

THE LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE

Teacher's Manual

A Project of the Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach

2185 S. Ocean Blvd.
Palm Beach, FL

LIVING HISTORY

Welcome. The Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach is proud to have you and your students participate in the Little Red Schoolhouse “living history” Program and experience a typical day in a nineteenth century one-room school, the first schoolhouse in southeast Florida. Students will discover what it was like to be a child in school over one hundred years ago, surrounded by authentic furnishings and artifacts of the period using McGuffey Readers, slates, stylus’, and cedar pencils.

The Little Red Schoolhouse Program developed by the Preservation Foundation in 1990 is based on research into the history of Palm Beach County and into the history of nineteenth century education. It was created to maximize the use of the schoolhouse, to provide a greater understanding of local history and early education. As a result, the program increases awareness of the great changes that have taken place in every day life since the late nineteenth century, encourages an interest in history, and introduces students to the concept of historic preservation.

Preparation is required; it greatly enhances the overall experience at the Little Red Schoolhouse.

This Teacher’s Guide has been provided for you and your students to prepare for the unique field experience offered at the schoolhouse. Included are background information, pre-visit activities, guidelines for the visit, and post-visit activities, assessments and questionnaires. The living history program complements the fourth grade curriculum, Florida History, and has been designed with the Florida Sunshine State Standards as a reference. Curriculum standards are listed on page 48.

The Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach is a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to the preservation of the architectural and cultural heritage of Palm Beach. Through education programs, advocacy initiatives, and collections, the organization is a resource for learning about Palm Beach’s original buildings and rich local history.

Membership contributions support the education programs, advocacy efforts to save buildings and green space, Pan’s Garden and the architectural archives that ensure that the breadth and quality of the Preservation Foundation programs and resources will continue for future generations.

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DIRECTIONS

The Little Red Schoolhouse is located at Phipps Ocean Park, 2185 South Ocean Boulevard, Palm Beach, Florida 33480

Directions:

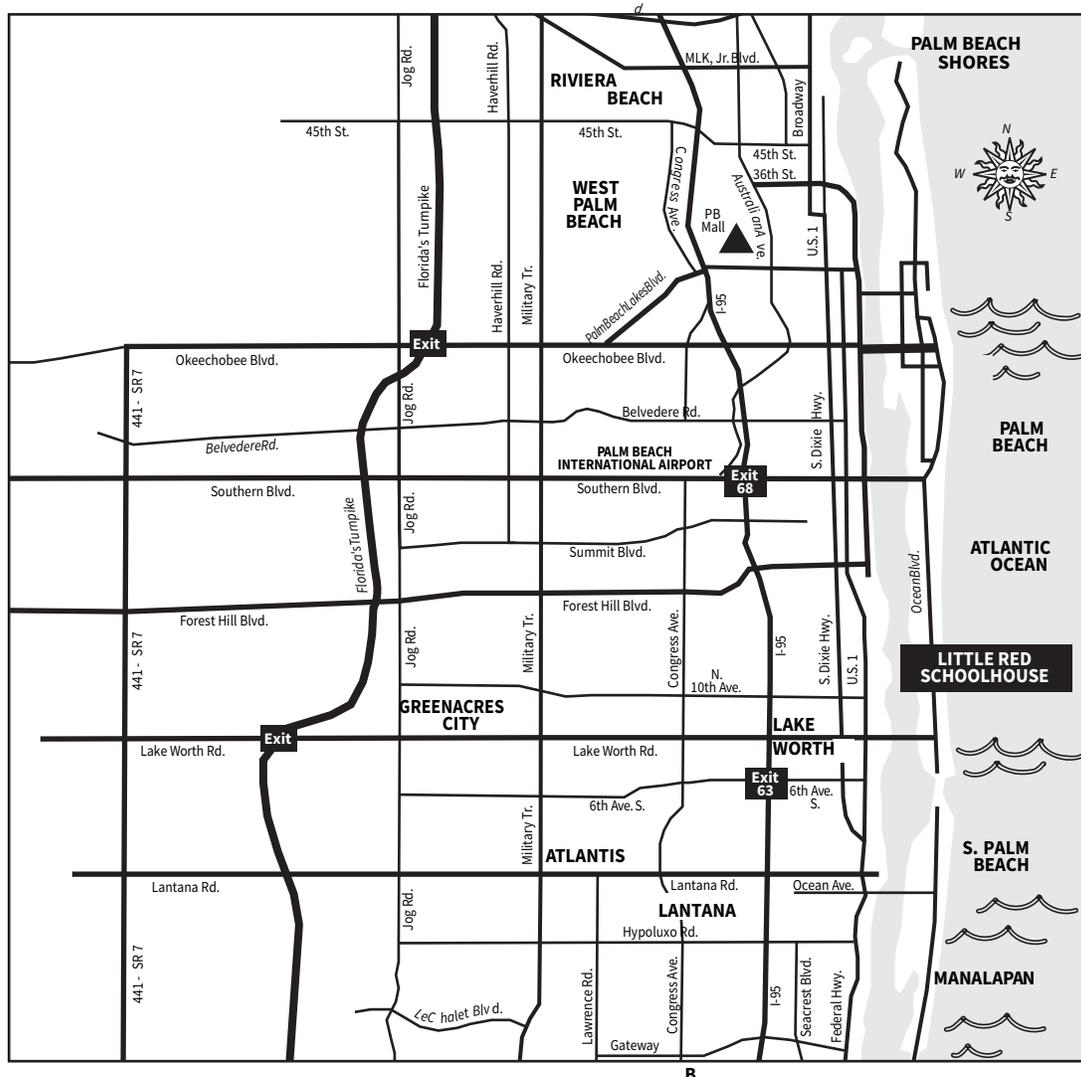
From North

I-95 S to Southern Blvd. exit – EXIT 68 / go east on Southern Blvd / continue east over Southern Blvd. Bridge to South Ocean Blvd. (A1A) / bear right at the round-a-bout. From here it is 2.6 miles to Phipps Ocean Park.

From South

I-95 N to 6th Ave S – EXIT 63 / go east on 6th Ave S / turn left onto S Dixie Hwy (US 1 N) / go to Lake Ave. / turn right and continue over Lake Worth Bridge to South Ocean Blvd. (A1A) /turn left onto South Ocean Blvd., from here it is 1.6 miles to Phipps Ocean Park.

Parking is available in North and South Parking lots. Parking meters require quarters.



B

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The First School in Dade County



The Little Red Schoolhouse first opened its doors to scholars in March 1886. This picture from 1888 shows first teacher Miss Hattie Gale in the center of the doorway in white. **Photo:** Courtesy of the Historical Society of Palm Beach County

No school existed at all in southeast Florida until 1886. Pioneer families of today's Palm Beach, then part of Dade County, settled around Lake Worth in the early 1880s when southeast Florida was an undeveloped, tropical wilderness abounding in wildlife: deer, turkeys, panthers, foxes, raccoons, alligators, snakes, turtles, birds, even black bears. The area was known as the "lake country," or the Lake Worth Community. Dade County formed a school board in 1885, and local families began to establish an educational system for the children. Women of the community spearheaded the project to have a schoolhouse built.

Dade County provided the two hundred dollars needed to purchase lumber, brought by schooner from Jacksonville to a site on North Lake Trail, property that was donated by the families of G.C. Hoagland and David Brown. Under the watchful eye and management of George W. Lainhart, men in the community volunteered to build the schoolhouse, and a sewing circle organized by the Ladies' Aid Society raised enough money to pay for chairs and a few school supplies. When the school opened in 1886 it contained little more than the chairs, a long rough table made from scrap lumber, and a curious medley of books gathered from the children's homes—no blackboards, and very little equipment usually found in schoolrooms. Electricity and inside running water were unheard of. On chilly days a wood-burning stove was used to heat the classroom. Pupils walked to school or arrived by boat or bicycle. During the 1890s, enrollment rose from twelve to thirty-five students which included many pioneer Palm Beach names such as Dimick, Maddock, Geer, and Reese. On Sundays the schoolhouse was used for religious services with two congregations sharing the building—Congregationalists in the morning and Episcopalians in the afternoon.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND



Sixteen-year old **Miss Hattie Gale** was the first public school teacher in Dade County. In 1885 her father, Reverend Elbridge Gale former Professor of Horticulture at Kansas State Agriculture College, came to the Lake Worth area to be its first minister and later served as Superintendent of the Dade County Public Schools. Schoolmarm Hattie Gale was younger than some of her pupils. Children attended the schoolhouse from 1886 until 1901. In 1901 the 1886 schoolhouse closed and a boat service took the children across Lake Worth to the new four-room school at Clematis Street and Poinsettia Avenue, now Dixie Highway, in West Palm Beach. After the schoolhouse was abandoned it was used as a tool shed on the John S. Phipps property for many years. In 1960, after Mrs. Phipps' death, the building was

was dismantled and moved to Phipps Ocean Park in south Palm Beach where it stands today. It is owned and maintained by the Town of Palm Beach and leased to the Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach. In 1990 the Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach restored the building to look like the original one-room schoolhouse. During the school year the foundation presents its “living history” program to fourth-grade students throughout Palm Beach County, enabling them to experience a school day from the 1890s.

Like other schools in the nineteenth century, the Little Red Schoolhouse, was segregated. Records indicate that in 1892 there were about twenty-one black youths in the Lake Worth area between the ages of 6 and 21 but no black school. The first school for black children was established in 1893.

Classes were held in the Mt. Olive Baptist Church, later known as the Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church, located in the “Styx” in Palm Beach. The church later moved to West Palm Beach. Mr. J. E. Jones was appointed the first teacher. Around 1896 a schoolhouse was built at Tamarind Avenue and Datura Street in West Palm Beach and called Lake Academy. Children attended this school until 1917, and then moved into the new Industrial School.



Photo of Lake Academy, 1896
Courtesy of the Historical Society of Palm Beach County

LIVING HISTORY PROGRAMS

Excerpt from: Andrew Guilford, *America's Country Schools*, the Preservation Press, Washington, D.C. 1984

Although education has progressed beyond the mid-nineteenth century, when students were content to write a good hand, speak a good piece and know their times tables backwards and forwards, there remains a widespread desire to return to the days of the one-room country school. In "The Little Red Schoolhouse" (*Icons of America*, 1978), Fred Schroeder speaks of the "transcendent ideals" embodied in these schools.

One of these ideals is expressed in Winslow Homer's paintings and in Frank Lloyd Wright's school: This is the idea of organic harmony of building, people and environment, and this is why Homer's rural-school paintings continue to appeal to us. In them, by means of the artist's unifying medium of sunlight, we see a rare sight: An institution serving people as individuals, within a non-compartmentalized community, and as sympathetic parts of an accessible natural environment.

