# CHILDREN: TOWN AND COUNTRY

# NAME \_\_\_\_\_

The number in parentheses () next to each question indicates the building where the items can be found. (Refer to the map on the back of this booklet).



1. **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (43)** Just like today, many children in the 1870s went to church. Services often lasted longer than they do today. Children were expected to sit still, not fidget, and pay attention.

Have a seat on a bench.Would it be comfortable to sit on the benches very long?YesNo

How many minutes do you think you could sit comfortably? 1 3 5 (try it!)

2. **ONE-ROOM SCHOOL (38)** (Enter is there is no class in session.)

Many children went to school through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade; a few went to high school. Many farm children missed lots of school in order to help on the farm; city children missed fewer days.

Who would school help the most?	City	or	Farm	children
Who would learn more?	City	or	Farm	children
Who would get town jobs easier?	City	or	Farm	children



Students brought their own lunches to school in the 1870s. Here is a list of foods they would eat. Circle foods you would use to make your lunch.

Lard and Sugar Sandwich	<b>Cheese Sandwich</b>
Egg Sandwich	Jelly Sandwich
Crackers	Hard-boiled Eggs
Apples	Carrots
Tomatoes	Homemade Cookies
Water	Apple Cider

Make a list of food that were *not* available in the 1870s.

3. Munger House Garden(5) - One of the main chores for *all* children was pumping water.

Why would you pump and carry water?

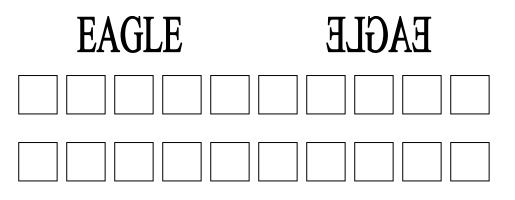
You might have to fill four or more buckets of water at a time. How long do you think it would take you to fill a bucket full of water? Try it; have someone time you. (You might have to use the pump in front of the Blacksmith.)

#### 3. THE WICHITA CITY EAGLE PRINTING OFFICE (35)

The Wichita City Eagle listed announcements about school and sales at stores, but had **no** comics, although sometimes there were a few stories that children would be interested in. The words in a newspaper were made by putting **type**, little pieces of metal with letters on them, together and spelling the words backwards. Some children worked at a newspaper/print shop as an apprentice so they could learn how to become a printer. An apprentice's job would be to wash the ink off the type and sort the letters back into their correct boxes.



Print your name in the first set of boxes; then see if you can write your name backwards in the second set of boxes like the example below.



#### 4. FECHHEIMER CLOTHING STORE (34)

Look at the pictures of children from the 1870s.





How are their clothes different from yours?

Do <i>you</i> get to decide what you wear every day?	YES	No
Do you think that <i>these children</i> got to decide?	YES	No
Would <i>you</i> choose to wear the clothes they wore?	YES	No
Why or why not?		

5. **DRUGSTORE** (31) When children got sick parents had three main choices to help them get



better:

1) A doctor might tell the pharmacist what medicine to make, but not everyone trusted doctors.

2) The parents might buy a ready-made *patent medicine* that claimed to cure most everything.

3) A *home remedy* might be prepared. A home remedy was a cure passed down from grandparents and made at home. One home remedy to cure warts was to rub the wart with a potato and bury the



potato in the grounding during a full moon.Would this work?YesNoMaybe

Do you know any home remedies?

#### 6. GENERAL STORE (12)

Yes

City kids were often sent to the store by their parents. Since country kids were often needed for farm work and travel was by foot or by horse, they rarely came to town on their own; they usually came with their family.

Often canned goods were purchased. Do you see any familiar foods on the can labels?

Does it look similar to your grocery store?

Find the Housewares section. Do you see any that is familiar to you?

Yes

Maybe

No

No

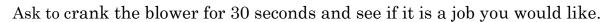
Yes

Find the toy section. Do you see anything that you would like to have?

