



Penny Pinchers

Teacher's Notes

DAYS: Monday to Friday

TIME: 10:00 –11:30am
12:30pm–2:00pm

GRADES: Grades 4-5



August 2018

Historic Stewart Farm
13723 Crescent Road, Surrey
604-592-6956 – press 0 for assistance

www.surrey.ca/heritageschool



@StewartFarmBC



@HeritageSurreyBC

Please note apples are consumed during this program. If there are any students with allergies, please let us know during registration.

Curriculum Context

Penny Pinchers is designed to complement the Grades 4-6 curriculum. The program supports the prescribed learning outcomes by providing an opportunity to examine and explore the life of settlers on a Surrey farm at the beginning of the twentieth century. Students will experience the frugal farm life of Surrey's pioneers through the inquiry based program. They will learn how and why Surreys' settlers saved and compare and contrast to today's conservation practices. Emphasis will be placed on critical thinking skills, observing and comparing information available from objects, and drawing conclusions about the lives of Surrey's settlers based on museum exhibits, artifacts and teaching materials.

The program will cover various "big ideas" and learning standards content from Grades 4- 5 including

1. The pursuit of valuable natural resources has played a key role in changing the land, people and communities of Canada
2. Natural resources continue to shape the economy and identity of the different regions of Canada
3. All living things and their environment are interdependent
4. Machines are devices that transfer force and energy
5. Humans use earth materials as natural resources

At the end of the program children should be able to:

- Discover how Surrey's pioneers reduced, reused and recycled and how students can implement change in their everyday lives.
- Use teaching collection objects and artifacts to reveal information regarding Surrey's pioneers.
- Describe the challenges of life on a farm.

Organization

- The Historic Stewart Farm is located in Elgin Heritage Park, 13723 Crescent Road, South Surrey. Please arrive five minutes before your program's scheduled time. Assemble on the front porch of the farmhouse. This program begins on time. Please have your students organized and ready to begin by 10:00am or 12:30pm.
- Please have each student wear a "first name" tag in large print. Docents develop a quicker rapport with students if they can call the students by their names. It is helpful if parent helpers wear name tags, too.
- Please divide the class into three equal-size groups with an even distribution of boys and girls and parent helpers, if possible. All groups will participate in all activities.
- The docents will meet your class at the front door. Each of the groups will be conducted through the program by a docent.
- Please bring appropriate clothing for the cold weather; parts of the program will take place outside.
- Lunches and other material must be left in your vehicles (see the Surrey RCMP information on preventing theft from vehicles parked on the site) or remain with the students during the tour.
- Assign accompanying adults to each of the three groups – 1-2 adults/group only please. Please advise accompanying adults the docent's focus is student participation. They are welcome to observe the presentation, but they should not participate, intervene or engage the docent in conversation unless invited
- No flash photography is allowed in the Farmhouse. All cellphones should be on silent mode during the program.

- Due to limited space in our buildings we cannot accommodate younger siblings. Parent drivers are welcome to explore the site on their own with their younger child but cannot participate in the program.

Please ensure accompanying parents are aware of these rules and guidelines

Please meet in front of the Stewart Farmhouse – your docent will check in with you before the program begins

There are no onsite animals at Historic Stewart Farm.

Program Content

Pioneer Penny Pinchers will be presented by a team of three volunteers called “docents”. Students will be welcomed to the Historic Stewart Farm with an introduction to the site, structure and content of the program. Students will handle objects from the Surrey Museum’s collection and engage their imaginations in role play activities.

Pre-Visit Suggestions

1. Ask each student to give up one modern technology (common convenience) for one week. Divide students into teams and have each team challenge the others in either giving up a favourite modern technology or adopting an old fashioned technology. For instance: no fast food, walk to school, no cell phones, no calculators, no TV. Students can prepare a written or verbal presentation about their experience. Provide prizes for the teams that succeed in their one week task.
2. Brainstorm daily, seasonal and yearly activities of an early farm settler. After the school program, return to the subject and make adjustments.

