

## Section 12

### Art

There are many possible art activities and projects that students could perform. The following list contains just a few ideas.

1) Indian beadwork. Individual beading kits are available from the Whitman Mission site at a small cost. Beading may be a difficult project for some (suggested for intermediate-level aged children) but could be used as an optional art project or an ongoing activity with a parent/teacher helper. \*\*This project requires much patience and time.

2) Have students construct a replica of the mission using a mixture of flour, salt and water. Use tempera paint to whitewash the outside walls and green paint for trim (colors used on the original mission). The roof was made from sod—various shades of brown could be used. Models could be made to scale, thus incorporating math skills. In addition, wagons and other wooden articles could be constructed out of balsa wood, toothpicks, popsicle sticks, etc.

3) Indian Cornhusk Bag. These bags would be very difficult to accurately replicate, however, a mock cornhusk bag could be easily made by drawing patterns on colored construction paper and piecing together to make a paper “cornhusk bag.” The Cayuse always used geometric shapes in their designs. Geometric designs could be used by students when designing patterns. Tempera paint, small beads, colored yarn, etc. could additionally be used to compliment this art project.

4) Have everyone learn the steps of some basic hand sewing/stitching. This could be accomplished by darning old socks, mending old clothes, making a simple pot holder, or making small quilt blocks by hand. This project would give the students an idea of what it was like to be a pioneer, who had no electric sewing machines or much access to ready-made clothing.

5) Natural Dying. Some natural dyes could be produced by using plants native to this area. Students could experiment with various plants that produce different colors and could learn steps necessary to extract the dye from these natural substances. Pieces of cotton fabric could then be dyed. Various books on dying may be obtained through your local library or inter-library loan.

6) Have the kids make some rag dolls, similar to those with which the children at the mission played.

7) Have the students make a construction paper weaving of an Indian bag or garment. Different colored strips of construction paper can be “woven” together, creating various designs and patterns.

8) Make pencil sketches or paintings of Narcissa and Marcus Whitman. Pictures are available for kids to copy from or for the teacher to place on a transparency. A

description of the Dr. Whitman may be found on our website at [www.nps.gov/whmi/marcbio.htm](http://www.nps.gov/whmi/marcbio.htm) and a painting of Mrs. Whitman in the Waiilatpu Press article: Are These the Whitmans? at [www.nps.gov/whmi/arewhit.htm](http://www.nps.gov/whmi/arewhit.htm).

9) Make pencil sketches or paintings of Indian villages, the mission site, or of pioneers/Indians involved in activities.

10) The interior of the Mission house is unknown as is the interior of the Cayuse lodges. Students could design possible interior plans and compare various designs.

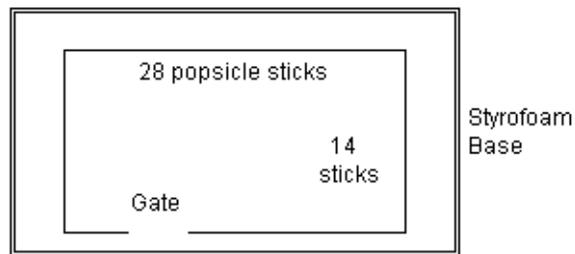
## How to Build A Model Hudson's Bay Company Fort

### Materials needed:

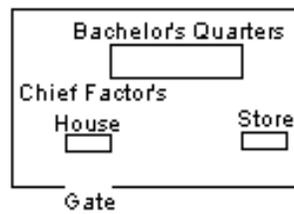
- 125 popsicle sticks
- 5 toothpicks
- 1 Styrofoam block (approx 6" x 12")
- brown paint/stain and green paint/stain
- Elmer's glue

Paint or stain 70 of the popsicle sticks brown. Then paint the Styrofoam base green.

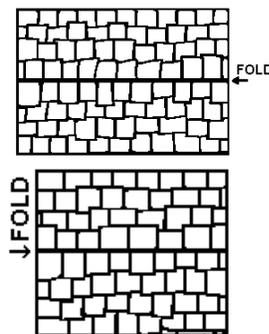
Following the map below, build the walls of the fort. Push the popsicle sticks deep into the Styrofoam (about 1"). Remember to leave out 3 sticks for the gate.

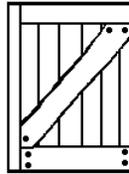
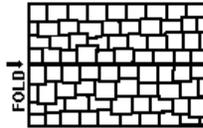


With the remaining unpainted popsicle sticks make the Chief Factor's house, the worker's housing, and the store.



