



Old Joe and the Carpenter— A Story from Appalachia USA

CURRICULUM IDEAS for parents and teachers

Math

- How many 1/2" x 6" boards would it take to build a fence along one edge of a square acre? To build a bridge 6' wide and x 12' across? (Sketch ideas for a bridge—can you use all the wood intended for the fence?)
- If the trench was 6' deep and 6' wide, and one edge of a square acre long, how much dirt did Jess have to move? What do you think he did with it? What would you do with it?

Writing

- What if Jess didn't come across the bridge to ask for forgiveness? Write what could have happened.
- Where did the carpenter go next? Write about it.
- Write what you can do to "build bridges" in the lives of those around you.

Science

- Make recipes from www.apprtrav.com/recipes.
- Research the animals that live along the Appalachian Trail. Hike part of the trail and look for wildlife. Document your findings.

Geography

- Map the Appalachian Trail on a map.
- On a map of mainland USA, color the states that contain parts of the Appalachian mountains.

Music

- Listen to Dulcimer music.
- Watch a video that features clogging.
- Try clogging or square dancing.

Art

- Make a quilt square.
- Carve and paint a piece of wood.
- Make a button "hummer" with a button and a piece of string.

Culture

- For a directory of informational sites, visit www.usaorg.com/Regions/Appalachia
- Try a simple Appalachian game. Place a jar on the floor. From waist height, drop clothes pins one at a time into the jar. See who can drop in the most.

Treasure Bearer

- Dare to be the first one to extend forgiveness the next time you and a friend argue.
- Was there a time when you offered forgiveness? Talk or write about how you felt.
- Was there a time when you were forgiven? Talk or write about it.