For almost 250 years the one-room schoolhouse was the backbone of American education and continues to be a powerful cultural symbol to many Americans. The living history programs that have been developed at some existing country schools go beyond traditional museum experiences. Visitors come into the classroom and participate in the re-creation of a traditional, historic school day. Country schools make suburb history-learning laboratories. Across the United States, a day spent at a restored one-room schoolhouse is now an important part of many school curriculums. Students spend a day or half day in period clothing, eating pioneer lunches, learning traditional lessons. Children experience history directly, the past becomes the present; children gain a deeper understanding of American history while also learning about themselves.

Discipline also figures heavily in the pioneer classroom. Schoolmasters assumed their charges to be "morally deficient" and stressed the fire-and-brimstone philosophy of the Puritans. Teachers demanded immediate obedience and regimentation. Moral instruction was part of the daily class schedule, as were hygiene and physiology.

Reading, grammar and spelling were the most important components in the one-room schoolhouse curriculum. The weekly spell-down was eagerly anticipated. Writing and penmanship meant hours of practice. Students were drilled in writing a good hand. Arithmetic was the most practical subject using real life problems. Students solved problems mentally and on paper. Recitation and elocution were stressed due to the lack of textbooks. Students practiced public speaking and learned to speak with care and precision. Music also played an important role in early education.



A report from the United States of America, 1880.

THE SCHOOLHOUSE EXPERIENCE

Benefits

Designed to complement the fourth grade curriculum, the Little Red Schoolhouse Program is offered at no charge . A successful experience involves thorough preparation using the guidelines, pre-visit and post-visit activities, and the assessments which are presented in the Teacher’s Guide. Teachers should consult their area supervisor regarding activities relating to the in-service points.

SUNSHINE STATE STANDARDS This program was developed according to the curriculum guidelines of the Sunshine State Standards developed by the Department of Curriculum and Instruction.

Group Size

The schoolhouse program is limited to one class from a school per day, approximately 30 students, a teacher and two to three chaperons.

Scheduling

Reservations are limited and booked months in advance. Please contact the Education Department at (561)832-0731 or kjacob@palmbeachpreservation.org

Cancellations

Please call the Education Department at (561) 832-0731.

Time: 10:00am to 12 noon

Address: 2185 South Ocean Boulevard, Palm Beach. See enclosed map for details or find the landmark using Google Maps

Parking: Park in the **north** or **south** parking lot, meters only accept credit or debit cards.

Lunch: Picnic tables in the park are available for those that wish to have lunch *after* the program; lunch is on your time.

Special Needs

If your group has special needs, please let us know when you schedule your visit. We will be happy to assist you.

Name Tags

Please have students wear large name tags which indicate their assigned name and age; this will help the teacher interact in character.



PRE-VISIT ACTIVITIES

These pre-visit activities will help orient the students for their visit to the Little Red Schoolhouse. Familiarity with the ideas presented in these activities will increase the benefit the students reap from the field experience. If you know of other books or resources, please incorporate them. Let us know if you have any suggestions to add.

The Little Red Schoolhouse experience is unique; students will discover what it was like to live and attend school in another era, the past. The following activities are designed to make learning fun and interesting for your students while they gain an understanding of the concept “the past” and learn about the early history of Palm Beach County.

CHRONOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES

- A. Time Line - Grasp the Past
- B. Time Line – Compare and Contrast
- C. Diary
- D. History
- E. Census



CHRONOLOGICAL ACTIVITY I

Grasp the Past

Objective: Introduce time sequence to understand the past by linking dates, people and events that are personal and familiar to students.

Procedure: Using the timeline below, solve the following problems, and write the answers.

1890	1900	1925	1950	1975	2000
Great-great Grandparents		Great-Grandparents		Parents	Children

A **generation** is the time between the birth of parents and the birth of their children; usually about 25 years.

How many generations are there in one hundred years?

Look at the time line. Begin with yourself at the year 2005; work back in intervals of 25 years. The interval shows approximately when you, your parents, and grandparents were in school.

Sometimes family generations are shorter or longer than average, depending on how old parents were when they married and had children.

Write the correct date next to each name and plot the date on the time line above:

Name	Birth Date
Yours	
Mother	
Father	
Grandmother	
Grandfather	
Stepmother	
Stepfather	
Brother	
Sister	
Friends	

CHRONOLOGICAL ACTIVITY II

Compare and Contrast

Objective: To understand the concept of *past* and *present* by comparing and contrasting events in students' lives with the lives of their parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents.

Procedure: Interview your grandparents or other family members to answer the following questions. List the answers in appropriate column, present and past.

1. Name different types of clothing
2. Name utensils used for cooking
3. Describe favorite foods
4. List several types of transportation
5. List methods of sanitation
6. Name different types of jobs
7. Describe different forms of entertainment
8. List several methods of communication
9. List different types of recreation

ACTIVITY	PRESENT – Self	PAST – Grandparents
CLOTHING		
COOKING		
TRANSPORTATION		
SANITATION		
WORK		
ENTERTAINMENT		
COMMUNICATION		

UNDERSTANDING THE PAST

Compare and Contrast II

Objective: To understand the concept of past and present using personal experience and events.

Procedure: Answer the following.

List some similar activities that your family does now that your great grandparents may have done with different equipment than you use today:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Name several things you do or use today that would be completely unfamiliar to your grandparents.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Describe how your great-grandparents and great-great grandparents would have spent their leisure time. How is it different from today?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

During the Seminole Indian War on Christmas Day 1837, Colonel Zachary Taylor led 1,000 troops against 500 Seminoles attempting to hold their ground at the northeastern edge of Lake Okeechobee.

Engraving by Gilbert and Gihon.

Courtesy, HSPBC



The Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse, oldest existing structure in Palm Beach County, began to warn mariners of the dangerous shoals lying off-shore in 1860. The red brick tower has a rich history dating back to the earliest pioneers in Southeast Florida. During the Civil War Confederate sympathizers removed the illuminating mechanism to darken the light for the duration of the war. Operated by the U.S. Coast Guard the Jupiter Lighthouse is still an active aid for navigation and a welcome beacon to ships in the distance.

Jupiter Lighthouse, 1891.

In 1885 the Post Office Department created a 60 mile mail route from Palm Beach to Biscayne Bay. The 3-day walk along the ocean beach was the route of the **barefoot mailman**. This was a monotonous and lonely job – sometimes the mailman took along foot passengers and charged five dollars a head.



TIME LINE

EVENTS IN TIME

The time line will help relate Palm Beach County history to the broader context of United States history.

Objective: To introduce students to the relationship between events in their personal life with events in the past. **Procedure:** Read the time line to become familiar with National and Local events.

TIME LINE

HISTORY: NATIONAL		HISTORY: LOCAL
	1513	Ponce de Leon discovers Florida
	1819	Florida acquired from Spain
	1836	Dade County created
	1837	Battle of Okeechobee
	1845	Florida becomes 27 th State
	1860	Jupiter Lighthouse lit
Civil War	1861 - 1865	First settlers in Palm Beach
Telephone Invented	1870	Wreck of Providencia ~ coconuts to Palm Beach
Electric Light Invented	1876	Cocoanut Grove House ~ 1 st Hotel in Palm Beach General Store opens
	1878	Barefoot Mailman route begins until 1893
	1879	First Schoolhouse and Sea Gull Cottage built
	1880	Henry Flagler purchases Sea Gull Cottage
First Ford Automobile	1884	Royal Poinciana Hotel opens
	1885	Old Bethesda Church opens
	1886	Railroad bridge to Palm Beach opens
	1893	Palm Beach Inn (Breakers Hotel) opens
	1894	
	1895	
Spanish American War	1896	
Cuba free from Spain	1898	Bradley's Beach Club (casino) opens
	1899	Palm Beach Inn renamed The Breakers Hotel
	1900	The Little Red Schoolhouse closes
	1901	Whitehall is completed
	1902	
Wright Brothers 1 st airplane flight	1903	The Breakers Hotel I burns
Building of Panama Canal	1903 - 1914	Palm Beach County separates from Dade County
	1909	Palm Beach forms town charter
	1911	Henry Morrison Flagler dies
	1913	
Roaring 20's	1914 - 1918	Addison Mizner, architect, arrives in Palm Beach
World War I	1918	
Prohibition (repealed 1933)	1919	
	1925	
	1926	The Breakers Hotel II burns
Lindberg's Atlantic Ocean flight	1927	The Breakers Hotel, new Italianate style, opens
	1928	
The Depression	1929 - 1939	Hurricane strikes Palm Beach to Belle Glade
	1934 - 1935	
World War II	1939 - 1945	Royal Poinciana Hotel is razed
Pearl Harbor bombed	1941	
	1945	Norton Gallery opens
	1959	Bradley Beach Club closes
First Man on the Moon	1969	New Royal Park bridge opens
	1984	
The Challenger explodes	1986	Sea Gull Cottage is moved and restored
	1989	
	1994	Restoration of Town Hall
	1995	Demolition of the Anthony House
The Millennium celebration	2000	West Palm Beach celebrates 100 years as a city
9/11, Destruction of World Trade Center	2001	Florida celebrates 150 years as state
		Anthrax in Palm Beach County

TIME LINE

EVENTS IN TIME

The time line will help relate Palm Beach County history to the broader context of United States history. Use the time line to complete the following activities.

1. Describe the new inventions between 1875 and 1900.
2. List the dates of World War II.
3. What year did the Breakers Hotel II burn down?
4. Name the war that was taking place when the architect, Addison Mizner, came to Palm Beach.
5. Shortly after Henry Flagler moved into Whitehall two major events took place. List them.
6. How many years did the Barefoot Mailman carry mail between Palm Beach and Miami?
7. Name the period in our history that the Royal Poinciana Hotel was torn down?
8. Do you think the hotels in Palm Beach could serve alcoholic beverages during the early 1920s?
9. Name the year the first schoolhouse was built in Palm Beach County.
10. Name the year that Palm Beach County separated from Dade County.



The Breakers Hotel II fire

TIME LINE

EVENTS IN TIME | EXTRA ACTIVITY

Topics for discussion or essay:

Some areas of the United States were considered fairly modern by 1890; some by comparison were still “wild frontier.”

1. Describe an area that was relatively modern in 1890 and compare it to an area that was still undeveloped and primitive.
2. What was the major influence in the development of Florida during this time period?
3. Name the person responsible for bringing the railroad to southeast Florida.
4. Describe how the railroad changed the pioneer settlement along the shores of Lake Worth.
5. List several changes that you are aware of since 1890.