Classroom Follow-up

1. Ask each student to bring an object from their own home that has been passed down through their parents, grandparents or great grandparents. Following all presentations, discuss the age, the material, and the intended use. Continue on the topic and ask students what items they would pass down, do you think it would last to their children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren?
2. Task students to bring in a recyclable object (milk carton, egg carton, glass jar) and get creative. Have students create an art project from a recyclable.
3. Consider the subject of farming in the 21st century. Is it sustainable? Think about the positive and negative aspects of food preservatives, crop pesticides, water usage, and organic farming. Debate the benefits of the practices of the 19th century farm versus the modern practices of farming in the 21st century.

Stewart Family Basic Timeline

- 1843 John Stewart born (Island of Arran, Scotland)
- 1852 Annie Davidson born on July 15 (Huntingdon, Quebec)
- 1860s Stewart Family moves to Quebec. John and two brothers head off to California to work in the Redwood Forest
- 1880 John Stewart returns to Canada and purchases a quarter section of land that had been pre-empted by Samuel Hardy.
- 1882 Annie Davidson moves to BC.
- 1884 John Stewart marries Anne Jane Davidson (“Annie”) on October 9
- 1885 William James Stewart is born on October 7
- 1890 John Massey Stewart is born on July 18
- 1894 Two-story Victorian-style farmhouse constructed to replace the old house. The old house becomes temporary accommodation for the seasonal farm crew
- 1913 Annie Stewart dies on January 13
William James Stewart marries Gertrude Lewenden on February 14
- 1916 Muriel Joyce Stewart born to William and Gertrude on May 3
- 1918 John Massey Stewart marries Edna Madge Burden
- 1919 John Massey Stewart dies in the flu epidemic
- 1920 Kenneth John Stewart born to William and Gertrude on March 24
- 1926 John Stewart dies
- 1927 Bunkhouse built for seasonal farm crew
- 1944 Property sold to Ward family
- 1962 William James Stewart dies
- 1984 City of Surrey acquires property and undertakes restoration
- 1988 Historic Stewart Farm opens to the public
- Today Your visit to the Historic Stewart Farm

REFERENCE

Basic site and family history

Historically, the surrounding coastal forest area of the Elgin Heritage Park included tree species such as western red cedar, red alder, Sitka spruce, Douglas-fir, grand fir and broad-leaf maple. The underbrush consisted of Pacific crabapple, Indian plum, red elderberry, cascara, bald hip rose, Oregon grape, black raspberry, and sword fern. The grassland area was covered with wild crabapple, grasses, and bulrushes. Cattail leaves and stems were collected in the late summer and were used by the Coast Salish people for making mats, twine, baskets, capes and hats. Mats were used for covering mat lodges, canoes and for lining walls of plank houses. Wildlife found included swans, geese, ducks, ruffed grouse, raptorial birds, snowshoe hare, raccoon, wolves, martin, mink, skunk, otter, beaver, muskrat, deer and bear.

The Nicomekl River route was an important fishing and communications route. The River supported spawning populations of Coho salmon and steelhead trout. Archaeological studies have determined that occupation of the area dates back to approximately 4,000 years. Shell middens, isolated finds of stone tools and petroglyphs have been found in this area.

Much of the Nicomekl River was dyked between the 1870s and 1890s and concrete dams were constructed on the river in the early 1900s. The coast forest area has been selectively logged in the past.

Elgin was an early way station on the Semiahmoo Trail. In 1865 a telegraph line passed through Mud Bay and crossed the Nicomekl at a point that later became known as Elgin. By 1892 the village consisted of a hotel, country store, post office, livery stable and blacksmith shop.

Approximately 160 acres of land was pre-empted by Samuel Hardy in the 1880s. Shortly after, John Stewart acquired the land and established a haying operation on the north side of the Nicomekl River.

A farmer's life was one of hard work and economy. John Stewart grew hay, barley and oats which supplied feed for his stock and provided a farm income. The Stewarts crossed the river by rowboat and assisted with the loading of their hay and grain on the steamship *S.S. Granier* which would travel across the Georgia Strait to Victoria where the grain was sold. In 1903 200 pounds of hay sold for \$10, a sack of oats cost \$1.08, butter was 30 cents a pound, and eggs were 20 cents a dozen.

