

# WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE A TOWN WORK LEADERS GUIDE

*The number in parentheses ( ) next to each question indicates the location of the building on the map on the back of this booklet.*

A town in a **system**. Like the strong links of a chain assure that it will work, people help each other and their town by having jobs that help the town to live and grow.

**Supply and demand** determines what jobs people in a town do.

**If people need an item, someone will probably make it.** If a large number of people want that same thing, more people may be hired to make it. These people earn money for the work they do. The workers then spend their money on things they need, and the circle starts over again.

**If something is made that people do not want to buy,** the person who started the work may go out of business. The workers would not have jobs and would not be able to buy the things they need to live. They must either find or create new jobs that provide things the townspeople need, or they would have to move away.

If lots of people find new jobs, the town will survive. If they do not find new jobs and decide to move away, the town will die.

**Farms are a part of this circle.**

If the farmer raises the right kind of food, people will buy it. With the money he makes from selling the food he raised, the farmer will be able to buy what he needs to produce more food.

If the farmer grows food people do not want, no one will buy it. If no one buys the food the farmer raises, he may not be a farmer any longer. People in town would have less than they need to eat, so they may move away and the town would die.

This was true in early Wichita as well as in Wichita today.

**As you visit the Cowtown building think of jobs and products that help a town system live.**

- 1. 1<sup>ST</sup> PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (43)** Answers will vary. Encourage students to think about the roles they play in their part of society.
- 2. OLD TOWN AREA (5)** Mr. Munger was one of the town founders as well as a real estate agent
- 3. MUNGER HOUSE—**  
These questions are meant to be reflective and the conversation is more important than the answers.  
Water is supplied through municipal water systems or from individual wells powered by electricity.

#### 4. SADDLE AND HARNESS SHOP (7)

Do you think everyone needed to buy a horse? NO—Not everyone could buy a horse or had the facilities to maintain one.

Would everyone need a horse? NO—Most people got along by walking unless they ventured out of town often or had a business that required transportation.

What other ways could you travel locally? To travel in town most people walked or hired horse-drawn taxis. To travel outside of town, they could hire a taxi or rent a horse and buggy from the livery stable. The stage coach went even further, and the railroad was used to travel very long distances.

#### 5. BALDWIN'S PHOTOGRAPHIC GALLERY (8)

What was he trying to tell the people who would see this picture? While the picture is not clear, the vision Mr. Baldwin wished to convey was that of a prosperous city with a diverse number of business and opportunities to be found.

#### 6. ARKANSAS VALLEY BANK (10) - Another reflective question to think about how money works and their own habits. Individual Responses

#### 7. GENERAL STORE (12)

**CATEGORIES** - food, clothing, china, hardware, household appliances, food processing equipment, laundry equipment, farming/gardening equipment, lighting devices, toys, and sweets and treats

**When would you buy clothes here instead of at the clothing store?** You would buy clothes here based on their price and functionality.

**When would you choose the clothing store over the general store?** You would use a specialty shop for the wider selection of fabrics and colors and a wider assortment of brands and styles. They also bought here for more formal occasions.

**Are there stores like either of these today?** Many store specialize though many such as superstores are returning to the general store concept.

#### 8. BLACKSMITH SHOP (19)

1) The blacksmith repaired wheels, from buggy wheels to wheel barrow wheels. He repaired wooden wagon rims and set metal tires on them.

2) The blacksmith repaired and/or created new tools.

3) The blacksmith fixed or repaired anything made of metal.

4) The blacksmith sharpened plows, knives, and other cutting devices.

#### 9. MEAT MARKET (21)

Find two kinds of meat from wild animals and two from farm animals.

**Wild Animals:** buffalo, deer, turkey

**Farm Animals:** beef, pork, chicken

Do you think farmers and hunters could make money this way? Farmers and hunters could make money this way because others did not have the time or skill to get food for themselves because of their own specialized jobs.

Why would a butcher try to sell them in hot, windy Kansas? Because people wanted to eat them. They were exciting and something not found here.

**10. 1880S DEVORE FARM (15)** (on the road walking to the farm)

**CORN:** processed as a sweetener, meal for cornbread and mush, as a vegetable, feed for horses, pigs, and chickens

**WHEAT:** ground into flour for cookies, pies, breads, cakes, etc.; cracked wheat for salads, breakfast cereals, and other items

Most find wheat easier, but today corn is the more diversified product

**Which of these do you think Wichita farmers grew more of as time passed?** Wichita starts out growing more corn, but as the climate changes, wheat comes to the front of production.

**11. 1880 DEVORE FARM (15)** Are modern farm machines bigger or smaller? Much **BIGGER**

Why would today's farm implements need so much more horsepower to operate? Fields are bigger and so the machinery is bigger, requiring more horsepower. Modern machinery is larger, more complex, and usually heavier.