Name it.

# 7. BLACKSMITH SHOP (19)

In the 1870s your main job as a child was to learn how to be a good adult, for boys that meant going to work. To become a blacksmith you would first become an *apprentice*. You learned how to do your jobs by watching others work. You would shovel coal, carry metal, and turn the blower to make the coal fire hotter.



Today, do you learn how to do a job by being an apprentice?

No

What other ways would you learn a job? \_\_\_\_\_

#### 8. MEAT MARKET (21)

Yes

If you lived in the city, your parents might send you here to buy meat for the family meal. If you lived in the country you might hunt animals, raise cattle, pigs, and chickens for food, or come to town to shop here.

List one food that was hunted.

List one food that was raised on a farm.

List one food that was brought from another part of the nation.





No

#### 9. FARM CHORES (15)

While you are at the 1880 DeVore Farm, list three chores a child like you might do.

1.			

- 2.\_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_



Not all farm boys became farmers, or girls, farmer's wives. Farm work

was hard and with education many found jobs in town. But while they lived on the farm with their parents, they had to help with the farm work.

### 10. VISITNG FRIENDS IN TOWN AND IN THE COUNTRY (15)

While you are in the 1880 DeVore Farmhouse listen as the guide tells you about visiting in the sitting room.

Did you get to look through the **stereopticon** in the sitting room of the farmhouse? Did you like *television* 1880 style?

Yes No Sort of

#### 11. **DEPOT** (24)

Many boys had jobs carrying baggage from trains to the hotels or delivering telegraph messages to people in town. Imagine you can you hear the telegraph message with its sounds and pauses.

## 12. HENRY WULF HOUSE (25)

This family lived at the edge of town—a little city and a little country. The children in this house slept in the attic. They climbed a ladder through the door in the kitchen ceiling. In the winter the children's mother would wrap heated rocks or pieces of metal in cloth and place them in your bed to warm it. In the summer, children might sleep on the kitchen floor or in the yard.

Would you like a bedroom in the attic that you shared with all the other children in your family?

Touch the bed in the parents' room with your hand. The children's mattress in the attic space might feel like this one.

Do you think you would like to sleep on it? \_\_\_\_\_

13. STORY-AND-A-HALF HOUSE (40) (If no other program is going on.)

How many bedrooms are in this house?

If you lived here would you have your *own* room? \_\_\_\_\_

Who has the *most* privacy? \_\_\_\_\_

City and country children did many things to help at home. One important job was to help with the

laundry. If no other class is using the area, stop and try doing the laundry. This is how:

Dunk the clothes in the wash water. Soap the dirty spots. Rub the cloth on the metal washboard. Swish the cloth in the wash board and wring dry. Dunk the cloth in rinse water. Squeeze it dry. Hang it on the line. Do it *again* and *again* and *again*.

#### 14. MURDOCK HOUSE (41)



Listen to the guide tell you about the family and children who lived here.

Ask what a formal visit would be like. What phrase told children how to act in the parlor?

The back parlor was like our family rooms today. Children did their homework and played with toys.

No

Put a check beside the toys that you see.

baseball	baby bed
marbles	Barbie doll
X-Box	Legos
doll	basketball
toy stove	tea set
football	Tonka truck

Yes

Did you see many toys at the farm?

After visiting the farmhouse and the Murdock House, did you notice a different in the way that people go to visit, or *call*, upon each other.

List two ways in which a town visit is different from a city visit.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2.\_\_\_\_\_

Which visit would be more fun for children?

#### 15. TOWN CHORES

Now that you have seen much of the town, list three chores you might do in town.

1.



2.	 
3.	

Look back at the *farm* chores you listed in Question 3 and compare them to *town* chores. Circle the chores that are different.

Who had less work to do? \_\_\_\_\_

Who had more fun working? \_\_\_\_\_

With all the information you have collected about the life of a child in the 1870s, where do you think you would have like to live?





