranching.

STANDARDS

- History Standard 2: Students know how to use the processes and resources of historical inquiry.
- Reading and Writing Standard 3: Students write and speak using conventional grammar, usage, sentence structure, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.
- Reading and Writing Standard 4: Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.

OBJECTIVES

After completing this activity, students will be able to:

- Make comparisons between tools and farm implements used in farming and ranching.
- Write a narrative that demonstrates their understanding of the tools and technology used in farming and ranching.

INQUIRY QUESTIONS

- How are the tools used by farmers and ranchers alike and how are they different?
- How are the farm implements and machines used by farmers and ranchers alike and how are they different?
- How did technology affect or change the lives of farmers and ranchers?

MATERIALS

Doing History/Keeping the Past CD-ROM disc or website:

- Farming/Ranching topic; Farm Work & Ranch Work themes; all sequences.

PROCEDURE

1. Students will use photographs to identify hand tools and farm implements used by farmers and ranchers.
2. The students will use the disk or Internet site in pairs or small groups to make the following four lists. Assign one list to each group. Focus on the Farm Work and Ranch Work subtopics or themes.
 - Hand tools used on farms.
 - Hand tools used on ranches.
 - Large implements and machines used on farms.
 - Large implements and machines used on ranches.
3. Conduct a discussion based on these lists about the differences and similarities between the tools and implements used on farms and ranches.
4. Ask each student to assume the identity of a person involved either in farming or in ranching. They should write a first-person narrative or a letter about their work as either a farmer or rancher and what tools and implements they find most useful.