

Table of Contents



I. Inventory

II. Background Information

III. Terms

IV. Interest Approach Ideas

V. Transparencies

VI. Math Lessons

- 1) McDonald's: A Chicago Success Story
- 2) Northwest Illinois: Land of Livestock
- 3) Prairie Basics
- 4) Illinois Coal
- 5) How Many Deer are Here?
- 6) Trees Are for Treasuring...and Measuring
- 7) Futures Trading
- 8) Illinois Logic Puzzle

VII. English Language Arts Lessons

- 1) Poets of Chicago
- 2) Let's Talk About it: Lincoln-Douglas Debates
- 3) Prairie Passages
- 4) Illinois Amish
- 5) Reading in Beef
- 6) Crossword Creations: Southern Illinois
- 7) Investigate Illinois
- 8) Illinois Show What You Know
- 9) Great Things Come from Illinois
- 10) Home Grown in Illinois

VIII. Social Studies Lessons

- 1) Stockyards to Skyscrapers
- 2) Untouched by Glaciers: the Driftless Zone
- 3) Prairie State Mapping
- 4) Illinois Indians

Table of Contents Continued

- 5) Let's Gather Together
- 6) Preserving the Past, Focusing on the Future
- 7) Flags are Symbolic
- 8) Illinois Road Trip
- 9) The Wealth of Illinois
- 10) Moving Illinois by Rail, Road and River
- 11) Inventors John Deere and Cyrus McCormick

IX. Science Lessons

- 1) Skyscraper Science
- 2) Saving Illinois Soil from Going Downhill
- 3) Prairie Plant Adaptation Investigation
- 4) Illinois Products & Processing
- 5) Science in Your Shopping Cart
- 6) Sprouting Success in Illinois from North to South
- 7) Navigating the Water Highways

Table of Contents Continued

The Illinois mAGic kit also recognizes six geographic regions of the state and includes several general Illinois lessons.

I. Chicagoland Illinois

McDonald's: A Chicago Success Story
Poets of Chicago
Stockyards to Skyscrapers
Skyscraper Science

II. Northwestern Illinois

Northwest Illinois: Land of Livestock
Let's Talk About it: Lincoln-Douglas Debates
Untouched by Glaciers: the Driftless Zone
Saving Illinois Soil from Going Downhill

III. Northeastern Illinois

Prairie Basics
Prairie Passages
Prairie State Mapping
Prairie Plant Adaptation Investigation

IV. East Central Illinois

Illinois Coal
Illinois Amish
Illinois Indians
Illinois Products & Processing

V. West Central Illinois

How Many Deer are Here?
Reading in Beef
Let's Gather Together
Science in Your Shopping Cart

VI. Southern Illinois

Trees are for Treasuring ...and Measuring
Crossword Creations: Southern Illinois
Preserving the Past, Focusing on the Future
Sprouting Success in Illinois from North to South

Table of Contents Continued

VII. Great State of Illinois

Futures Trading
Illinois Logic Puzzle
Investigate Illinois
Illinois Show What You Know
Great Things Come from Illinois
Flags are Symbolic
Illinois Road Trip
The Wealth of Illinois
Moving Illinois by Rail, Road and River
Inventors John Deere and Cyrus McCormick
Navigating the Water Highways
Home Grown in Illinois

Table of Lessons with Objectives

Math

LESSON #1

McDonald's: A Chicago Success Story

1. Calculate answers from chart data.
2. Determine the operation necessary to solve problems.
3. Calculate percentage from information given on chart.
4. Interpret a time table.
5. Make a prediction based on information given.

LESSON #2

Northwest Illinois: Land of Livestock

1. Interpret charts and graphs illustrating cattle numbers in several Illinois counties.
2. Utilize maps and data to correlate livestock concentrations with physical characteristics of Illinois.