Color and cut out the roofs for the buildings. Glue them on top of the house walls. Color and cut out the gate, then glue it to the fort walls.

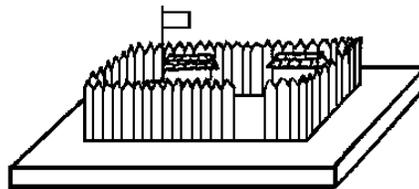




Gate



Flag



The last step is to make a bell tower with 3 toothpicks and a flagpole from two toothpicks. Color and cut out the flag and glue it to the flagpole.

## Paul Kane Sketches

From 1845 to 1848, Paul Kane traveled throughout the western United States. His trip from Toronto to the Pacific Coast was one of the longest and most adventurous sketching trips in the history of painting. Kane recorded the Native Americans in detail, including their customs, homes, and ceremonies. His book *Wanderings of an Artist* is a collection of these sketches and of this romantic land. Since art is not only the creating of individual art projects but also the appreciation by others, the Paul Kane sketches should enhance your students' knowledge of the art world as well as the Indian life along the Oregon Trail.

Some activities which involve the Paul Kane sketches include the following:

1. Have students study various sketches and determine if the sketches are realistic or not. What insights into Native American culture do these sketches give us?
2. Have students think of captions or small stories to go along with each sketch. Have them explain their reasoning behind their words.
3. Sketching is another form of art altogether different from painting portraits, landscapes, still lifes, etc. Have students copy these sketches, showing them how to hold and draw with a pencil.
4. As you talk about the Oregon Trail and the Native American tribes the pioneers encountered along the way, have students sketch their impressions of what these tribes may have been like. (For example, houses, daily life, attire, and living conditions.)
5. Have students sketch various scenes from their schoolyard. This would be an excellent way to teach detail, shadow, and depth perception. You might want everyone to sketch the same scene and turn it into a class project.

## Constructing a Raft Diorama

Directions: Read the instructions given below. You will also have to use the following two pages. The first page (figure 1) shows the Columbia River scene while the second page shows a raft and the foreground.

1. On Figure 1, (Columbia River Gorge), color the background picture (You will have to enlarge it on a photocopier). Then cut it out and glue it to an 8 1/2" x 11" sheet of paper, spreading the glue over the entire surface. Use rubber cement or glue that will not wrinkle the paper.
  
2. When the glue is thoroughly dry, form the diorama box by cutting and folding where indicated. Press the folds firmly so the box will keep its shape. Glue the corners of the diorama box as follows: Glue flaps one, two, three, and four on the outside of the box. Glue flaps five, six, seven, and eight on the inside of the box.
  
3. Color Figures 2 and 3 (first enlarging them on the photocopier). Then glue them to a piece of lightweight cardboard. When thoroughly dry, cut out each scene as indicated.
  
4. Attach Figure 2 as follows: Using the guide on Figure 2, cut a tab from lightweight cardboard and fold one end up and one end down. Glue one end to the back of the raft. Fold back the end tabs on the back of the raft and apply glue to them, and also to the tab you attached. Insert the scene into the diorama box, holding the tabs in place with your fingers until the glue sets. You may need to use the eraser end of a pencil to hold the tabs down firmly.
  
5. Attach Figure 3 (foreground) as follows: Fold the lines indicated. Apply glue to the inside of the tabs, then glue the tabs to the bottom and sides of the diorama box.