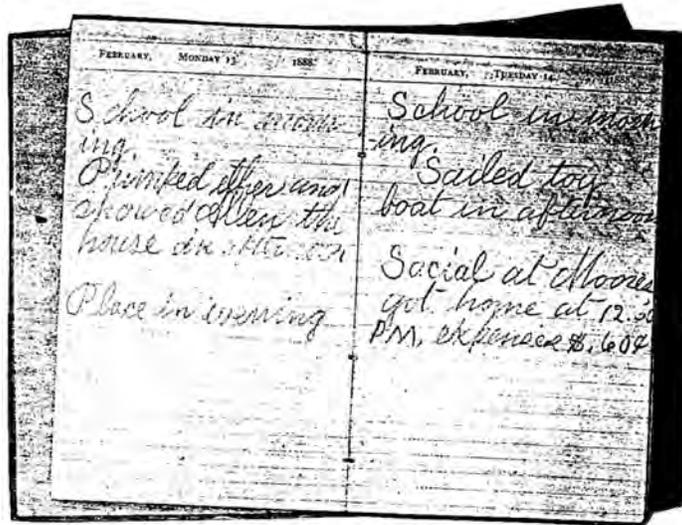
Transportation after the arrival of Henry Morrison Flagler



The Jungle Trail a foot path along the lake 1880s and 1890s. Later became known as the Lake Trail.



DIARY ACTIVITY



COPY OF WILL MCCORMICK'S DIARY

The Diary

In the nineteenth century, people regularly kept diaries. The following excerpts are from Will McCormick's diary. He was about 13 or 14 in 1888. He came to Southeast Florida from Denver, Colorado with his family and attended the first schoolhouse in the area.

Procedure: Read the passages below and answer the questions. Observe that the grammar was not "essay perfect." He was writing short messages about his experiences for his own purposes. When you laugh at his choppy sentences, try to put yourself in his shoes and consider how you would go about accomplishing the same task!

January Friday 13, 1888

Went to school; read composition;
Fished, went to the beach with Willie
Gus taken sick.

January Monday 16, 1888

School in morning.
Went to beach after supper with Dixon.

January Monday 24, 1888

Went to school in morning.
Duck hunting in afternoon with Gene and
Rob Moore, got one.
Euchre in evening.

January Friday 27, 1888

Went to school, gave recitation.
Fished, caught some groupers and snappers.

February Wednesday 8, 1888

School in morning.
Beach in afternoon with Willie Moore.
Cap's in evening. Debate; Dickson won. Danced after
debate. "Wisdom" or "Love"?

February Tuesday 14, 1888

School in morning.
Sailed toy boat in afternoon.
Social at Moore's, got home at 12:30 P.M. [Sic], expenses
60¢.

February Monday 20, 1888

School in morning. Cap's in afternoon.
Played Parcheesi and ball. Napoleon in the evening.

DIARY ACTIVITIES

Objectives: To compare and contrast the lifestyle of a child of the 1890's with a child of today.

Procedures: Read the above diary then locate the words in the dictionary to understand the meanings and answer the following questions.

Vocabulary:

Euchre recitation grouper social Parcheesi composition grammar

1. Based on Will McCormick's description of his daily life, compare and contrast his life from the 1880s with the life of a modern boy. What is the same? What is different? Write your answers on the chart.

Similarities	Differences

2. In the entry for February 14, you see the abbreviation [Sic.] what does it mean and why is it there?
3. Why was there a social on February 14?
4. On February 8, why has he included the words: "Wisdom" or "Love"?
5. Do you think that nineteenth century boys were much different from boys today?
6. What are Euchre and Napoleon?
7. Pretend you are Will McCormick. Write a letter to an old friend in Denver telling him about your life in Palm Beach.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND



Photo of Hannibal D. Pierce
Courtesy of the Historical Society of Palm Beach County

Hannibal D. Pierce built this home for his family on Hypoluxo Island in the 1870s. Though it looks primitive, it was typical of the homes of the day, made from salvaged lumber and local materials. The roof was made of palmetto fronds and while it does not appear to be substantial, the diary of Charlie Pierce states it did not leak: “The ocean beach was combed for timber to make the house frame...the timbers had to be hauled over the beach ridge to the lake and then rafted across to the homestead...shingles were not shipped on sailing vessels at that time...so... palmetto fans made a good roof but had to be replaced every two or three years. It was a cool dry and dry house, but there were others others who liked the palmetto leaves also. Roaches, lizards, and small snakes all made their homes in them...” *Pioneer Life in Southeast Florida* by Charles W. Pierce.

Sea Gull Cottage, built in 1886, was known throughout the late 1880s and early 1890s as the showplace of the Lake Worth area. Built by R. R. McCormick, from Denver, the cottage was a Queen Anne Shingle style cottage, typical of Palm Beach’s earliest architecture. Four distinctive features of McCormick’s Cottage were its sparking stained glass windows, magnificent marble floors and the commanding third-story-tower. McCormick had countless varieties of tropical plants, over six hundred rose bushes and two hundred fancy chickens. Henry Morrison Flagler bought the lake-to-ocean tract from McCormick and lived there from 1893 until he moved into his adjacent mansion, Whitehall, with his bride in 1902. Sea Gull Cottage is one of the oldest buildings in the Town of Palm Beach.



Photo of Sea Gull Cottage
Courtesy of the Historical Society of Palm Beach County

DIARY ACTIVITIES

1. Before the Little Red Schoolhouse experience, have the students write a detailed diary entry for one typical day of their lives. They should describe in detail what they ate for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, name the people they were with, and list all of the activities they were involved with during the day up until they went to bed at night.
2. After the Little Red Schoolhouse experience have the students write a detailed entry describing their day at the schoolhouse. Explain the food, containers, clothing, classroom materials, lessons and games.
3. Additional Comparisons. List the appropriate answers in the columns below.

	1890	2000
Clothing		
Books		
Writing materials		
Lunch facilities		
Bathroom facilities		
Transportation		
Classroom		
furniture Lighting		
Playground		
Grade levels		
Discipline		
List your own		

TO THE TEACHER

Mentioned in the diary are the words Euchre and Napoleon.

Euchre is a card game played long before the game of poker was known. This is a trump card game played with 5 cards in the hand and 4 players using a 32 card deck.

Napoleon is also a card game from the Euchre family but using 52 cards. This simple game is mostly luck and was one of the most popular card games of the era.

The notation “went to Cap’s” or “Cap’s in the evening” refers to Elisha N. “Cap” Dimick, owner of the hotel Coconut Grove House.

Photograph: Coconut Grove House, 1880s
Photo courtesy of the Historical Society of Palm Beach County

Palm Beach’s first hotel, The Coconut Grove House, was an eight bedroom extension of Elisha “Cap” Dimick’s own residence. Henry Morrison Flagler was once a guest in the hotel.



The Lake Trail in Palm Beach, early 1900s.
Photo: Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach Post Card Collection



HISTORY ACTIVITIES

Discover the past through Primary Sources

1. When historians write about the past, they do not just look at history books and then rewrite them. They research and read **primary sources**, such as letters, wills, and diaries. History books are written later and called **secondary sources**. Encyclopedias are also examples of secondary sources. Primary sources are things that are actually from the period that is being studied. For example, if you are trying to find out about your past, items that would help give clues are photos, letters, toys, prizes, old homework, and pictures and drawings that you created.

List below reminders of your own life that are considered primary sources.

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.

2. Primary sources used to research your community include letters, diaries, bills, receipts, newspapers, advertising, church records, wills, birth certificates, maps, and census reports. List several items that historians of the future will use to study the Palm Beach County of today.

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.

3. Historical records are not all written. There are many non-written artifacts that provide information about history. Examples include houses, buildings, toys, tools, furniture. List four more.

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.

4. Name the items you would put in a time capsule that would tell about your personal life 100 years from now.

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.

CENSUS ACTIVITIES

Census reports are a type of primary source. The following exercise will help students understand how primary sources are used to study and research history.

Every ten years the government counts the number of people living in the United States. This has been done since shortly after our nation was formed. It was also done in ancient time; in ancient Rome there was a census to find out who should be taxed. The United States census is used to find out about the population, such as how old people are, where they live, and what kinds of jobs they have. One use for census information is deciding how many representatives each state can send to Congress. If an area of a state grows a lot, like Palm Beach County has, it may be entitled to more representation in our national government.

The census records are used to learn other general facts about the population, such as how many people live on farms or how many children are in school. Anyone can look at census records, except for personal information which is kept confidential for 70 years.

When studying history, we read about many famous people. It is easy to learn about them because so much information is written about them. What about ordinary people? It is much harder to learn about them since not as much is written about them. The census records are one way we can learn about ordinary people.

All of the censuses taken in the United States since the beginning are kept in a building called the National Archives in Washington D.C. The original Declaration of Independence and the Constitution are also kept there.

Unfortunately, almost all of the 1890 census records were lost in a fire. There was, however, a Florida State census taken in 1885; a copy of a page is provided. As you can tell, answers were handwritten and very hard to read. To make the following exercise easier we have provided a copy of a deciphered page from the 1900 census. Both copies are on the following pages. Some of the information includes the names of the people in Palm Beach, their age and what they did for a living. The census taker listed them as he talked to them, so families listed next to each other on a page were probably neighbors.