LESSON #3

Prairie Basics

1. Demonstrate computation skills to answer problems.

LESSON #4

Illinois Coal

1. Learn about the importance of coal in Illinois.
2. Determine the amount of electricity produced from coal using math skills.
3. Identify the effects of coal imports and exports on coal price using math skills.

LESSON #5

How Many Deer are Here?

1. Interpret data to solve basic math problems.
2. Understand the need for deer hunting in Illinois.

LESSON #6

Trees Are for Treasuring...and Measuring

1. Measure the height of a tree.
2. Estimate the age of a tree.
3. Calculate a tree's transpiration.
4. Investigate a heavily forested area of Illinois: the Shawnee National Forest.

LESSON #7

Futures Trading

1. Calculate information needed to come to final outcome.
2. Determine if the farmer lost or made money on the futures market.
3. Identify problems farmers have with their crops.

LESSON #8

Illinois Logic Puzzle

1. Determine the highlight of the Chicago trip chosen by each family member using logical thinking and charts.

Table of Lessons with Objectives Continued

2. Determine which of the Illinois Seven Wonders the children would like to visit by using logical thinking and charts to aid in their decisions.

English Language Arts

LESSON #1

Poets of Chicago

1. Interpret poetry.
2. Make connections with poetry.
3. Work with analogies.
4. Illustrate poetry.

LESSON #2

Let's Talk About it: Lincoln Douglas Debates

1. Learn about the debates that took place between Abraham Lincoln and Steven Douglas during their 1958 campaign for a seat in the United States Senate.
2. Understand why debates are held and how they work.
3. Debate modern-day topics relevant to agriculture and Illinois.

LESSON #3

Prairie Passages

1. Interpret short writings by authors about life on the prairie.
2. Compare and contrast writing styles used from another era versus writing styles of today.
3. Compose informational writing that supports a topic or thesis with evidence (e.g. newspaper article, pamphlet, report, brochure, manual, business letter).
4. Write creatively for a specified purpose and audience (e.g. short story, poetry, radio scripts, play, TV commercial).

LESSON #4

Illinois Amish

1. Understand the values and traditions of the Amish.
2. Compare and contrast Amish and non-Amish people.

LESSON #5

Reading in Beef

1. Edit written pieces for usage, punctuation, capitalization, spelling, grammar and structure errors.

LESSON #6

Crossword Creations: Southern Illinois

1. Create a crossword puzzle to identify important characteristics of Illinois history, agriculture, historical figures, and sites of interest.

Table of Lessons with Objectives Continued

LESSON #7

Investigate Illinois

1. Research an important Illinois person, place, or feature and develop written and oral reports based on their research.
2. Apply their new knowledge of Illinois during an interactive game.

LESSON #8

Illinois Show What You Know

1. Read charts and graphs to answer questions.

LESSON #9

Great Things Come from Illinois

1. Write a business letter.
2. Gather and utilize information to share with others.

Social Studies

LESSON #1

Stockyards to Skyscrapers

1. Describe the importance of the Chicago Stockyards to the area.
2. Sequence the development of skyscrapers in Chicago.
3. Connect immigration and technology changes to Chicago stockyards.

LESSON #2

Untouched by Glaciers: the Driftless Zone

1. Interpret information on a topographical map and form a 3-dimensional relief map.
2. Understand how past glacial activity has shaped the surface of Illinois as we know it today.
3. Discuss how the topography of Illinois affects agricultural production in our state.

LESSON #3

Prairie State Mapping

1. Use map reading skills to find locations in Illinois with intriguing names.
2. Identify specific locations in Illinois and hypothesize the reasons for the names of these locations.
3. Research the origin/history of a location's name.

LESSON #4

Illinois Indians

1. Understand the lifestyle of an Illinois Indian.
2. Determine the importance of agriculture to Illinois Indians.
3. Identify the agricultural lifestyle of Illinois Indians and compare and contrast that with the lifestyle of people today.