Figure 1

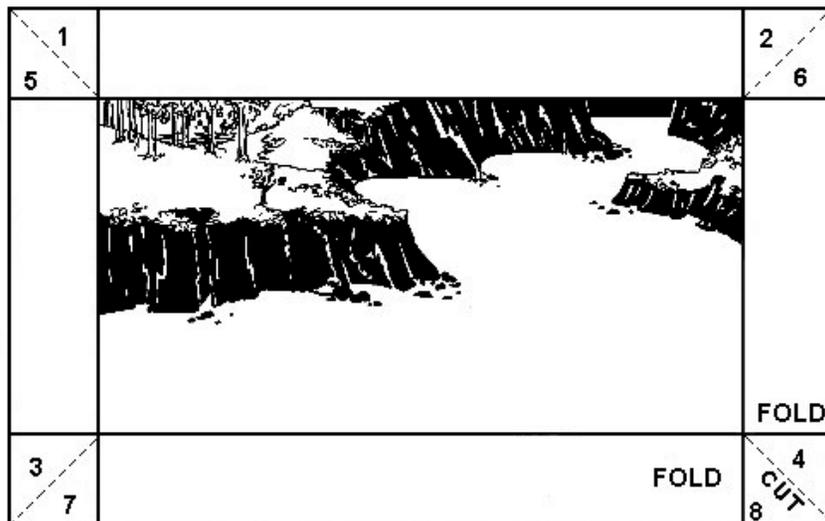


Figure 2

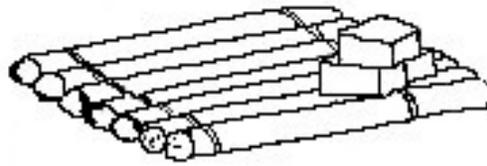
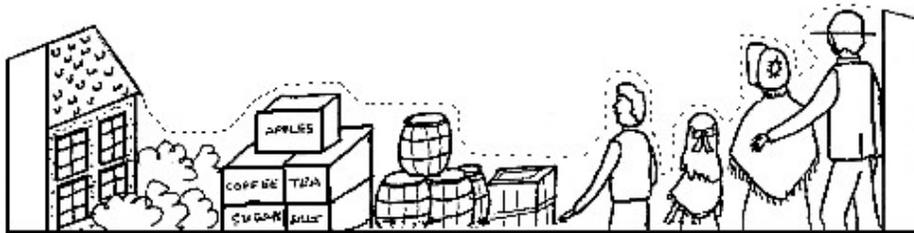


Figure 3



## Building a Covered Wagon #1

In this activity, students will learn how to build a model of a Prairie Schooner or covered wagon. These wagons were small, cramped, and very uncomfortable to live in while traveling, but models are lots of fun for students to make!!

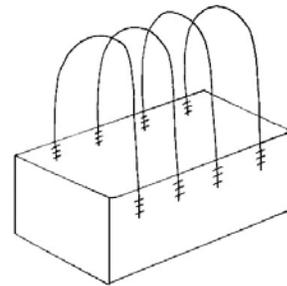
Materials needed:

- 1 milk container
- 4 one-foot lengths of florist wire
- stapler
- scissors
- one 1 x 1.5 foot piece of white muslin
- corrugated cardboard
- masking tape
- 4 quarter-inch dowel sticks (2 five-inches long and 2 six-inches long)
- needle and white thread

Procedures:

To make the WAGON BOX:

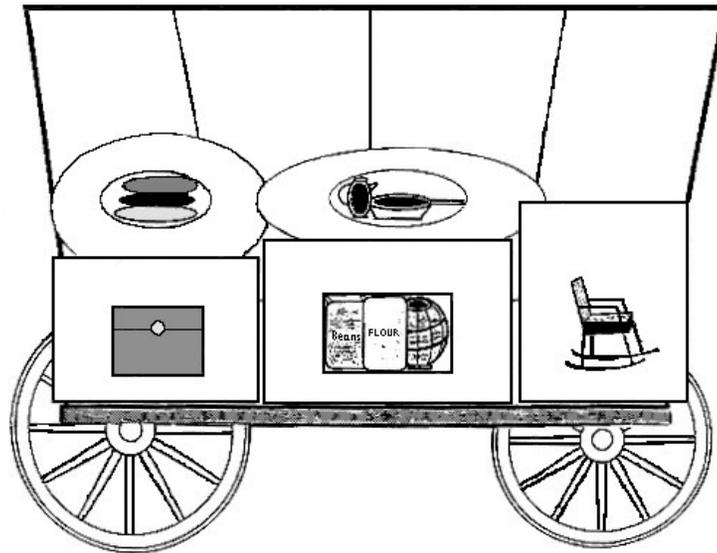
1. Cut off pouring end and one side of milk container, and lay box on its side, open side up.
2. Bend four pieces of wire into "U" shapes and staple to open sides as shown.
3. Place the two 6" dowels so that they are 2" apart and protrude 5" beyond the open end of the container. Tape them in place.



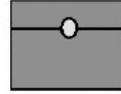
To make the COVER:

## Building a Covered Wagon #2

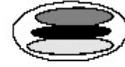
1. Color your wagon cover, if you wish. All wagon covers were not white, in fact some pioneers painted their covers red, yellow, or blue. You may want to write a slogan on the cover. A slogan is something like a bumper sticker on a car. Some pioneers painted "OREGON OR BUST!" on their wagon covers, meaning they were going to try very hard to get there. Some pioneers painted their names on the wagon covers.
2. Follow the cutting out directions on the next page. These items will go into your wagon when you load it. You may also want to color these items before you cut them out.
3. Fold the page along the top of the wagon cover, matching the wheels at the top and bottom. Make a stand for the wagon as follows: Cut a strip of lightweight cardboard six inches long and one inch wide. Measure one and a half inches from each end and cut a slit halfway through the cardboard strip. Fold the strip in half lengthwise so that it stands by itself. Insert the wagon into the slits.