1900 CENSUS

244

Line	CHILDREN		BIRTHPLACE			IMMIGRATION		OCCUPATION		Months in School	Can Write	Can Read	Speak Eng.	Own/Rent	House/Fair	Fair Schedule
	Number born	Now living	Self	Father	Mother	Year	In U.S.	Nat.	of each person 10 yrs. of age or over.							
1	2	2	PA	PA	PA			Physician		Y	Y	Y	7	H		
2	2	2	OH	OH	OH			At School		Y	Y	Y				
3	3	3	FL	PA	OH					Y	Y	Y				
4	4	4	FL	PA	OH					Y	Y	Y				
5	3	2	NY	NY	NY			Builder		Y	Y	Y	0	H		
6	3	3	NY	NY	NY			At School		Y	Y	Y				
7	3	3	NY	NY	NY			At School		Y	Y	Y				
8	9	9	FL	NY	NY			State Senator		Y	Y	Y	0	H		
9	10	10	FL	NY	NY					Y	Y	Y				
10	11	11	MI	MA	MA					Y	Y	Y				
11	12	2	IL	MI	NY			At School		Y	Y	Y				
12	13	1	FL	MI	NY					Y	Y	Y				
13	14	1	IL	MI	NY					Y	Y	Y				
14	15	1	TN	TN	TN			Carpenter		Y	Y	Y	0	H		
15	16	1	NY	NY	NY			Housekeeper		Y	Y	Y				
16	17	1	NY	NY	NY			Day Laborer		Y	Y	Y				
17	18	1	NC	NC	NC			Day Laborer		Y	Y	Y				
18	19	1	FL	SWE	SWE					Y	Y	Y				
19	20	1	CT	SWE	SWE					Y	Y	Y				
20	21	1	FL	SWE	SWE			Day Laborer		Y	Y	Y				
21	22	1	FL	SWE	SWE			Day Laborer		Y	Y	Y				
22	23	2	SWE	SWE	SWE			Gardener		Y	Y	Y				
23	24	2	SWE	SWE	SWE					Y	Y	Y				
24	25	2	FL	SWE	SWE			At School		Y	Y	Y				
25	26	2	FL	SWE	SWE			At School		Y	Y	Y				
26	27	2	SC	SC	SC			Day Laborer		Y	Y	Y				
27	28	2	NY	NY	NY			Artist		Y	Y	Y				
28	29	2	NY	NY	NY			Artist		Y	Y	Y				
29	30	3	GER	GER	GER			Gardener		Y	Y	Y				
30	31	3	GER	GER	GER					Y	Y	Y				
31	32	3	NY	GER	GER			At School		Y	Y	Y				
32	33	3	NY	GER	GER					Y	Y	Y				
33	34	3	FL	GER	GER					Y	Y	Y				
34	35	0	IL	NY	MI			Bicycle Dealer		Y	Y	Y	0	H		
35	36	0	MA	MA	MA					Y	Y	Y	0	H		
36	37	4	OH	OH	OH			Postmaster		Y	Y	Y				
37	38	4	OH	OH	OH					Y	Y	Y				
38	39	4	FL	OH	OH			At School		Y	Y	Y				
39	40	4	FL	OH	OH					Y	Y	Y				
40	41	4	FL	OH	OH					Y	Y	Y				
41	42	4	ENG	ENG	ENG			Clerk in P.O.		Y	Y	Y				
42	43	4	SC	NC	NC			Grocer		Y	Y	Y				
43	44	2	PA	PA	PA			Dressmaker		Y	Y	Y				
44	45	1	PA	PA	PA			Dressmaker		Y	Y	Y				
45	46	1	PA	PA	PA					Y	Y	Y				
46	47	1	FL	PA	PA			Farmer		Y	Y	Y				
47	48	1	IL	NY	NY			Druggist		Y	Y	Y				
48	49	2	VA	VA	VA					Y	Y	Y				
49	50	2	VA	VA	VA					Y	Y	Y				

1900 Census

Line	House	Family	NAME OF EACH PERSON whose place of abode June 1, 1900, was in this family.	RELATIONSHIP to the head of the family	Color	DATE OF BIRTH		Age	Mars. Married	Status
						Mo.	Yr.			
1	160	161	Hood, Henry	H	W	Mar.	1855	25	M	11
2	1	1	Mary	W	F	Oct.	1858	41	M	11
3	2	2	Helen B.	D	F	July	1891	8	S	-
4	3	3	Margaret	D	F	July	1895	4	S	-
5	4	4	Brelsford, Dorinda	Mother-in-law	W	Aug.	1832	67	W	20
6	161	162	Lainhart, George W.	H	W	Feb.	1849	57	M	20
7	1	1	Mattha	W	F	May	1853	47	M	20
8	2	2	Grace	D	F	Aug.	1881	18	S	-
9	3	3	Spencer	S	W	Nov.	1886	13	S	-
10	4	4	Donald	S	W	June	1895	4	S	-
11	162	163	Dimick, Elisha N.	H	W	Apr.	1849	51	M	29
12	1	1	Ella	D	F	Feb.	1852	48	M	29
13	2	2	Reese, Belle	S	W	May	1875	25	M	4
14	3	3	Dimick, Frank	H	W	Nov.	1888	11	S	-
15	4	4	Reese, Thomas L.	Son-in-law	W	Nov.	1867	32	M	4
16	163	164	Lanehart, Wm.	H	W	May	1841	59	M	12
17	1	1	Mary	Cousin	W	Apr.	1840	60	S	-
18	2	2	Armstrong, Moses	Boarder	B	"Can get"	1879	20	S	-
19	164	165	Ekman, Perry	H	W	June	1881	19	S	-
20	1	1	Ella	Sister	W	June	1881	19	S	-
21	2	2	Nels	Brother	W	June	1884	16	S	-
22	165	166	Nilson, Andrew	H	W	Jan.	1857	43	M	21
23	1	1	Anna A.	W	F	Apr.	1880	20	S	-
24	2	2	Tebough	S	W	Sept.	1881	18	S	-
25	166	167	Haves, James W.	H	B	Feb.	1862	38	M	12
26	1	1	Veza M.	S	W	Mar.	1841	59	S	-
27	167	168	Woodward, Lavira	H	W	Jan.	1846	54	S	-
28	1	1	Mary E.	Partner	W	Jan.	1866	34	S	-
29	168	169	French, August W.	H	W	Jan.	1862	38	M	12
30	1	1	Anna	W	F	Feb.	1862	38	M	12
31	2	2	Lydia	D	W	Feb.	1893	7	S	-
32	3	3	August W.	S	W	July	1896	3	S	-
33	4	4	Girard L.	S	W	July	1899	10	12	-
34	169	170	Moore, William	H	W	Oct.	1875	24	M	1
35	1	1	Bertha	W	F	Sept.	1874	25	M	1
36	170	171	Brelsford, Edw	H	W	Dec.	1853	46	M	11
37	1	1	Laura	W	F	Sept.	1862	37	M	11
38	2	2	Fredrika	D	W	Feb.	1892	8	S	-
39	3	3	Marjorie	D	W	Mar.	1895	5	S	-
40	4	4	Mildred	D	W	Aug.	1898	1	S	-
41	171	172	Jackson, A	H	W	Aug.	1898	1	S	-
42	1	1	W.	S	W	May	1851	49	S	-
43	172	173	Culpepper, Andrew F.	H	W	June	1847	52	M	1
44	173	174	Weihe, Adah	H	W	Jan.	1863	37	D	-
45	1	1	John	S	W	Jan.	1883	17	S	-
46	174	175	Singleton, Jemia A.	Sister	W	Dec.	1865	34	M	7
47	1	1	Virgil	Neice	W	Aug.	1894	5	S	-
48	174	175	Follet, Wm. H.	H	W	Dec.	1837	62	M	40
49	175	176	Dimick, Eugene H.	H	W	May	1869	31	M	3
50	1	1	Heta	W	F	Sept	1874	25	M	3

Note: Underlined letters indicates uncertainty
* Reread. May be census taker's error.

CENSUS ACTIVITY - WHO AM I?

Use the census on the previous page to answer the following questions.

List the date that this census was taken.

My name is Elisha N. Dimick.
How old am I?
What is the name of my wife?
List the number of children that I have.
Name my occupation.

I am a druggist.
What is my name?
Where was I born?
When was I born?

My name is Edward Brelsford.
What do I do for a living?
How many children do I have?
List the number of my children that are in school.

My name is Moses Armstrong.
Whose house do I live in?
What is my occupation?
Describe my kind of work.
Do you think that I went to school?

I am a doctor.
What is my name?
What other people live in my house?
How many children did my mother-in-law have?

My name is George W. Lainhart.
Do I have any children in school?
Do you think that I am related to William Lanehart on line 16 of the census?
Does William Lanehart live with his wife?

What is the relationship between Adah Weihe and Jemia Singelton?
What are their occupations?
Where were they born?
Have you ever heard of a girl named Virgil? Do you think it might be something else?

How many children ages 6 to 18 are listed on this census page?
How many of these children were listed as being in school?
How old is Girard L. French?

My name is William Moore.
What is my race?
Do I own my own home?
What does "H" mean in the relationship column?

CENSUS ACTIVITY ANSWERS

1. June 1, 1900
2. 51
Ella
29 years old
2
State Senator
3. Eugene H. Dimick
Illinois
May 1869
4. Postmaster
4 children
1
5. William Lanehart's House
Day Laborer
Construction, lumber business, or maintenance work.
No, there is not a "Y" in "can read" or "can write".
6. Henry Hood
Wife, 2 daughters, mother-in-law
3 children, only 2 were living. One may have died as a baby; infant mortality rate was much higher in the nineteenth century; the children were born in 1853 and 1858.
7. 2 children
He may be a brother or cousin. The census taker may have misspelled the last name. Both Lainhart and Lanehart were born in New York and close in age. It is unlikely that two unrelated people so close in name, and birthplace, age, would end up in a remote area like Palm Beach at the same time.
No, his unmarried cousin, Mary, who may keep house for him. The report says he's married, but his wife is not accounted for.
8. Sisters
Dressmakers
Pennsylvania
No, her name may be Virginia. Census reports were handwritten and often hard to read.
9. 10
8
10 months
10. White
Yes
Head of the family

1896 SCHOOL CENSUS STATISTICS

SCHOOL	LOCATION	MALES	FEMALES	WHITE	BLACK
DISTRICT 1	PALM BEACH COCONUT	12	7	X	
DISTRICT 2	GROVE LEMON CITY	33	30	X	
DISTRICT 3	ELLIOTT'S KEY	36	32	X	
DISTRICT 4	JUPITER MANGONIA	8	8	X	
DISTRICT 5	POTSDAM	5	8	X	
DISTRICT 6	JUNO	7	11	X	
DISTRICT 7	EVERGLADE LANTANA	5	11	X	
DISTRICT 8	HOBE SOUND RIVIERA	8	7	X	
DISTRICT 9	WEST PALM BEACH	16	7	X	
DISTRICT 10	WEST PALM BEACH	16	7	X	
DISTRICT 11	WEST JUPITER	8	4	X	
DISTRICT 12	BISCAYNE	10	10		X
DISTRICT 13	LINTON	64	43	X	
DISTRICT 14		29	42		X
DISTRICT 15		17	18	X	
DISTRICT 16		10	4	X	
DISTRICT 17		22	11	X	

TEACHERS' INFORMATION

Excerpt from "Education on the Forgotten Frontier," Dade County Public Schools, 1985, page 27.

THE 1885 CONSTITUTION

The 1885 Constitution had a significant impact on public education in Florida. Most importantly it required that black and white children should be taught in separate schools, overturning the 1869 school law and the 1873 civil rights law:

Section 12. White and Colored; Separate Schools. – White and Colored Children shall not be taught in the same school, but impartial provisions shall be made for both.⁶¹

The school law of 1889 implemented the educational provisions of the 1885 state constitution. Florida had officially gone on record in establishing a system of segregated schools. Although the Reconstruction era ended in 1877 when federal troops were removed from Florida it was the passage of the 1885 Constitution that saw the end of the liberal reforms that began with the 1868 "Carpetbag" Constitution. The complete separation of blacks and whites in the school system led to the establishment of a two track education system. For the next seventy years, the history of the Dade County Public Schools is a history of two school systems, one black and the other white. Both systems, however, remained largely under the control of white officials.

