

Turpentine in Florida

The turpentine industry was a lucrative business that predates the Civil War, continuing through the Great Depression and post World War II eras. During the Civil war ships were made of wood, turpentine, pitch, and rosin to waterproof ships. Turpentine industry later turned to creating household products such as soap, paint, solvents, adhesives, polishes, etc.

Turpentine has been used medically since ancient times for treatments such as lice or when combined with animal fat it can be rubbed on the chest for nasal and throat ailments.

Charles Henry created the process called the “cat fact cut” in 1903. This technique was created because many regions in the Carolinas and Georgia were becoming tapped out due to the methods used to gather sap and trees were dying prematurely. The “cat face cut” involved cutting two diagonal slices in the trees followed by attaching drip trays with a pot to collect sap.

The turpentine industry also has an ugly side. Originally turpentine and rosin created dangerous toxic fumes as a result of them being separated by high heat fires. The industry also has harsh working conditions and it greatly impacts the environment. The early methods killed forests and the distilling process left hazardous residues. Today turpentine is used mostly as a solvent but it is still considered a hazardous and flammable material.

Objectives:

Third Grade:

Raise questions about the natural world and investigate them in teams-write down 2 questions about the turpentine industry and discuss possible answers to questions in teams.

Use different technology sources to gather information about the turpentine industry.

Use primary and secondary sources

Identify primary and secondary sources

Use the internet and go to different websites to gather additional information about the turpentine industry.

Use Microsoft Word to type a one page report on what you learned from the websites you went to about the turpentine industry.

Solve addition facts with sums to 18 and related subtraction one-digit fact families.

Science:

SC.3.N.1.1 Raise questions about the natural world, investigate them individually and in teams through free exploration and systematic investigations, and generate appropriate explanations based on those explorations.

Explore the turpentine exhibit and write down at least two questions that you have about the turpentine industry. Get into teams and come up with answers to your questions.

Social Studies:

SS.3.A.1.2 Utilize technology resources to gather information from primary and secondary sources.

Using different technology sources gather more information about the turpentine industry.

Use both primary and secondary sources when gathering information write down what sources you use, whether they were primary or secondary, and what you learned from them.

Reading and Language Arts:

LA.3.6.4.1 The student will use appropriate available technologies to enhance communication and achieve a purpose (e.g., video, websites); and

LA.3.6.4.2 The student will use digital tools (e.g., word processing, multimedia authoring, web tools, graphic organizers) to present and publish in a variety of media formats.

Research the turpentine industry using different websites and type at least one page discussing the websites and what additional information your learned about the turpentine industry.

Mathematics:

MA.3.A.1.In.b Solve addition facts with sums to 18 and related subtraction one-digit fact families using the formal algorithm with numerals and signs (+, -, =).

14 lbs. of turpentine + 4 lbs. of turpentine =

9 lbs. of turpentine – 6 lbs. of turpentine =

8 lbs. of turpentine - 4 lbs. of turpentine =

9 lbs. of turpentine + 7 lbs. of turpentine =

13 lbs. of turpentine + 2 lbs. of turpentine =