

Name _____

Family Times

Summary

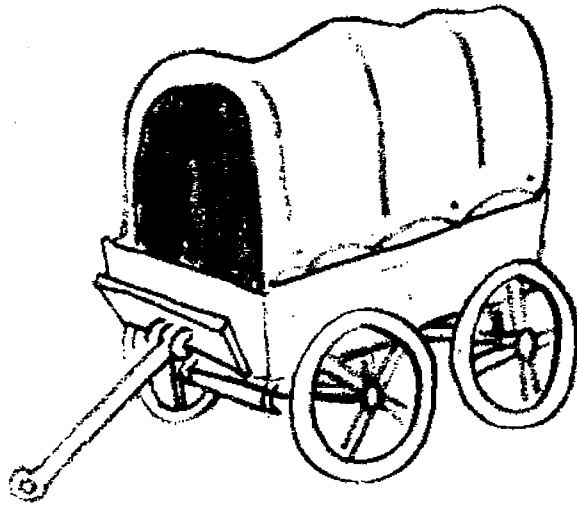
On the Banks of Plum Creek

Laura Ingalls and her family have left their house on the prairie and traveled by covered wagon to make a new home in Minnesota. The children explore the area, and Pa takes them to play in Plum Creek. Later, Laura meets a badger.

Activity

Background Knowledge

Together reread *On the Banks of Plum Creek*. Discuss some of the Ingalls's family adventures, and use the library to find stories of other families who moved west during the 1800s.



Comprehension Skill

Sequence

Sequence means the order in which things happen. Dates, times, and clue words such as *first*, *then*, *next*, and *last* can help you understand the order of events.

Activity

Good Directions Teach your family to perform a dance move, special handshake, or anything that they may not know how to do, without demonstrating it for them. You must use specific language and clue words only. See if they complete the trick or task correctly.

Lesson Vocabulary

Words to Know

Knowing the meanings of these words is important to reading *On the Banks of Plum Creek*. Practice using these words.

Vocabulary Words

badger a burrowing, flesh-eating mammal

bank the rising ground at the edge of a lake, river, or sea

bristled short, stiff hair

jointed a place where two things or parts are joined

patched mended with a scrap of material

ruffled a strip of closely gathered material

rushes marsh plants with hollow stem

Complete Conventions

Subjects and Predicates

No sentence is complete without both a subject and a predicate. The **subject** is the word or group of words about which something is said in the sentence. The **predicate** of a sentence is the word or group of words that tells something about the subject. All the words in the subject are called the **complete subject**. The subject's central noun or pronoun is called the **simple subject**. All the words in the predicate are called the **complete predicate**. The predicate's verb is called the **simple predicate**. *For example: My friend Paul likes Mexican food.* In the example, "My friend Paul" is the *complete subject*, and "Paul" is the *simple subject*. "Likes Mexican food" is the *complete predicate*, and "likes" is the *simple predicate*.

Activity

Collaborative Tale Write a short story together. Have one person write the subject of every sentence and the other person write the predicate. Switch roles halfway through the story.

Practice Tested Spelling Words

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