In 1954 the United States Supreme Court ruled racial segregation in public schools unconstitutional and slowly the integration of public schools began and, finally, in 1970 the process took hold in Palm Beach County schools.

GUIDELINES FOR THE FIELD EXPERIENCE

Ages of children attending one-room schools varied considerably. Students were organized not by grade but according to level of ability. Because many older children were needed to work at home, on the farm, or elsewhere, they were not able to attend school regularly and as a consequence may lag behind others their own age. Each child worked at his or her own pace. Many students sat two to a desk and shared the same books. A busy teacher often depended on older students to assist the younger pupils with their work and carry out classroom duties such as filling water buckets and firing the stove.

Preparation

- A. **Role Playing**
- B. **Biographies**
- C. **Attire**
- D. **Food**
- E. **Copy Books**

A. Role Playing Background Information

While attending the Little Red Schoolhouse students assume a biography and portray a child of the nineteenth century. All different ages are being reenacted, so it is important to read the biographies before assigning them to the children. The list provides a wide variety of characters. The element of fun is involved in pretending to be another character; it might be fun to assign sibling roles to children that are friends.

Most of the names and ages provided are taken from the 1896 and 1890 *Census of Youth School Age*, and other details are on general historical information about Palm Beach County in the 1890s. The characters are all composites based on actual census records which listed occupations and birthplaces. The types of occupations of parents described in the biographies existed although situations are imaginary and created to give the characters more personality so the children reenacting them will identify with them. This experience is simply a representative day in a 1890s school, not a specific school. All schools in the county were issued the same list of approved texts and similar teachers' salaries were allotted by the school board.

B. Biographies - Please assign each student a character role so that there are a variety of ages represented. Give each student a copy of his/her biography. Before the field experience each student should become thoroughly familiar with his/her historical character. They will be called upon during the program to know who they are; memorization is advised. Copy his/her biography into the copybook, which is to be made before the field experience also. (Copybook directions on page 44)

Name Tags: Please have students wear large name tags which indicate their assigned name and age; this will help the teacher interact in character

ROLE PLAYING ASSIGNMENTS

Assign a character to each student, biographies follow.

	1890s GIRLS	AGE	Character Assigned to: (student name)
1	Bradley, Maggie	15	
2	Brelsford, Fredrika	8	
3	Butts, Celia	9	
4	Butts, Lucia	13	
5	Davis, Alice	10	
6	Dimick, Belle	13	
7	Dimick, Ella	13	
8	Dimick, Lorena	10	
9	Dye, Ruby	10	
10	Fremd, Anna	10	
11	Fremd, Jennie	6	
12	Fremd, May	8	
13	Gordon, Carrie	13	
14	Gordon, Mabel	8	
15	Hall, Lizzie	15	
16	Hardy, Anna	10	
17	Hood, Helen	7	
18	Lainhart, Grace	16	
19	Lewis, Maggie	16	
20	Nilson, Vera	16	
21	Oates, Katie	11	
22	Palmer, Alice	11	
23	Palmer, Florence	6	
24	Redifer, Florence	17	
25	Richardson, Bertha	11	
26	Simpson, Nellie	13	
27	Spencer, Ervilla	6	
28	Steins, Edith	12	
29	Willard, Daisy	10	
30	Williams, Lottie	10	

ROLE PLAYING ASSIGNMENTS

Assign a character to each student, biographies follow.

	1890s BOYS	AGE	Character Assigned to: (student name)
1	Adams, Benjamin	18	
2	Adams, George	16	
3	Bassett, Maurice	6	
4	Brown, Ned	8	
5	Butts, Joseph	11	
6	Dimick, Eugene	17	
7	Dimick, Frank	7	
8	Geer, Everard	16	
9	Geer, Levi	10	
10	Gordon, Walter	13	
11	Hardy, Eugene	6	
12	Lainhart, Spencer	9	
13	Lee, Chester	10	
14	Lyman, Edgar	9	
15	Lyman, Gunther	10	
16	McCormick, Will	10	
17	Moore, Robert	14	
18	Moore, Walter	12	
19	Moore, Willie	11	
20	Pierce, Charlie	16	
21	Scott, George	18	
22	Shines, Alonso	13	
23	Smith, George	19	
24	Spencer, Louis	7	
25	Thomas, Edward	16	
26	Wilder, John	15	
27	Wilder, Medford	13	
28	Williams, Eugene	13	
29	Williams, Gertis	12	
30	Williams, Horatio	10	

BIOGRAPHIES

BENJAMIN ADAMS - AGE 18

Your father is a day laborer. He works for the railroad, maintaining the equipment and trucks. You like school all right, but feel ready to go to work. You want to work as a mechanic on the railroad locomotives. You have been promised a job if you stay in school this year. Your mother works as a chambermaid at The Breakers Hotel in the winter.

GEORGE ADAMS - AGE 16

Your father is a day laborer. He works for the railroad, maintaining the equipment and trucks. You would like to work for the railroad too, but in the office. Your father says that you need an education for that, so you are working hard at school. You like mental arithmetic and number tricks and teasers. Your mother works as a chambermaid at The Breakers Hotel in the winter.

MAURICE BASSETT - AGE 6

This is your first year at school. Your father is a telegraph operator. He and his brother operate a telegraph office. With so much building going on in Palm Beach, the telegraph office is very busy and an exciting place to be. People from the Flagler Company send a lot of messages to their offices in New York. Your father says you can begin to deliver telegraphs this year.

MAGGIE BRADLEY - AGE 15

Your family was one of the first to live in this area. Your Uncle Guy was the first game warden in the Everglades and was shot in the line of duty. Your father is a farmer but thinking about selling his land to some of the new settlers who are flocking to Florida. He thinks maybe it's getting a little too crowded for his taste. You would like to stay here; you are not wild about moving out to the lonesome farmlands to the west.

FREDRIKA BRELSFORD - AGE 8

Your family built a grand home along the shores of Lake Worth at Brelsford Point just south of where Henry Flagler eventually built Whitehall. After school you frequently take your younger brother and two sisters to play along the beach. You like the beach. Your father owns a general store; he is the postmaster of the Palm Beach community and knows everyone.

NED BROWN - AGE 8

Your family is one of the earliest to settle along the shores of Lake Worth; you live on the east lakeshore. Your father raises tomatoes. In 1886 your family and neighbors, the Hoagland's, each donated a half-an-acre, for the construction site of the first one-room school. Your brother, Roswell, pitched in to help when the men of the community volunteered to build the schoolhouse.

BIOGRAPHIES

CELIA BUTTS - AGE 9

You and your family moved here from Georgia where your father was a minister. He started a new church here. Mr. Flagler encourages churches. With so many people moving here to help build the railroad and the hotels, there just aren't enough churches for everyone. Your mother hopes more men will move their families here; there seems to be a lot of single workmen around. You like school and especially reading and writing.

JOSEPH BUTTS - AGE 11

You and your family moved here from Georgia where your father was a minister. He started a new church here. Mr. Flagler encourages churches. With so many people moving here to help build the railroad and the hotels, there just aren't enough churches for everyone. Your mother hopes more men will move their families here; there seems to be a lot of single workmen around. You like school and everything about it. You like church too and want to be a minister like your father. Your sister, Lucia, thinks you are no fun at all!

LUCIA BUTTS - AGE 13

You and your family moved here from Georgia where your father was a minister. He started a new church here. Mr. Flagler encourages churches. With so many people moving here to help build the railroad and the hotels, there aren't enough churches for everyone. Your mother hopes more men will move their families here; there seems to be a lot of single workmen around. You do not like school. It is too much like home. There is too much discipline in both places. You like ragtime music, but "Daddy says it is the devil's music!"

ALICE DAVIS - AGE 10

Your father works on a farm growing vegetables. That's what he did in Georgia before he moved your family here. Some day he would like to own his own farm. But maybe he will work for Mr. Flagler now that the railroad has come to town. So many things are changing here. Your mother has a job cleaning a house for Mrs. Jones. You spend a lot of your time helping your mother and father so you don't get to school very often. You like skipping rope and playing hopscotch.

BELLE DIMICK - AGE 13

In 1876 your family and relatives settled here from Michigan. Your father opened the very first hotel in Palm Beach, the Coconut Grove House, which became a social center for the local residents and a winter destination for winter tourists. You can still remember when the hotel burned down in 1893. Your father was the first mayor of Palm Beach and is now running for state senate. Because you love music, your father bought you an organ and you enjoy learning to play and enjoy listening to the wonderful sounds it makes.

ELLA DIMICK - AGE 13

Your family traveled to Florida with your aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. The Dimicks and Geers are cousins. Your father is a pharmacist working in the first drug store in the area. The Brelsford brothers are interested in purchasing the property your family owns along Lake Worth. Rena is your sister and Gene is your brother; Belle and Frank are your cousins. You like to read but you always love the "spelling bee" because you often win.

BIographies

EUGENE DIMICK - AGE 17

Your family traveled to Florida with your aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. The Dimicks and Geers are cousins. Your father is a pharmacist working in the first drug store in the area. The Brelsford brothers are interested in purchasing the property your family owns along Lake Worth. Everyone call you "Gene". Ella and Rena are your sisters; Belle and Frank are your cousins. You are interested in becoming a pharmacist like your father.

FRANK DIMICK - AGE 7

Your family traveled from Michigan to settle here. Your father opened the very first hotel in Palm Beach, the Coconut Grove House. You can hardly remember it; your father sold it when you were three. You do remember the big fire when the hotel burned down two years ago. Your father was the first mayor of Palm Beach and is now running for state senate. You have a marble collection and because you are so good at the game of marbles you keep winning more.

LORENA DIMICK - AGE 10

Everyone knows you as "Rena". Your family traveled to Florida with your aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. The Dimicks and Geers are cousins. Your father is a pharmacist working in the first drug store in the area. Rena is your sister and Gene is your brother; Belle and Frank are your cousins. You like to picnic with all of them and some friends at your favorite spot along the beach.

RUBY DYE - AGE 10

Your family was among the early settlers in the Lake Worth village, a small settlement at the north end of the lake where an inlet was dug. Your father, Captain Dye, with his schooner Gazelle, has a regular passenger service from Jacksonville. He opened the first grocery store and one of the first hotels on the lake. The hotel burned down. He brought the first cow into South Florida and operates the Lake Worth Dairy.

