

Education Day Schedule of Events & Suggested Reference Materials

May 6, 2016 9 am-2 pm

STEM EDUCATION: NATURAL RESOURCES

Located along River Road and provided by the **EduDoc Foundation** (www.edudoc.org)

This educational exhibit focuses on the coal and timber industries that made the Appalachian region so important to America's Industrial Revolution and Westward Expansion; and, are still major forces in our struggle between balancing technology and environmental stewardship. Founder/Director and award-winning filmmaker Shanon Rice shares her personal experiences documenting the coal mining traditions of Eastern Kentucky, and the impact of the changes in mining technology and shifting economy. Her photography and material artifacts give perspective to the tight spaces and tight friendships that miners negotiate, and the impact of their career choices on their communities, families and personal health.

SUGGESTED REFERENCE MATERIALS

"The Appalachians" This PBS documentary video was produced by Mari-Lynn Evans and written by Phyllis Geller. A free study guide can be downloaded; the three-disc DVD set is also available for purchase from www.sierraclub.org/appalachia

Encyclopedia of Appalachia

Available from the University of Tennessee Press at <http://utpress.org/Appalachia/>

Pine Mountain Sand & Gravel, anthology of contemporary Appalachian writers' prose and poetry, published annually.

Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Children's Department publishes a children's suggested reading material list, by and about Appalachia(ns). Look for authors Pat Banks, George Ella Lyon, Nikki Finney, Richard Hague, Jesse Stuart, Cynthia Rylant, Frank X Walker and Crystal Wilkinson.



EDU-TAINMENT OPPORTUNITIES



Appalachian Trail Stage: Located along the east end of River Road, this reworked design provides more programming, plus more seating for those who wish to watch and listen. “Thunder with the Hands” will host the First Nations Drum and Dance Circle alternating throughout the day with balladeers, dancers, mountain men and musicians who will demonstrate and teach about their craft within the time period they represent. There are interactive opportunities for adults and children.

Dance: Flat foot dancing, clogging, and line dance are all forms enjoyed in various parts of the Appalachian region. Some cultural historians say that you can see the impact of Native American, Scottish, Irish, and African American step traditions. Some have metal taps on the bottoms of their shoes, others don't. Native American Drum and Dance is featured in Living History with performance times listed in our festival program. Yes, you can join in, but always wait to be invited.

Heritage and Story:

Stories about larger than life characters will be found at the “Up Close and Personal” stage and also in the Living History encampment, where re-enactor pioneers will share the story of their choice to immigrate to the developing nation or why they are moving on further west. You'll hear about the politics of Europe during the late 1700's – mid 1800's, the westward expansion of the United States pushing Native Nations further from their traditional lands and lives, the excitement about free and public education for all, and all the work it took to survive without modern conveniences. Check out the Pioneer School and see what our traveling traders have that could make for a great souvenir.

Music:

The music of the mountains is a blended phenomena with a rich history giving testimony to America as a cultural melting pot just like that famous Appalachian wild meat recipe called “burgoo” – a little bit of this and that stewed together with salt and spices so long that you can't recognize the ingredients separately. What's left is just pure deliciousness. You'll feel the shared traditions of Celtic melodies and bowing techniques, the assimilated African banjo, claw hammer strumming, and gut bucket (now the standup bass) with the voice as instrument with work songs, mountain blues, the haunting strains of dulcimer music, and electronic influences that give rise to Bluegrass, New Grass and the Roots Music movement. There are multiple performance areas this year. Check out the “Up Close and Personal” stage and the Main Music stage; those performance times are listed in the Festival program and on the website. There will be multiple performances on the Appalachian Trail Stage, including impromptu music sessions and storytelling. Come sit a spell, have a bite, and enjoy!

A Brief History of Appalachia

Before European migration to North America, the Appalachian Mountains were occupied by several First Nations, including those known as Shawnee, Wyandot, Delaware, Mingo, Lumbee and Cherokee.

As Colonial America grew as an economic power, more labor was required. So, political troublemakers and those found guilty of civil crimes like theft or vagrancy were often exiled to the colonies. Later, individual merchants or companies (ie, Massachusetts Bay Colony, East India Company, the Virginia Company) offered “free” passage to America. However, in exchange, these migrants were required to contract themselves as “indentured servants”, a type of limited enslavement, working for a specified number of years with no pay, to reimburse their sponsor for the “free” passage.

Since the coastal region was dominated by the British economy and English law, many released from their indentured contracts went west “over the mountains” where they could be free from English law and live as they wished. Over time, they created communities that included escaped African slaves, Germans, Dutch, Welsh, French Huguenots and those First Nations peoples who came from or were exiled from British Isle.

European settlers found the Appalachian Mountains filled with game and fresh water. Despite the conflicts with indigenous peoples and the difficulty of farming rock infested hill sides, the land was heavily forested with timbers perfect for solid construction of barns, houses and furniture. Germans flowed to the hills of Pennsylvania establishing what is now called Pennsylvania Dutch culture, along with those wishing for spiritual freedom who are known as Amish. Virginia and North Carolina were settled predominately by Scots-Irish who came from or were exiled from the British Isles.

Many of these early settlers were seeking a space of their own free from crowds or from government interference. They populated isolated valleys, separated from each other and from the changes that were taking place in early America. This isolation continued for a long time; roads were not built in the area except to get coal and timber out. Contact with the rest of the country was limited.



Because of this isolation, the mountain people maintained their old ways, language, music and folk tales. These old ways were gradually modified to suit their new surroundings and therefore did not include much of what was happening in the new states. For this reason, Appalachians still have customs, accents, and music that are different from other Americans.