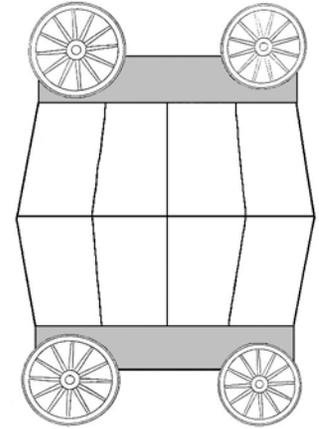
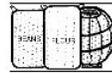
Cut out the trunk and load it into the wagon.  
The children's clothes are in the trunk.



Cut out the blankets and pillows and paste them on the trunk.



Cut out the bag of flour, the bag of beans, and the barrel filled with dried fruit, sugar, coffee, and tea. Load them in the wagon.



Cut out the rocking chair and put it in the wagon for mother to rest in.

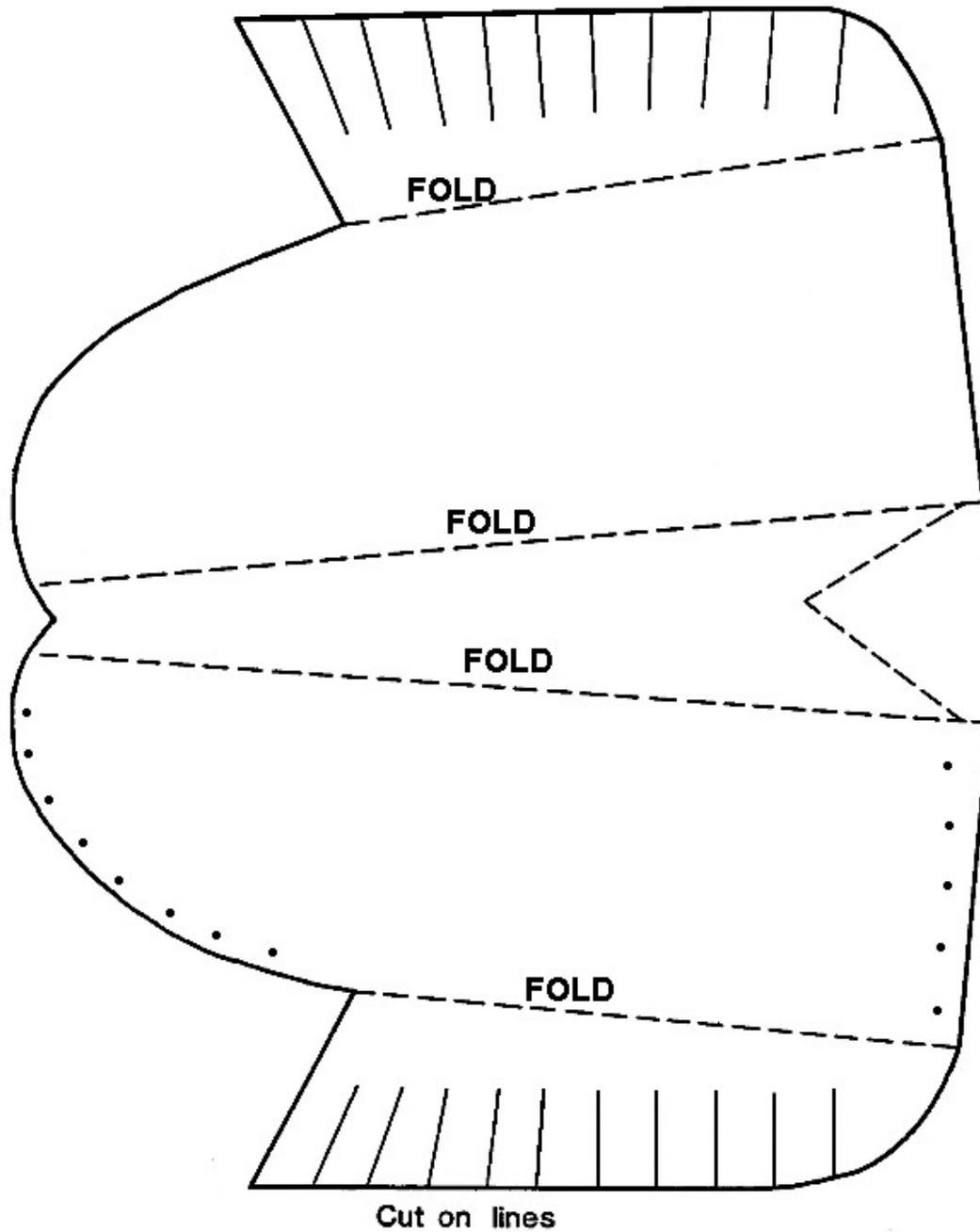


Cut out the skillet and coffee pot and place them in the wagon.



## Indian Moccasins

Directions: Run copies of the Indian moccasin on brown construction paper to resemble deer or elk hides (this pattern may need to be enlarged). Follow the cut and fold directions found below. Use a hole punch to punch out the circles and use yarn or string to lace the moccasins together.

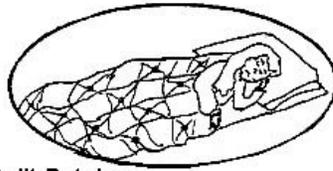


## Making a Patchwork Quilt

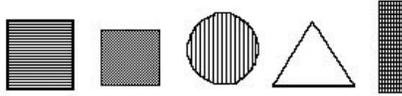
A patchwork quilt is a blanket or bed cover

1. A patchwork quilt is made of little patches of cloth cut in different shapes and sizes.
2. The little patches are sewed together to make a pattern. This is called a quilt block. There are many different quilt block patterns. One of the patterns on this page is a maple leaf pattern and the other is a bow tie pattern. Can you tell which is which?
