

# Cracker Exhibit

The Cracker cowmen were known as America's first cowmen and in 1605 the first working ranches were established in St. Augustine or "La Florida." During the 1800's the Crackers were drawn to the cow hunter lifestyle and its rugged lonely existence. Some of the problems that Cracker cowmen faced were stealing or rustling cattle which often led to violence.

Cracker horses were very important to the Cracker cowmen and they have always been a tough low maintenance horse known for their ability as cow herders. Ponce de Leon brought the first horses to Florida in 1521. Cracker horses got their names from Cracker cowmen's whips that made a loud cracking sound.

Crackers ate a varied cuisine that includes tortoise, opossums, squirrels, raccoons, rattlesnakes, bears, fish, snails, frogs, crayfish and a variety of edible wild plants such as collards, turnip greens, and mustard.

Crackers built their houses out of logs and had different styles known as the Single Pen or Double Pen, Saddle, Dog Trot, and Shotgun.

Cracker music was described in the post civil war day as music played by Crackers and listened to by Crackers. Cracker music was not written down and was all sung from memory and each region of Florida had its own unique Cracker music.

## **Objectives:**

### **First Grade:**

Understand what Crackers needed in order to survive.

Use maps to locate places in Florida.

Write an informational essay about Crackers recalling 3 details from the exhibit.

Compare and order whole numbers to 100.

### **Science:**

SC.1.L.17.1 Through observation, recognize that all plants and animals, including humans, need the basic necessities of air, water, food, and space.

All plants and animals need basic necessities such as air, water, food, and space in order to live.

What were some of the things that the Cracker's ate in order to survive?

### **Social Studies:**

SS.1.G.1.1 Use physical and political/cultural maps to locate places in Florida.

In 1605 near St. Augustine, Florida the first working ranches were established In "La Florida."

Using a map can you locate St. Augustine?

**Reading and Language Arts:**

LA.1.4.2.3 The student will write an informational/expository paragraph that contains a topic sentence and at least three details;

Write an informational essay on what a Cracker is and give three details describing a Cracker.

**Mathematics:**

MA.1.A.2.1 Compare and order whole numbers at least to 100.

Imagine that you have many groups of Cracker horses with a different number of horses in each group

24 horses

18 horses

37 horses

51 horses

8 horses

64 horses

89 horses

75 horses

4 horses

98 horses

44 horses

Organize the groups of horses from smallest to greatest.