The farm operation was large and successful and employed many farm hands during harvest season. Hay fields, poultry, pigs, and the orchard kept the family and farm hands busy.

Following the death of John in 1926, William and his children continued to operate the farm until 1944, when the property was sold to Earl Ward of North Vancouver. Initially the Wards used the property for recreational purposes and established a small marina in the early 1950s. The City of Surrey acquired 54 acres of property in 1984 and designated eight buildings, which includes the farm house, root cellar, threshing machine shed (now the Stewart Hall) Pole Barn, bunkhouse, machine shed, wood shed and garage, as historically significant.

Make Your Own Stickers

Supplies:

- White glue
- White vinegar
- Small paint brush
- Scissors
- Magazines, wrapping paper, scrap paper

Instructions:

1. In a bowl, mix together white glue with an equal amount of white vinegar until you have a thin, milky liquid.
2. Using a small paint brush, smear the back of the paper with the glue mixture.
3. Allow to dry, apply a second coat, and allow to dry again.
4. Use scissors or a craft punch to cut out desired shapes.
5. Although the glue is nontoxic, it doesn't taste very good, so for sticking, use a dampened sponge to moisten the back of stickers.

BOOK SUGGESTIONS AND OTHER RESOURCES

TOPIC	TITLE	AUTHOR
Conservation	ReMake It!: Recycling Projects from the Stuff You Usually	Tiffany Threadgould
	Kids Care!: 75 Ways to Make a Difference for People, Animals & the Environment	Rebecca Olien
	Nature Recycles: How about You?	Michelle Lord, Cathy Morrison
	Michael Recycle Meets Litterbug Doug	Ellie Bethel, Alexandra Colombo
Pioneers	Pioneer Kids (Canadian Flyer Series)	Frieda Wishinsky
	A Pioneer Story: The Daily Life of a Pioneer Family in 1840	Barbara Greenwood
	Pioneer Days: Discover the Past with Fun Projects, Games, Activities, and Recipes	David C. King
	Pioneer Meals	Bobbie Kalman
Stories the Stewart family may have enjoyed	The Tale of Peter Rabbit (1902)	Beatrix Potter
	The Velveteen Rabbit (1922)	Margery Williams Bianco
	Peter Pan (1911)	J. M. Barrie
	The Secret Garden (1911)	Frances Hodgson Burnett
	Wind in the Willows	Kenneth Grahame
	Winnie-The-Pooh (1926)	A. A. Milne
	Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (1865)	Lewis Carroll

Evaluation

Your feedback is very important to us. We want to know if this program met the learning objectives identified and if you and the students enjoyed and learned from your museum experience.

Please complete the Program Evaluation survey which will be emailed to you after the program. The information you provide will assist us to make revisions or to improve the program to better meet your needs and expectations.

Surrey RCMP TIPS - Theft from Vehicles

The Surrey RCMP would like to provide the public with the following tips and best practices in an attempt to prevent theft from Motor Vehicles.

- Do not leave any property in your vehicle or expect to find it gone when you return later, including your garage door opener.
- If you have backpacks or bags put them in your trunk prior to arriving at the park.
- Completely close car windows, including your sunroof and lock your car.
- Invest in a good anti-theft device for your vehicle.
- If you see any suspicious person or activity near a vehicle, call the police immediately.

Directions to the Historic Stewart Farm

13723 Crescent Road, Surrey, B.C.

School Field Trip Contact Phone: 604-592-6956 – press 0 for assistance

- Take King George Highway to the T-intersection of Crescent Road.
- Turn west onto Crescent Road at the traffic light.
- Travel along Crescent Road for 1.7 kilometres.
- Just past Nico Wynd Estates look for “Elgin Heritage Park” sign (north side of Crescent Road).
- Turn into our parking lot. Welcome to the Historic Stewart Farm!

