

9. Why was the highest traffic season during "sled time"? (p. 97)

(because roads were more passable when they were covered in snow rather than in the Spring mud; it was much easier to move heavy loads on snow than over dirt or mud)

10. How did banking the outside of a house with corn stalks help keep out the cold? (p. 98)

(the corn stalks trapped air between the outside world and the wall of the house, and acted as an extra layer of insulation)

Ready to take the next step?



Contact a Sonlight Advisor

Advisors are experienced Sonlight moms. They can help confirm your path, or perhaps, offer alternative suggestions to consider.

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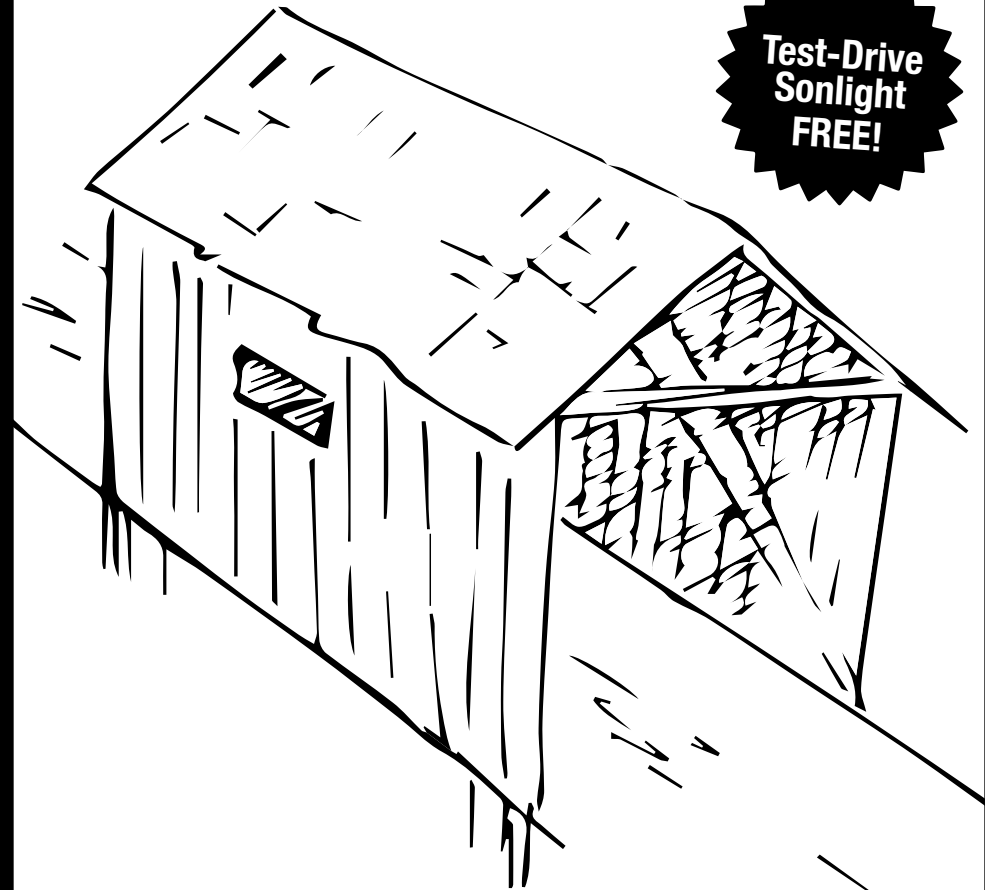
Diary of an Early American Boy can be found in Sonlight's Grade 4 All-Subjects Package and in the Science E Program. Learn more at sonlight.com/curriculum

DIARY *of an* EARLY AMERICAN BOY

by Eric Sloane

WORKSHEET ANSWERS

Test-Drive
Sonlight
FREE!



AS YOU READ *DIARY OF AN EARLY AMERICAN BOY* WITH YOUR CHILDREN...

Use these activity pages to reinforce what you are teaching and engage your student. The questions coordinate with what you are reading. We encourage you to talk with your children—about homesteading in Noah's time, and about the incredible innovations that people have developed over time.

Such discussion with your children is where real education takes place. When you talk with them, you get to share your thoughts and ideas, your heart—your very life!—with them. Sonlight helps you facilitate these interactions with your children. This is a sample of what it's like to Sonlight.

1. What are some good rules to keep in mind when keeping and handling an axe? List three. (pp. 8–9)

- 1 *(hide the blade)*
- 2 *(rub handle with fat)*
- 3 *(don't leave it in a position where someone might accidentally trip over or run into the handle)*



2. Why was the loft the warmest spot in the house? (p. 10)

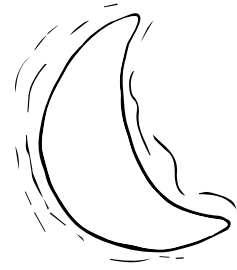
(because it was up high and hot air rises)

3. Why was it a good idea to cover a bridge with walls and a roof? (p. 27)

(because covered bridges were protected from the elements and therefore would last much longer than a bridge that wasn't covered)

4. Why were almanacs so important to early farmers? (p. 44)

(because the weather determined what work they could do and the Almanac was the best tool they had for timing the seasons)



5. Describe one situation in Noah's day in which an almanac was useful. (p. 44)

(Answers will vary. Possible: If a farmer needed to take his cattle on a 3-day journey to market, he would consult his almanac to find out when the moon would be full so he knew he could travel at night)

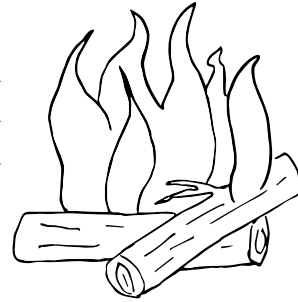
6. Why was wood the standard material for building fences in 1805? (pp. 58–59)

(because wood was still very plentiful, and barbed wire wasn't invented until 1873)



7. How did Benjamin Franklin's idea of "putting fire in a box" improve the way people heated their homes? (p. 84)

(by moving the fire in a box out into the middle of the room, the heat could radiate from all sides and therefore heat the whole room with the same amount of fuel)



8. Why was it a good idea to shingle the roof at night? (p. 88)

- because shingles left out to dry for the first time in the heat are more likely to curl
- because shingles left out to dry for the first time in the heat are more likely to break apart
- because it was easier to see in the moonlight than in sunlight
- because there were fewer farm chores to do at night

