

# 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:**

### **Sixth Grade:**

Be able to classify animals into different groups.

Use maps to estimate distances between places of Florida.

Write a short play about a day in the life of a Cracker using figurative language, rhythm, dialogue, characterization, and appropriate format.

Compare and order decimals and find location on a # line.

### **Science:**

SC.6.L.15.1 Analyze and describe how and why organisms are classified according to shared characteristics with emphasis on the Linnaean system combined with the concept of Domains.

SC.6.L.15.In.a Classify animals into major groups, such as insects, fish, reptiles, mammals, and birds.

The Cracker people ate a variety of animals such as gopher tortoise, soft shelled tortoise, opossums, squirrels, raccoons, rattlesnakes, bears, frogs, crayfish, and snails for example. Put the animals in their proper groups such as insects, fish, reptiles, mammals, or birds.

**Social Studies:**

SS.6.G.1.5 Use scale, cardinal, and intermediate directions, and estimation of distances between places on current and ancient maps of the world.

Using a map estimate the distance between your hometown and an important area of Florida in regards to Crackers. Why is the area or town you picked important?

**Reading and Language Arts:**

LA.6.4.1.2 The student will write a variety of expressive forms (e.g., short play, song lyrics, historical fiction, limericks) that employ figurative language, rhythm, dialogue, characterization, and/or appropriate format.

Write a short play about a day in the life of a Cracker. Use your imagination; this does not have to be a real event. Also, be sure to include figurative language, rhythm, dialogue, characterization, and appropriate format.

**Mathematics:**

MA.6.A.5.2 Compare and order fractions, decimals, and percents, including finding their approximate location on a number line.

Imagine that you are a Cracker and you are building your house using logs and you have the following logs, some are partials

- A.) 8.4 logs
- B.) 19.2 logs
- C.) 14.7 logs
- D.) 35.6 logs
- E.) 41.6 logs
- F.) 89.2 logs
- G.) 74.1 logs
- H.) 18.9 logs

Put the logs in order on a number line.