Why would a farmer want larger machines with which to grow food? Bigger machines mean more ground to farm which produces more food to sell. The 1880 farmer produced food to feed 15-25 people. A modern farmer produces enough food to feed 95-100.

Farmers grew more wheat. Corn was more valuable on a subsistence farm because it was used mostly for grains and feed. Wheat had more possible products as a cash crop and as food for humans.

**THE FARMER AND COWBOY**

- It helped the city and its residents make money. After the Civil war the country's taste turned from pork to beef. Beef in Texas was selling for about \$4 a head, but at the stockyards in Wichita you could make \$40 a head.

The cowboys brought a lot of profits to town but also brought their rowdy behavior which became more of a problem for those wanting a town in which to rear children. Also, the Texas cattle had a tick that infected the local cattle herds that farmers were bring from the east.

**12. ARKANSAS VALLEY GRAIN ELEVATOR (22)**

**Why might the price be higher at a later time?** The price might be higher later because as more and more farmers sold their grain, the remaining grain became more in demand. Unless . . . This would be true especially if the crop from the year before had been a poor one. Had the crop from the year before been a large one, there still might be grain left from that harvest

in storage at the elevator or in the larger towns, and that abundance may actually lower the value of the grain just produced.

### **13. DEPOT (24)**

How else might it arrive? Most would receive their items by special carrier such as UPS, Fed Ex, or the U. S. Mail.

### **14. HENRY WULF HOUSE (25)**

What things do people do today to make extra money? Though there is a rising number of people who shop at farmers markets, the bulk of the population buys food through grocery stores that have many governmental regulations concerning food safety that would prohibit individuals from selling to them.

### **15. LIVERY STABLE (26)**

Can you think of two reasons why everyone did not own their own transportation? Most people could get places by walking. Owning a horse required daily chores, food, veterinary bills, and riding equipment. Owning a buggy meant having a place to keep it out of the weather in addition to maintaining it with parts and grease.

### **16. J. P. ALLEN DRUGSTORE (31)**

In the 1870s, people did not know that germs made you sick. To feel better, people made their own medicine (home remedies), bought *patent medicines*, or bought medicine the pharmacist made. Because people thought all three worked equally well, the pharmacist sold patent medicines and ingredients for home remedies. The pharmacist probably knew that some did not work, but he sold them anyway because people wanted to buy them.

Many of the bottles in the center cabinet on the west wall are patent medicines that, with no FDA or government regulations, could tout whatever claims the maker desired, and as long as people purchased the product the drugstore would continue to sell it. Though many of these medicines were outright frauds, the makers relied on the customer's limited scientific knowledge and their belief in the testimonials given by other customers. Though many pharmacists knew they did not work, they sold these medicines because people wanted to buy them.

### **17. FECHHEIMER CLOTHING STORE (34)**

Clothing for men and boys was often made in factories, while women and girls made their own clothes or hired a dressmaker. Sewing machines had been invented, but girls were still expected to know how to sew by hand.

### **18. THE WICHITA CITY EAGLE (35)**

**What would make it more interesting to you?** Most students believe that pictures and color would make it more interesting.

**What is the biggest difference you see between the 1870s newspaper and those of today?**

In the 1870s there is a lack of a headline or main story, different sections are not titled, there is no color, and pictures are engravings. With so much text, it is safe to assume that the editors expected readers to read everything.

### **19. CARPENTER SHOP (37)**

**(The machines and tools the carpenter used were powered by his arms or legs. Later steam power drove the machines.)**

In the 1870s did it take a special person with special tools to build a house or could anyone build a house?

In the earliest days of the town when shelters were crude and not expected to last a long time, most people could make their own shelter. As the town grew more people worked at jobs that were more diverse and not all had the skills. A carpenter was a skilled craftsman who had the tools and ability to build a sturdy house that would not leak, kept the wind out, and provided a safe secure place to live. Also, the railroad and local saw mills made precise dimension lumber available which required skill to build with.

### **20. ONE-ROOM SCHOOL (38)** (Enter if there is not another class using the school.)

Why would this help you when you were with strangers? By standing and reciting students had less stage fright and grew comfortable in the public eye. This comfort level was thought to encourage them to be in public.

### **21. MURDOCK HOUSE (41)**

If a guide is available, ask what Mr. Murdock did and why he came to Wichita. Was he successful meeting his goals?

Mr. Murdock was invited to come to Wichita to create a newspaper to promote the town and have it prosper.

The paper prospered as did the town, and it is still the newspaper that is used today.



# OLD TOWN COWTOWN MUSEUM

