The Funk Heritage Center of Reinhardt University

Dear Educator,

Thank you for choosing a tour or special event at the Funk Heritage Center. In this packet you will find materials that will help you prepare your students for their visit.

Some themes your students might encounter (depending on the program you chose) during their visit include:

The concept of immigration or moving to a new home.

- Who came to the new land?
- Why did they come?
- How did they get here?

Taking care of basic needs.

- First home: log cabins
- Building materials
- Heat and light
- Furniture
- Source of water

Compare and contrast the lives of the Appalachian settlers with the way we live today.

- Have our basic needs changed or have they stayed the same?
- How does your home compare to a log cabin?
- How does your daily life compare to a settler child’s?

We hope that you and your students enjoy visiting the Funk Heritage Center. Please feel free to call or e-mail heritagecenter@reinhardt.edu with any comments or suggestions.
NOTES TO THE TEACHER

The concept of settlement may be approached from the children’s experiences of moving to a new home, school, or town.

Children may be prepared for the concept of emigration to a new land by reviewing their knowledge of migration of birds and of changes of habitat among animals for various reasons and purposes: seasonal appropriateness, natural disasters, survival needs.

Unlike migrations in the animal kingdom, human families have much to consider when moving to a new location.

The following activity may be duplicated for individual research at home. Children with large families may wish to interview a number of members.

Children with a long history of stable family locale can be encouraged to participate imaginatively and to research travel poems and stories to share with the class.

ON OUR WAY

**Making the decision**

Who decided to make the move?

How did you feel about it?

What did you know about the new home?

How did you find out?

What did you decide to take with you?

What did you leave behind?

**The Journey**

When did you make the trip?

How did you travel?

Did you stop along the way to visit other places?

How long did the trip take?

Who came with you?

What was the trip like?
The Arrival

What were your first impressions of the new location?

Did anyone greet you?

Did you feel like a stranger?

What did you miss from your former place?

What were the advantages and disadvantages of the new location?

1. Who came to the new land?
   - Explorers
   - Fur traders
   - Farmers
   - Business people
   - Soldiers
   - People from many countries including England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany and France

2. Why did they come?
   - To seek a better life
   - To get land of their own
   - To start farms and businesses
   - To find jobs
   - To be free
   - To get away from war
   - To get away from famine
   - To find adventure
   - It was too crowded in Europe

3. How did they get here?
   - By ship, often in the hold
   - The trip often took as long as two months
   - There was little food and water
   - Many became seasick and ill, and many died of disease
BARE NECESSITIES

Once the family arrived, they still had a long and arduous journey over rough roads and trails to their land. These journeys were made on foot or by cart. Supplies were limited by the family’s ability to carry them and to afford them. Most settlers had brought few goods with them in their “hand baggage.”

Distribute the following list of items and have students research those with which they are unfamiliar.

dishes     music box
cutlery     rope
pail       panes of glass
kettle     nails
pots       hoe
table     spade
rocking chair     scythe
crib     adze
mattresses     salt pork
candles     handsaw
ax     chisel
knife     auger
fishing gear     flintlock rifle
seed     ammunition
flour     books
blankets/bedding     hammer
**BASIC NEEDS**

Among the first tasks of the settlers were the building of some sort of shelter (usually a shanty or even a lean-to), starting to clear the land, and preparing for winter.

Have students research methods and implements used to clear land. Write an instruction sheet or manual on “How to Clear Land.”

Discuss:
- Why was it so important to clear the land?
- What made it such backbreaking work?
- Why was it absolutely necessary to begin preparing for winter right away? What preparations were made?
- What could the settlers eat while waiting for their first crops to mature?

**FIRST HOMES: SHANTY OR LOG CABIN**

**SIZE**
- Usually around 16 ft. x 20 ft. (5m x 6m)

**ROOMS**
- Usually one room, perhaps a loft

**MATERIALS**  
- **Roof:** tree bark, saplings, hollow logs
  - **Walls:** rough logs, wooden pegs
  - **Chinking:** mud, wood chips
  - **Windows:** oiled paper or cloth
  - **Doors:** blanket

**HEAT AND LIGHT**
- candles, oil lamps (sometimes), fireplaces of stones or mud, hole in roof for smoke, stone fireplace perhaps

**FURNITURE**
- bunks built into walls, mattresses of boughs, table, benches, wooden pegs for clothes, a few wooden shelves

**WATER SOURCE**
- springs, rivers, streams, lakes, wells (later)

**DECORATIONS**
- rag rugs, cushions
| **SIZE** | much larger, often two stories; basements and porches often added |
| **ROOMS** | parlor, kitchen, dining room and other bedrooms |
| **MATERIALS** | **Roof:** cedar shingles |
| | **Walls:** logs or wooden planks, nails |
| | **Chinking:** strips of rages, cotton, paper and paste |
| | **Floors:** smooth wooden floors |
| | **Windows:** glass |
| | **Doors:** proper doors and hinges |
| **HEAT AND LIGHT** | candles, kerosene lamps, iron cook stove, pipes to carry heat to other rooms |
| **FURNITURE** | cupboards, tables, chairs, beds, flop-benches |
| **WATER SOURCE** | rain barrel, cistern, wells, streams |
| **DECORATIONS** | paint made from ox blood or buttermilk and ochre, wallpaper, chimney pieces, furniture, more decorative rugs, cushions, curtains |

From: Early Settler Activity Guide, by Elizabeth Stenson
Crabtree Publishing, 1992
One Kooky, Crazy Quilt by Rachel Wilson

I’m a rainbow of colors
So bright like a summer sky
I’m made up of scraps
That were once piled high.

The women who made me
Were just scraping by,
I’m made up of pieces
Thrown to the side.

Some of my designs are
Quite elaborate and grand
And many are made
With a careful hand.

Some of my quilt friends
Are hung up for show
Others lie on beds,
Where they were destined to go.

With all of the colors
So perfectly sewn,
We beautiful quilts are
Meant for the home.
Some Bed Bugs Bite by Rachel Wilson

“Sleep tight. Don’t let the bed bus bite,” Mama said,
As I snuggled deeper into my rope bed.

The ropes that held my mattress up off the ground
Were tied so tight I slept without a sound.

And the bugs Mama spoke of were tucked in just right,
Creepy, crawly things in my mattress at night.

“Eww,” I thought, this just cannot be.

“Why do these bugs have to sleep here with me?”

But in the 19th century, bugs lived a life of luxury
Because mattresses were made naturally.

They were stuffed with straw, grass and hay,
And the bed bugs thrived on it night and day.

If you found a bug in your bed,
What would you do? Would you scream?
Would you shout, “Eww! Eww! Eww!”

What do you think this little house was made for?
And if you had a bed like this,
Would you sleep on the floor?