Table of Lessons with Objectives Continued

LESSON #5

Let's Gather Together

1. Identify major agricultural events/activities historically and today that bring people together for a common purpose.
2. Compare and contrast major agricultural events/activities with other events/activities that also bring people together for a common purpose.
3. Construct a timeline showcasing such events.
4. Trace the development of 4-H and the Illinois State Fair.

LESSON #6

Preserving the Past, Focusing on the Future

1. Create a time capsule that will hold objects representative of the past 100 years of Illinois history, focusing on agriculture; business and industry; historical figures; sites of interest; landforms and general history of southern Illinois.

LESSON #7

Flags are Symbolic

1. Identify the meaning of symbols used on flags of our nation, state and cities.
2. Realize the history behind these flags.
3. Create a flag that represents their life.

LESSON #8

Illinois Road Trip

1. Use an Illinois road map to learn about Illinois.
2. Determine coordinates of cities on the map.
3. Use map skills to facilitate transportation skills.

LESSON #9

The Wealth of Illinois

1. Identify the state symbols of Illinois.
2. Identify the geographic location of Illinois counties.
3. Explain the process of how a bill becomes a law.
4. Determine the chronological order of state symbols of Illinois.
5. Create a flow chart.

LESSON #10

Moving Illinois by Rail, Road and River

1. Name three things that make Illinois an ideal center of agriculture.
2. Know what part of Illinois was settled first and why.
3. Know how farming changed around 1830.
4. Know how farm products were first shipped to New Orleans from Illinois.

Table of Lessons with Objectives Continued

5. Know what was built to make it possible for goods to be shipped by boat from the Mississippi River to the Great Lakes.
6. Name the transportation method that became important after 1850.
7. Know the benefits to Illinois from selling its farm products around the world.

LESSON #11

Inventors John Deere and Cyrus McCormick

1. Identify the impacts the inventors John Deere and Cyrus McCormick had on farmers and agriculture.
2. Identify the impacts the inventors John Deere and Cyrus McCormick had on the people of the United States and the world.
3. Describe the risks John Deere and Cyrus McCormick took in their businesses.
4. Explain how John Deere and Cyrus McCormick were competitors in their businesses.
5. Answer questions about the life and times of John Deere and Cyrus McCormick.

Science

LESSON #1

Skyscraper Science

1. Construct a model skyscraper using gained knowledge.
2. Demonstrate compression and tension of building materials.
3. Use forces of gravity and load in a positive manner in their building.
4. Demonstrate ways to strengthen building materials.
5. Exhibit tension, comprehension, and torsion qualities in different materials.

LESSON #2

Saving Illinois Soil from Going Downhill

1. Understand the concept of soil erosion.
2. Learn how slope, crop residue, and surface vegetation relate to soil erosion.
3. Learn how farmers work to prevent soil erosion by implementing soil and water conservation practices.

LESSON #3

Prairie Plant Adaptation Investigation

Table of Lessons with Objectives Continued

1. Describe the characteristics of a prairie environment.
2. Understand simple plant physiology (roots, stems, leaves, flowers, and seeds).
3. Identify prairie plant adaptations using items metaphorically.

LESSON #4

Illinois Products & Processing

1. Recognize Illinois businesses that process corn and soybeans.
2. Use corn and soybeans to make products.
3. Learn about the processes used to make corn and soybean products.

LESSON #5

Science in Your Shopping Cart

1. Identify contributions made by scientists at the Agricultural Research Service in common items found in your shopping cart.
2. Experiment with known and unknown items to determine their absorbency.
3. Explore careers in science and technology.

LESSON #6

Sprouting Success in Illinois from North to South

1. Identify the types of information found on the back of a seed packet.
2. Determine the suitability of the plant to ensure survival.

LESSON #7

Navigating the Water Highways

1. Complete an experiment following the Scientific Method.
2. Identify the role locks and dams play in the river system.
3. Explain the importance of the river system to the agricultural industry.