Being isolated meant they had to be self-sufficient. The settlers learned to make everything they used, clothing, tools, and even musical instruments. These life skills are now the arts and crafts that come from the region. For example, a



quilt was a blanket, made from scraps of material from other projects, used to keep people warm. The pretty patterns were developed to make the blanket a little more pleasing to the eye and now the quilts are more a work of art than blankets to keep warm.

Some new things were developed in the Appalachian Mountains. “The mountain dulcimer” may have European ancestors but is really a uniquely American instrument, developed in the southern Appalachian Mountains. Bluegrass music also has its origins in the region.

Coal mining was the major source of income for Appalachians. When the mines were automated or began to shut down due to decline in coal usage, Appalachians started to come to the big cities to look for jobs. Especially during World War II people migrated to the city to take jobs in factories. They brought their mountain customs and values, as well as their arts, crafts and music with them.

Now, the Greater Cincinnati area is about one-third Appalachian descent. The people coming from the mountains have introduced their culture into that of the city. It is for this reason that the Appalachian Festival is held each year to celebrate the culture of this large segment of our population!

Appalachian Festival Fun Facts

Ask a Blacksmith what he burns in his fire and how hot it gets.

Coal fuels the blacksmith's fire. The fire has to be hot enough to make iron or steel "glow" cherry red, the temperature varies depending on the metal.

Why were blacksmiths so valuable to a pioneer settlement?

They made tools, hinges, tomahawks, anything made of iron.

On a handloom, how long would it take to weave enough cloth to make a pioneer lady's dress or a man's shirt?

One week.

What was the leading cause of premature death among pioneer women?

(Hint! It wasn't childbirth or war.)

Fire. They prepared meals and worked around an open fire with long skirts and loose clothes. Their clothing would catch fire.

Ask a pioneer child how often and where he/she goes to school.

School was at home or someone else's house. There was no school during harvest.

How is soap made and how is it different from today's soap?

Soap was made with only lye (leached from ashes) and animal fat. It didn't have the additives like deodorant and usually wasn't scented.

What did pioneers eat and how were their meals prepared. How was a Dutch Oven used to bake bread?

Meals were prepared over an open-fire, often with the entire meal in one pot.

The Dutch Oven sits on hot coals of an open fire and hot coals are placed on top of a pot whose lid has a raised edge to keep the coals in place. The heat from top and bottom bakes the bread.

What was a hawk to a pioneer man and what was it used for? Why is his rifle known as a flintlock?

"Hawk" is short for tomahawk, a steel hand ax that was used to cut wood or to hunt. It was also a weapon in a time of necessity. It was also used for recreation, such as throwing at a target. The rifle is called a flintlock because a flint striking steel produces the spark to set off the gun power to make the gun "fire".

What two methods were used for making candles and what materials were used to make them? How long would a candle burn?

Candles were dipped or molded. They were made of beeswax or tallow (hard fat from sheep, cattle or horses).

How did people start a fire without a match?

They struck a piece of flint against steel to produce a spark. The spark sets a fire in char cloth or some other material that burned easily.

At what age were pioneer children considered adults and at what age could they get married?

Girls got married at 12 or 13; boys got married as soon as they could provide for a wife.

What was the main material used by pioneers to stuff dolls?

Women had to be up before dawn to start fires, milk cows, feed animals, clean, wash clothes, do farm work, make candles, make soap, spin and weave the cloth to make clothes, cut fire wood, carry water from their water source and do the cooking.

What does dulcimer mean? What's the difference between a mountain or hammered dulcimer?

Dulcimer means sweet music or sweet sounds. The hammered dulcimer is the older instrument, with many more strings that are struck with hammers. The mountain or Appalachian dulcimer originated in the Appalachian Mountains and the strings are "plucked" or "strummed."

What instruments might you find in a bluegrass band that can also be found in a symphony orchestra?

The violin (called a fiddle in traditional music), and the string bass (bass fiddle or violin).

Where do traditional storytellers get their stories? Do they tell the story the exact way every time?

Stories may come from books, but most traditional tales are passed on by word of mouth. They learn from other storytellers and they may make them up. The stories are learned but not memorized word for word so they may not be the same every time.

Why does the potter keep pouring water on the clay as she's working with it?

To keep it soft and pliable so it can be shaped.

Early buckets and barrels were made of what material and what is the person called who makes them?

Coopers made buckets or barrels from Oak, Sassafras, Cedar or other hardwoods.

Why do Native Americans paint their faces?

The paint is to make the warrior look fierce when he goes into battle or to represent a shift in status, a period of mourning, or sometimes to make themselves attractive.

What is fiber?

It's the smallest part of a yarn. It comes from animals and plants.

What main fibers were used during the 18th Century?

The main fibers were wool from sheep, and cotton, flax, and hemp from plant stems.

How is yarn made from fiber?

Fiber is twisted together to make yarn, either on a spinning wheel or on a spindle.

How is cloth made?

Cloth was made by threading yarn into a loom. The lengthwise yarns are called "warp." The warp is crossed with the weft yarns using a shuttle. The yarns cross over and under each other at right angles in the cloth. Cloth can also be made by knitting or crocheting. Needles are used to pull loops of yarn into other loops to make cloth.

How was cloth dyed?

Plants that grew in the woods and gardens were used to make dye to color the cloth.

Who made yarn and cloth?

Everyone in the household who was over 5 years old helped make yarn and cloth.

A large tree can evaporate up to _____ **gallons of water** per day, creating the cooling effect of five area room air conditioners.

Eighty-eight (88) Gallons of Water

How many pounds of **wood** does an average person in the U.S.A. use every year?

An average person in the United States of America uses 1,600 pounds of wood per year.