ANNA FREMD - AGE 10

Your mother and father were both born in Germany. Your father is a gardener. He works for a man who owns an orange grove and raises vegetables for The Breakers Hotel. Your mother sometimes bakes pastries at the hotel. You are ten years old and more interested in cooking than in school.

JENNIE FREMD - AGE 6

Your mother and father were both born in Germany. Your father is a gardener. He works for a man who owns an orange grove and raises vegetables for The Breakers Hotel. Your mother sometimes bakes pastries at the hotel. You are six years old and have just started school this year; you enjoy practicing penmanship on your new slate.

MAY FREMD - AGE 8

Your mother and father were both born in Germany. Your father is a gardener. He works for a man who owns an orange grove and raises vegetables for The Breakers Hotel. Your mother sometimes bakes pastries at the hotel. You are eight years old and love to help your father working in the orange groves. Your favorite pastry to bake with your mother is strudel.

BIOGRAPHIES

EVERARD GEER - AGE 16

You were born at Hudson, New York. Your family traveled to Florida with the two Dimick families. The Dimick children are your cousins. You live on a beautiful homestead from the lake to the ocean with many cultivated plants and trees. Your house was built with wooden boards placed up and down and is one and a half stories high. In 1886 a Denver businessman R. R. McCormick offered your father \$10,000 to purchase his land.

LEVI GEER - AGE 10

Your family traveled to Florida with the two Dimick families and you were born at City Point, Florida. The Dimick children are your cousins. You live on a beautiful homestead from the lake to the ocean with many cultivated plants and trees. Your house was built with wooden boards placed up and down and is one and a half stories high. R. R. McCormick from Denver wants to purchase the property from your father.

CARRIE GORDON - AGE 13

Two years ago you and your family moved here from the Bahamas. Your mother is a laundress at the Royal Poinciana Hotel which is good steady work for the winter. Your mother is really happy here and the hotel provides low rent housing for the workers. Your father still lives in the Bahamas as a fisherman. You almost never see him. He was gone all of the time anyway, so you are used to him not being around. You didn't go to school in the Bahamas and got off to a late start; but you have been coming to school regularly this winter and are progressing rapidly. You are really happy here and have made several new friends. You go back to the Bahamas for the summer.

MABEL GORDON - AGE 8

You and your family moved here from the Bahamas two years ago. Your mother is a laundress at the Royal Poinciana Hotel which is good steady work for the winter. The hotel provides low rent housing for the workers and your mother is really happy here. Now that your mother has good steady work you can go to school regularly in the winter. Your father still lives in the Bahamas as a fisherman. You love to play on the beach and swim in the ocean. You go back to the Bahamas in the summer.

WALTER GORDON - AGE 13

You and your family moved here from the Bahamas two years ago. Your mother is a laundress at the Royal Poinciana Hotel which is good steady work for the winter. The hotel provides low rent housing for the workers and your mother is really happy here. Now that your mother has good steady work you can go to school regularly in the winter. Your father still lives in the Bahamas as a fisherman. You almost never see him. He was gone all of the time anyway, so you are used to him not being around. You go back to the Bahamas in the summer and fish with your father.

LIZZIE HALL - AGE 15

Your family moved here three years ago from Virginia. At first your father worked for a pineapple farmer but now he works mostly on building projects in West Palm Beach as a day laborer. There is a lot of building going on here, especially houses for all of the people working for Mr. Flagler. This will probably be your last year at school; your parents say it is time for you to go to work full time.

BIographies

ANNA HARDY - AGE 10

Your father is a carpenter. With the Royal Poinciana Hotel building additions and the new hotel going up on the ocean, he's been kept very busy. It is always very exciting to have him tell you about the fancy new hotels. Sometimes after school you like to go watch the work and see how it is progressing. You are learning to sew and are working on a quilt.

EUGENE HARDY - AGE 6

Your father is a carpenter. With the Royal Poinciana Hotel building additions and the new hotel going up on the ocean, he's been kept very busy. It is always very exciting to have him tell you about the fancy new hotels. You just started school this year, but you are very interested in learning to use all of the tools just like your father.

HELEN HOOD - AGE 7

Your father is a doctor and the second practicing physician on the lake. He maintains his office at home on the lake near the Royal Poinciana Hotel. His practice extends for many miles to the north and south where he must travel either by boat or by walking on the beach. Margaret is your younger sister; she is four years younger than you and she stays at home with your mother. The Brelsforths are your cousins.

GRACE LAINHART - AGE 16

Your family is among the first pioneer settlers to live in this area. Your father is a builder of fine homes; he oversaw the building of the schoolhouse and is responsible for the building of R. R. McCormick's home, the finest home on the lake. George Potter and your father went into the lumber business forming the company Lainhart and Potter (still in business). Your father foresees a rosy future in his business as more and more people move to Palm Beach and West Palm Beach. You are studying arithmetic diligently; your father expects you to take over the bookkeeping as soon as you finish school.

SPENCER LAINHART - AGE 9

Your family is among the first pioneer settlers to live in this area. Your father is a builder of fine homes; he oversaw the building of the schoolhouse and is responsible for the building of R. R. McCormick's home, the finest home on the lake. George Potter and your father went into the lumber business forming the company Lainhart and Potter (still in business). Your father foresees a rosy future in his business as more and more people move to Palm Beach and West Palm Beach.

CHESTER LEE - AGE 10

Your family has recently moved to the area. Your father is a railroad agent. Last year when the bridge across Lake Worth opened, so did the Palm Beach office which your father runs. Everyone says that the railroad has changed Palm Beach a lot but you wouldn't know much about that because you are not that familiar with the area yet.

BIOGRAPHIES

MAGGIE LEWIS - AGE 16

Your father is a grocer and your mother helps him run the store. After school and on Saturdays you help out too. You hope to continue in school another year; then Daddy says you can take over the bookkeeping for him. You'd like that. Arithmetic is your favorite subject.

EDGAR LYMAN - AGE 9

Your father is a fisherman and owns a fishing fleet and docks. On the docks he also runs a general store. With the new hotels opening in the area he will have a big market for the fresh fish his boats bring in. Some of the tourists also want to rent boats to go out in the ocean to catch game fish. After school you sometimes help in the store. You like to collect conch shells.

GUNTHER LYMAN - AGE 10

Your father is a fisherman and owns a fishing fleet and docks. On the docks he also runs a general store. With the new hotels opening in the area he will have a big market for the fresh fish his boats bring in. Some of the tourists also want to charter boats to go out in the ocean to catch game fish. After school you sometimes help in the store. You love to fish too and sometimes after school you go along on the charter trips as a mate to help.

WILL McCORMICK - AGE 10

Your father began bringing you and your mother to spend winters on Lake Worth when you were very young; you and your family stayed at the Cocomanut Grove House. In 1886 your father bought property from the Geer's and built a showplace home on the lake. The large white shingle house is known for its elegant stained glass windows, Georgian marble floors, and the three story tower. The outside foliage, which includes croton bushes, is a tropical paradise. News of your elegant cottage spread north and when Henry Morrison Flagler eventually traveled south to Palm Beach, he purchased the property for himself in 1893. Euchre is your favorite card game.

ROBERT MOORE - AGE 14

Your family is among the earliest to settle in the Lake Worth area. Your mother and father purchased six acres of land from the Geer's and built the first two-story house made of lath and plaster. Your house is named "Dellmoore Cottage" and is used as a small hotel renting rooms for \$2.50 a day. You like to help whenever you can. You have two younger brothers Walter and Willie. You like to ride your bicycle all over the island.

WALTER MOORE - AGE 12

Your family is among the earliest to settle in the Lake Worth area. Your mother and father purchased six acres of land from the Geer's and built the first two-story house made of lath and plaster. Your house is named "Dellmoore Cottage" and is used as a small hotel renting rooms for \$2.50 a day. You have two brothers Robert and Willie and the three of you like to take the boat out and go fishing.

BIOGRAPHIES

WILLIE MOORE - AGE 11

Your family is among the earliest to settle in the Lake Worth area. Your mother and father purchased six acres of land from the Geer's and built the first two-story house made of lath and plaster. Your house is named "Dellmoore Cottage" and is used as a small hotel renting rooms for \$2.50 a day. You have two brothers Robert and Walter. You have a pet turtle.

VERA NILSON - AGE 16

Your father was born in Sweden. He arrived in Florida in the early 1880s, and staked out the family's homestead on the west side of the lake near the Potter's. Your father also owns forty acres of land just south of here. You and your brother, Tebout, enjoy fishing in Lake Worth. Your family has recently joined the new First Christian Science Church in West Palm Beach.

KATIE OATES - AGE 11

Your father is a barber. Two years ago you and your family moved here from South Carolina. There were too many barbers in Charleston. Palm Beach is a good place to be because they need barbers here. Your father works in the Royal Poinciana Hotel in the winter. During the rest of the year he works for your uncle in his shop in West Palm Beach. You have started a new paper doll collection; your old collection got wet. You love to cut out the different dolls and all their pretty clothes.

ALICE PALMER - AGE 11

Your father died when you were six. Your mother is a dressmaker. Many of the ladies who come to visit Palm Beach need new clothes or need to have their clothes altered so she's very busy. The ladies who come from places like New York and Chicago have very pretty clothes. You love to read and would like to be a school teacher when you grow up.

FLORENCE PALMER - AGE 6

Your father died when you were a baby. Your mother is a dressmaker. Many of the ladies who come to visit Palm Beach need new clothes or need to have their clothes altered. She is very busy. The ladies who come from places like New York and Chicago have very pretty clothes. You have just started school this year and love your new slate. Now that you can sketch dress patterns like your mother, you too wish to be a dressmaker.

CHARLIE PIERCE - AGE 16

Your family was one of the earliest settlers in this area. You have seen some amazing changes. You are very proud of your father, Hannibal, who was one of the assistant lighthouse keepers in Jupiter. Later he moved your family to Hypoluxo Island, a large island at the south end of Lake Worth. He homesteaded half the island and built a house using lumber from shipwrecks found along the beach and used palm fronds for the roof. You and your family have a friendly relationship with the Seminole Indians who sometimes camp nearby.

BIographies

FLORENCE REDIFER - AGE 17

Like almost everyone in Palm Beach, your parents were born elsewhere and moved here to settle in the new frontier. With the building of the Royal Poinciana Hotel, your father, a house painter, has lots of work. Now that the Palm Beach Inn on the ocean is breaking ground, he is assured plenty of work for the future. This will probably be your last year at school; it's time to go to work.