3. The quilt blocks are then sewn together to make a quilt top.
4. After the quilt top is made, a layer of cotton is placed underneath to make the quilt soft and fluffy. This is the batting. Then, a large piece of cloth, the quilt backing, is placed underneath the batting.
5. Last of all, very small stitches are made around each part of the design through all three layers. This is called quilting.

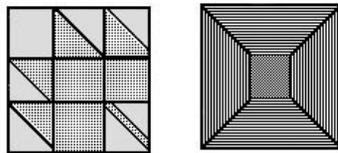
# Make a Maple Leaf Quilt Block



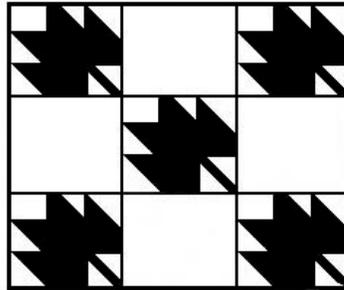
## 1. Quilt Patches



## 2. Quilt Blocks



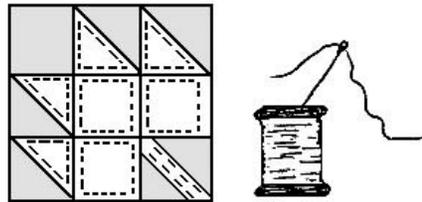
## 3. Quilt Top



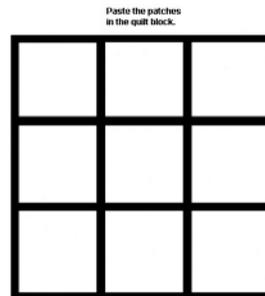
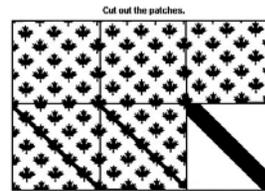
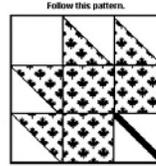
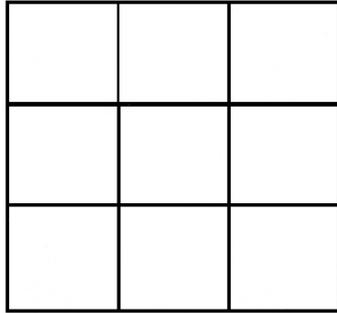
## 4. Three Layers



## 5. Quilting



## Design Your Own Quilt Block



### Suggestions

1. Make different patterns by dividing the squares into triangles.
2. Make different patterns by drawing an X through each square or through some of the squares.
3. Color each patch a different color.
4. Use two colors and make a checkerboard pattern.
5. If you have a patchwork quilt at home, draw that pattern.
6. Make up your very own pattern and color it in your favorite colors.