

Study Guide

The Spirit of the Farmer -- Old & New!

Bob Ford
Folklore & Fun!
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This program is offered in conjunction with the Springfield Symphony Orchestra, the Springfield Arts Council and the Clark County Extension Service. Using music and the arts *The Spirit of the Farmer -- Old and New!* will highlight the importance of farming to Clark County and American history.

PRE-SHOW PREPARATION

Ask the following questions and discover the links students have to farming already.

1. Who lives on a farm or has a relative who lives on a farm?
2. What fun farming stories can your parents or grandparents tell you about growing up or visiting a farm? Share the stories with your class.
3. How many people live on farms in Clark County? What is that percentage compared to the rest of Clark County?
4. Read stories about Simon Kenton or other early Clark countians. How did they farm compared to today's farmers?
5. Go the the website and click on the photographers names to see their pictures.
http://liveclick.ag.ohio-state.edu/cgi-bin/ImageFolio_arts/imageFolio.cgi
6. Does anyone recognize any of the farm families? What can they tell the class about this person's farm?

BACKGROUND: Bob Ford was raised on a 110 acre hog farm near Irwin, Ohio. His family then moved to Washington C.H. where his father was manager of the local Production Credit Association. Three of Bob's grandfathers were county extension agents in Highland, Ross and Fayette counties. Bob Ford uses his connection to the land to reach out to Midwest school children with programs teaching the early history of the Ohio River country. He started his theatrical career with Tecumseh, then moved to Kentucky where he was the Producer and director of the Legend of Daniel Boone outdoor drama. Since 1994, Bob has been a freelance theatre folk artist using his artistic skills to teach history. Bob Ford is currently an educational Touring Artist with the Ohio Arts Council.

The following education standards and goals can be addressed through this program. This study guide is available to guide students and teachers in pre and post performance activities. Copies may be downloaded from Bob's web site www.bobfordmusic.com.

EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

The programs will be built around Ohio benchmarks and standards for the third, fourth and fifth grades.

RESEARCH SOCIAL STUDY SKILLS	Third grade	Students will be asked to find stories in newspapers or magazines about today's farmers.
	Fourth grade	Draw distinctions between fact and opinion. Understand first and third person point of view. Develop a plan for gathering information on a farm topic.
	Fifth grade	Create an oral or written presentation about farming.
MATHEMATICAL PROCESS	Third grade	Go to the grocery store and compare measurements of food packages. Prepare a cake or bake a loaf of bread and decide how much you would charge for each piece to make a profit.
	Fourth grade	Create graphs of the weather temperatures for a period of time. Learn how the weather effects the farmer's daily life.
	Fifth grade	Apply measurement to determine how much fertilizer to apply to your fields.
LIFE SCIENCES	Third grade	We will discuss the life cycles of different animals and plants and how that affects the life of a farmer.
	Fourth grade	Learn how wind, water and ice reshape the land and how farmers are affected.
	Fifth grade	Discuss how to maintain renewable resources, food chains and food webs. How humans cause changes to their ecosystems.
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	Third grade	We will describe how technology has enabled the farmer to extend his abilities to farm. Observe and record weather conditions and discuss how important modern radar and weather forecasting is to the farmer.
	Fourth grade	Explain how technology has improved our daily lives -- from the almanac to the computer.
	Fifth grade	Explore positive and negative effects of technology on the environment -- how one solution might create another problem. Think pesticides!
HISTORY	Third grade	Describe changes to our farming community over time.
	Fourth grade	Describe how the canals or the National Road changed farming in Ohio.
	Fifth grade	Explain how settlement and transportation affected the expansion of the United States. Think Pres. Jefferson.

PEOPLE & SOCIETIES

- Third grade Compare the farming customs of Native Americans and early pioneers.
- Fourth grade Explain why early pioneers came to Ohio to farm.
- Fifth grade Learn how farming customs have affected Indian art, religion clothing and shelter.

GEOGRAPHY

- Third grade Identify ways the land and environment can be affected by farming methods. Identify transportation methods important to the farmer.
- Fourth grade Explain how Ohio farmers create products sold around the world.
- Fifth grade Learn how farmers use Longitude and latitude --GPS in modern farming.

ECONOMICS

- Third grade Explain the position of the farmer as both a consumer and producer of goods.
- Fourth Grade Describe how specialization is changing modern farming.
- Fifth grade How do farmers answer the question of what to produce, how to produce it, and for whom?

CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Third grade How do farmers work with their local and state governments to preserve the environment with emphasis on voting, obeying laws and respecting the rights of everyone. Think Mega farms!
- Fourth grade Describe how farm citizens can promote the common good and influence their government.
- Fifth grade Explain how people are the source of governmental authority. How are governmental powers limited by law? How does the expansion of cities affect the farm land and the farm family?