BERTHA RICHARDSON - AGE 11

Your father and mother run a boarding house. There are a lot of men who are on the railroad construction crews staying there. Your mother spends most of her time cooking and cleaning. You help her a lot, especially on laundry days, so you don't get to go to school as often as you like. You love to read and enjoy your days at school.

GEORGE SCOTT - AGE 18

Your father is a day laborer and does not go to work regularly. He hates you going to school and thinks you are wasting your time. He thinks you should be working instead. You don't want to work hard like him. You started working as an apprentice to a tailor, so you don't go to school every day. The tailor thinks school is good for you and wants you to finish this last year.

ALONSO SHINES - AGE 13

Your parents run a restaurant. You like the restaurant business too; it is lots of fun with all the customers having a good time. Sometimes after school you help in the kitchen washing dishes; but the weekends are the busiest and you usually help roast a pig for the barbeque. Everyone loves the barbeque.

NELLIE SIMPSON - AGE 13

You came here from Kansas with your Uncle George Gale. Your uncle is a carpenter and helped build the first log cabin on the west side of the lake. Your uncle raises fruit and poultry. He is also the superintendent of a local shipping firm, the Lake Worth and Jacksonville Transportation Company. When the mangoes are ripe you like to make mango preserves and put them up.

GEORGE SMITH - AGE 19

Your father is a seaman working on ships. You also work on ships traveling up and down the coast bringing in lumber from Jacksonville and taking supplies to Miami and Key West. You come to school when you can. Your father says that with the coming of the railroads, you need an education because shipping by sea will become old fashioned and you will need skills for other lines of work.

ERVILLA SPENCER - AGE 6

Your father was one of the early settlers along the shores of Lake Worth. He is a boat builder and operated the first passenger steamboat, "Night Hawk." He also works as a machinist, a horticulturist, and lighthouse keeper. You like to help him work in the garden planting colorful flowers. Louis is your older brother.

BIographies

LOUIS SPENCER - AGE 7

Your father was one of the early settlers along the shores of Lake Worth. He is a boat builder and operated the first passenger steamboat, "Night Hawk." Your father also works as a machinist, a horticulturist, and lighthouse keeper. You work with him as a mate on the "Night Hawk" and you also like to help when he is building boats.

EDITH STEINS - AGE 12

Your father is a day laborer. Sometimes he works for Mr. Lainhart, the builder, or for other builders in town. Palm Beach is growing fast and there is always a lot of work. A new hotel is being built on the ocean side, so there is very much activity and excitement in town. You like to play "Jacks"; it's your favorite game.

EDWARD THOMAS - AGE 16

Your father is a fisherman. He works for Mr. Lyman on the commercial fishing boats that bring in big catches of fish to sell at the market or to the hotels. Most of the time they catch a lot of fish. Your mother worries about your father when he goes out in rough weather. Your mother helps Mrs. Lyman in the store at the docks. You like to go fishing on your days off.

JOHN WILDER - AGE 15

Your father is a farmer. Much of the farmland in this area is being sold for house lots. Your father says that farming is a hard way to make a living, but with the railroad it will be easier to ship crops north and he thinks that maybe he should buy more land in West Palm Beach and expand his business. The hotels need fresh fruits and vegetables for their dining rooms too. You don't like farming and would like to get a job with the railroad next year when you leave school.

MEDFORD WILDER - AGE 13

Your father is a farmer. Much of the farmland in this area is being sold for house lots. Your father says that farming is a hard way to make a living, but with the railroad it will be easier to ship crops north and he thinks that maybe he should buy more land in West Palm Beach and expand his business. The hotels need fresh fruits and vegetables for their dining rooms too. You like farming and think expanding the business is a good idea. You would like to go to Cuba and learn about growing sugar cane.

DAISY WILLARD - AGE 10

Your father is a lawyer. With the building of the new hotels and railroads and many people moving to this area, your father saw lots of opportunity for a good living to be made so you moved here from New York when Mr. Flagler offered your father a job. Palm Beach is much more fun than New York. You like collecting pretty seashells along the beach.

BIOGRAPHIES

EUGENE WILLIAMS - AGE 13

Your father is a day laborer. He works on the construction crews building the new hotel in Palm Beach on the ocean. You moved here three years ago from Georgia. You are the oldest of your brothers and sister. You didn't go to school in Georgia and got a late start in school here. You are slowly catching up and like it alright. You wish your brother, Gertis, liked school better. Sometimes you go fishing with him.

GERTIS WILLIAMS - AGE 12

Your father is a day laborer. He works on the construction crews building the new hotel in Palm Beach on the ocean. You moved here three years ago from Georgia. You hate school. You did not go to school in Georgia. Reading is too hard, all of the letters seem to blur together. You like to play hooky and go fishing instead. Your brother Eugene likes to go fishing with you.

HORATIO WILLIAMS - AGE 10

Your father is a day laborer. He works on the construction crews building the new hotel in Palm Beach on the ocean. You moved here three years ago from Georgia. You like school better than your brothers, but your twin sister is the smartest and you are proud of her. You like to play the game Napoleon.

LOTTIE WILLIAMS - AGE 10

Your father is a day laborer. He works on the construction crews building the new hotel in Palm Beach on the ocean. You moved here three years ago from Georgia. You are Horatio's twin sister. You are younger than your brothers but ahead of all of them at school. You love school and want to be a teacher. You already have a small collection of books. Reading is your favorite pastime.

ATTIRE

Students, teachers, and chaperones are expected to dress for the visit to the Little Red Schoolhouse. Examples and suggestions are provided. Preparation allows time to distinguish the differences between the 1890s and now.

Note: There is no need to get extravagant. Be resourceful; use what is available at home. There is no need to fuss about the fit of the clothes – too big or too small was typical in country schools. Getting into the spirit of the times and using imaginations is more important than having the perfect outfit. Remember the original students at the Little Red Schoolhouse came from families trying to forge a living out of a wilderness with little money left over for luxuries and their clothes reflected this. Ask parents to help assemble appropriate ensemble. Thrift stores, hand-me downs, and sewing are also suggestions.

Teachers/parents/chaperons should wear low thick heels due to the spacing of the wooden planks in the schoolhouse floor.

GIRLS of the period wore dresses, often with pinafores over them. Sometimes detachable collars were worn with dresses. Young girls did not wear floor length skirts but a few inches below the knee. Clothes were often handed down and worn several years, so length varied according to these conditions. Dark stockings and lace-up or button-up ankle shoes were typical. Suggestions for girls' period dress:

- Dresses – solid color or small print
- Bonnets
- Skirt and blouse (high neck, ruffles, and leg 'o mutton sleeves)
- Simple leather shoes
- Dark or white hose or socks
- Straw bonnets, hair ribbons, bows
- High button boots
- Solid color tie or ribbon



BOYS of the period usually wore shirts with collars and cuffs, trousers, dark socks, laced boots. Often they wore vests or jackets. Bib overalls were common and trousers might be patched and different lengths. Hand-me-downs were typical and were frequently too large or too small. Young boys often wore “knee britches” which came just below the knee and were worn with or without long socks. Boys can stuff the bottom of trousers into socks to create knickers. Suggestions:

- Long sleeved shirts with collars and cuffs
- Trousers – long or knee length
- Bib overalls
- Dark socks
- Simple leather shoes or boots
- Suspenders
- Bow ties
- Caps or straw hats



ATTIRE

When assembling clothing for the nineteenth century please *try* to avoid:

Jewelry

Make-up

High-heeled shoes

Caps with advertising

Shirts with advertising

Watches

Nail polish

Kleenex

Loud and wild

prints Toys



Early scholars attending the Little Red Schoolhouse



Present day scholars attending the Little Red Schoolhouse

FOOD FOR RECESS

For an authentic nineteenth century field experience, planning and researching the food and containers is important. Students will compare and contrast the types of food and different containers from then and now.

Other points to consider: how did they get the food, where did it come from, and how was it prepared?

Suggested “authentic” snacks

- Cold porridge
- Cold sliced meat, example-cold chicken (not packaged lunch meat) Cured meat – salt pork, beef jerky
- Hard boiled egg
- Cold potato
- Chunk of cheese
- Home made bread, bun or biscuit
- Sandwich spread with lard, bacon fat, molasses, jam, or syrup Fruit and vegetables typical from of south Florida

Suitable containers

- Tin buckets
- Baskets
- Piece of cloth tied at the corners
- Mason jars – ***pack securely to prevent breakage***

NOT ACCEPTABLE

- Soft drinks
- Canned foods
- Prepackaged food
- Milk or juice cartons
- Thermos
- Plastic wrap
- Paper bags
- Aluminum foil
- Mayonnaise
- Convenience foods (chips) Plastics

Water is available at Phipps Ocean Park.

After the program you are welcome to stay at Phipps Ocean Park and have a picnic lunch, but will need to feed the parking meters.

COPYBOOKS

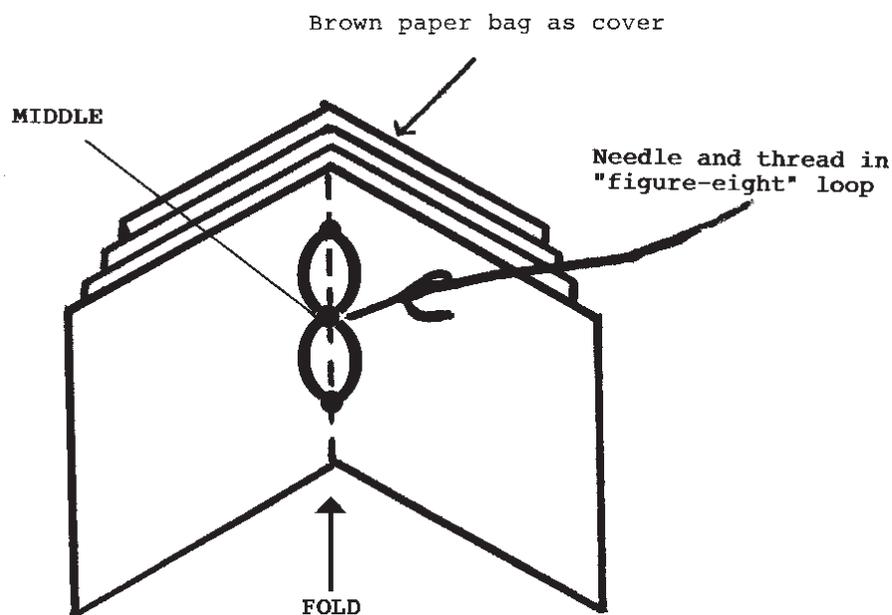
Scholars in the late nineteenth century did most of their writing and arithmetic work on slates. The teacher would demonstrate penmanship examples on the board; students would practice them on their slates. When the teacher determined that the exercises had been mastered, they would then copy it in their very best hand into a "copybook." Today we have forgotten that paper was once a luxury. Our ancestors used slates; students now use paper profusely for scratch paper and rough work. Their copybook represented the final draft of the accomplished task. Students visiting the Little Red Schoolhouse are expected to bring their own copybook with them so that they can appreciate another aspect of the nineteenth century school day.

