Butter Churning

*Food for My Family*

Information Sheet

Butter Churning

Make a Mold

In the Butter Business

For: 3rd – 4th graders

Curriculum Connection: Connects to social studies focus content of communities & local history. Kansas History, Government & Social Studies Standards: 3.1; 3.2; and 4.1.

**Butter Churning**

Objectives:

* Increase understanding of the accomplishments and significance of community and Kansas history through daily life activities of early settlers.

Outcomes: Students will:

* Identify steps to making butter, that don’t involve going to the store.
* Increase their knowledge and understanding of early settler chores done by young people.
* Understand terms connected with butter churning.

Material needed: Access to YouTube video.

Video is nine minutes and four seconds long. At 1:01-1:14, students are asked what types of chores they do. A 15 second countdown is on the screen, allowing for responses, then the video continues. No need to pause.

The butter demonstration is over at 6:36. After the video, could add discussion. If you’d like to involve math – ask if they think they’d enjoy butter churning. Young people churned butter about 2-3 times a week. Half the class could take 2x a week and the other half 3x a week and figure out how many times they’d churn butter in one year. Then if you’d like – figure how many times they’d churn butter in five years … ten years. For a real challenge - if it took 30 minutes each time they churned butter (including all aspects, even cleaning up) – how much time would they spend churning butter in a year? That’s just churning butter. It doesn’t take into account all of the other chores. Could ask if the butter looked like what they use at home. Activities in the activity packet that help reinforce the vocabulary words heard on the video.

There are two additional activities prompted in the video. Feel free to do whichever one is best suited to your class, or do them both. A third potential activity is to have them take notes during the video to create a timeline of butter churning.

**Make a Mold**

Objectives:

* Connect students with early Salina history and settlers.
* Encourage creative thinking and expression.

Outcomes: Students will:

* Imagine and identify an appropriate design.
* Create a butter mold design.

Materials needed: Access to YouTube video, paper, pencils, crayons and/or markers and other creative tools.

***Make a Mold – cont.***

The prompt for this activity runs from 6:37 to 7:08. It’s to create a butter mold design. The video offers idea starters such as a nature scene, a favorite team, car or animal. Could be words as well. There isn’t a huge amount of room – so how might that guide their design decisions. Should take about ten minutes. If you’d like to expand the time, students can share and explain their designs and/or designs could be displayed in the room. Pause video then return to it.

**In the Butter Business**

Objectives:

* Encourage critical decision-making as well as creative thinking.
* Improve communication through sharing ideas.

Outcomes: Students will:

* Create and compose packaging for their “brand” of butter.
* Communicate about their brand verbally.

Materials needed: Access to YouTube video, paper, pencils, crayons and/or markers and other creative tools.

The prompt for this activity is from 7:13 to 7:55, in case you’d like to do this activity, but not the other. Students create their own brand of butter and design the package the butter comes in. Could choose to have them work in groups – or individually. Then, if you’d like, they could share their brand with the rest of the class and explain what different things mean. Or, they could be displayed in the classroom.

Time breakdown:

Butter churning video: 9:04 Additional math problem: 10:00

Make a Mold: 10:00 Additional discussion (1st activity) 10:00-15:00

In the Butter Business: 10:00 Additional discussion (2nd activity) 10:00-15:00

Time: Approximately 29:00

Time for video and both activities approximately 35-40 minutes. Additional elements could be added if/as desired, but would require more time. Time for activities in the activity packet are not included.