DIRECTIONS FOR COPYBOOK CONSTRUCTION

MATERIALS

BROWN PAPER BAGS
LINED OR UNLINED PAPER – APPROXIMATELY
8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " X 11" LARGE EYE NEEDLE
STRONG THREAD, CORD, YARN, OR STRING
LARGE PAPER CLIPS

BROWN PAPER BAGS ARE USED FOR THE COVER. CUT AND FLATTEN A PIECE THE SAME SIZE AS THE PAPER. FOLD THE COVER AND PAPER IN HALF.
PLACE PAPER IN COVER AND HOLD TEMPORARILY WITH PAPER CLIPS.
ATTACH PAGES TO COVER BY SEWING A SEAM UP THE FOLD.
USE A LARGE EYE NEEDLE THREADED WITH ABOUT 15 INCHES OF THREAD.
TIE ENDS OF THREAD TOGETHER.
THE FRONT MAY BE DECORATED.



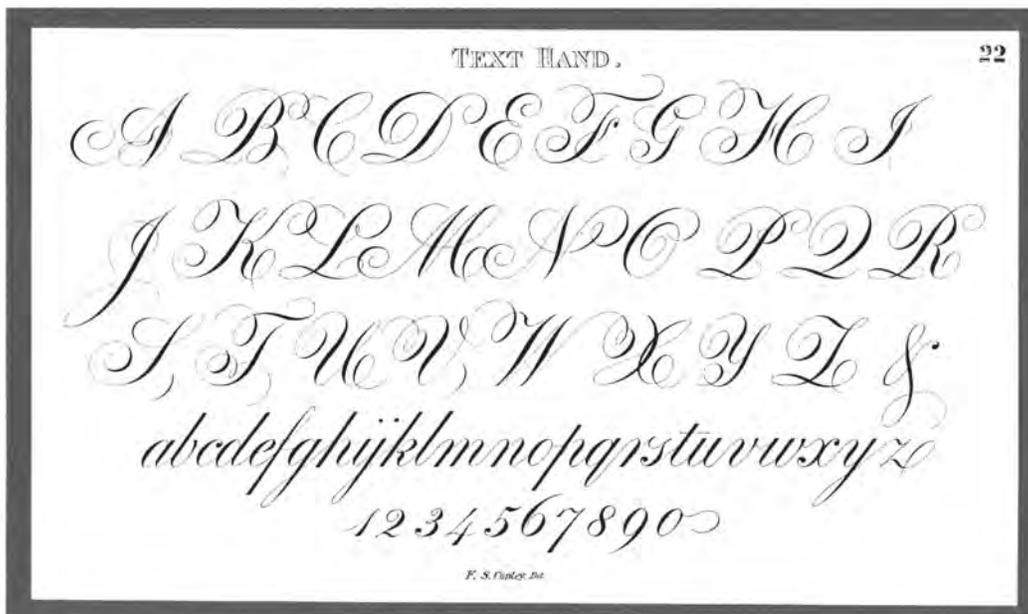
DISCIPLINE

A NOTE ABOUT NINETEENTH CENTURY DISCIPLINE

The daily school routine in the nineteenth century was much more formal than what most students are used to today. The same atmosphere is maintained at the schoolhouse. Students are expected to address the teacher as “Ma’am” or “Sir” and to abide by the rules of the day.



PENMANSHIP



Spencerian Script was the order of the day but the old penmanship books such as *Copley's Plain and Ornamental Standards Alphabet*, 1870, illustrate other acceptable styles.



SUGGESTED READING

Listed below are some suggestions which describe the life of children in the nineteenth century. The web also lists many resources.

Alcott, Louisa May. *Little Men*
Alcott, Louisa May. *Little Women*
Alger, Horatio. *Ragged Dick*
Brink, Carol Ryrie. *Caddie Woodlawn*
Brink, Carol Ryrie. *Pink Motel*
Canfield, Dorothy. *Understood Betsy*
Cather, Willa. *My Antoina*
Coleridge, Samuel Taylor. *Rime of the Ancient Mariner*
Cox, Palmer. *Brownie Books*
Defoe, Daniel. *Robinson Crusoe*
Eggleston, Edward. *The Hoosier Schoolmaster*
Goldsmith, Oliver. *Deserted Village*
Greenberg, Joanne. *No Reck'ning Made*
Hawthorne, Nathaniel. *The Great Stone Face*
Irving, Washington. *Rip Van Winkle*
Kalman, Bobbie. *Early Settler Series*. Crabtree Publishing
Lanski, Lois. *Strawberry Girl*
Montgomery, L. M. *Anne of Green Gables*
Rawlings, Marjorie Kinnan. *The Yearling*
Riley, James Whitcomb. Poetry
Stevenson, Robert Louis. Poetry
Twain, Mark. *Huckleberry Finn*
Twain, Mark. *Tom Sawyer*
Wilder, Laura Ingalls. *Little House on the Prairie*
Wilder, Laura Ingalls. *Little Town on the Prairie*
Wyss, Johann. *Swiss Family Robinson*

FLORIDA SUNSHINE STATE STANDARDS

Florida Sunshine State Standards

The Little Red Schoolhouse living history program complements the fourth grade curriculum, Florida History, and has been designed with the Florida Sunshine State Standards as a reference, curriculum standards as follows:

SS.A.1.2, SS.A.2.2, SS.A.3.2, SS.A.4.2, SS.A.5.1, SS.A.6.2, SS.B.1.2, SS.B.2.2, SS.C.2.2

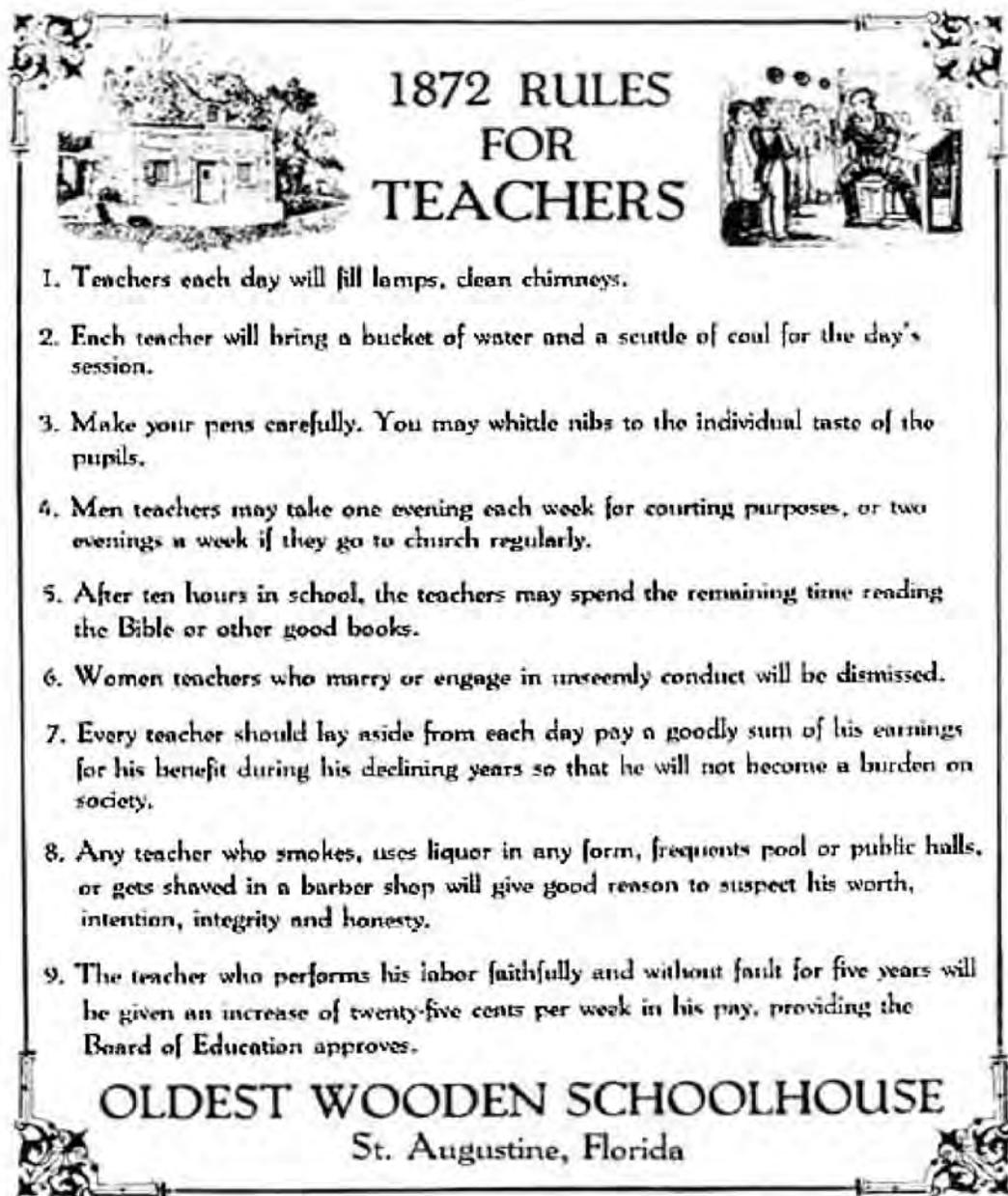
LA.A. 1.2, LA.A.2.2, LA.B.1.2, LA.C.1.2, LA.C.3.2, LA.D.1.2, LA.E.1.2, LA.E.2.2

MA.A.1.2, MA.A.3.2, MA.E.1.2.

TH.A.1.2, TH.A.3.2, TH.B.1.2, TH.C.1.

HE.A.1.2, HE.B.1.2

PE.A.1.2, PE.A.2.2, PE.B.2.2



**1872 RULES
FOR
TEACHERS**

1. Teachers each day will fill lamps, clean chimneys.
2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's session.
3. Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual taste of the pupils.
4. Men teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings a week if they go to church regularly.
5. After ten hours in school, the teachers may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.
6. Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.
7. Every teacher should lay aside from each day pay a goodly sum of his earnings for his benefit during his declining years so that he will not become a burden on society.
8. Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, frequents pool or public halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect his worth, intention, integrity and honesty.
9. The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five cents per week in his pay, providing the Board of Education approves.

OLDEST WOODEN SCHOOLHOUSE
St. Augustine, Florida

