

“Coin Of The Realm”
The Calculations of Furry Bank Notes

OBJECTIVES:

Students will be able to:

- a. Write story problems using information about Spokane House and the fur trade
- b. Solve story problems

MATERIALS:

- 3X5 index cards
- Information brochure(s) about Spokane House and the fur trade for each student (*Standards of Trade, Spokane House - Friends of Spokane House* publications and/or Riverside State Park tour brochure)
- Facts about Spokane House and the fur trade that involve numbers
- Copies of the accompanying worksheet
- Video: *Crossroads - Colville Valley 1800-1850*

INTRODUCTION:

- Review certain facts about Spokane House and the fur trade that involve numbers. Students help find them in the information brochure(s). Write these on the board or overhead. These may include important dates, differences in sizes or quantities, weight measurements, trade exchange rates, etc.
- Show the video *Crossroads - Colville Valley 1800-1850*

ACTIVITY:

- Pass out one index card to each student
- Instruct the students to come up with a story problem involving some of the information about Spokane House and the fur trade and write it on the card. Remind them to put their name on the card.
- After a few minutes, collect and shuffle the cards.
- Have a student pick one of the cards from the deck in your hand and read the problem to the class.
- First ask the class if there is enough information to be able to solve the problem. If there is, then have the students solve it on paper. Next, call on one to do it on the board so they can check their work.
- Repeat this process for the amount of time you have.
- For independent practice, assign the accompanying worksheet for homework.

ASSESSMENT:

- For an actual grade, score the students on the problems they wrote on the index cards and on the completed worksheets.
- During the activity, assess their problem solving skills as students go to the board.

Name _____

Math Lesson

"Coin Of The Realm"

Directions: Read each problem carefully and then solve. Be sure to show your work and label your answers.

1. The original Spokane House structure was built in 1810. The post was last occupied by the Hudson's Bay Co. in 1826. How many years was the post occupied by fur traders?
2. In 1812, David Thompson left the Colville Valley for good. He took with him 11,000 pounds of fur. If a ton is 2,000 pounds, how many tons of fur did he take with him?
3. Blanket points were black bars woven into the edge of a blanket. Each bar was 4" long. The total number of points tells the blanket's size. Which is bigger, a 4 point blanket or a $2\frac{1}{2}$ point blanket?
4. David Thompson and company left Kettle Falls on July 3, 1811 traveling to the mouth of the Columbia River. They used a cedar lapped board canoe. They arrived on July 15, 1811. How many days did they travel?
5. One English rifle would cost 40 Skins Made Beaver at Ft. George. The same rifle would cost 30 skins at Spokane House. How many skins would you save buying the rifle at Spokane House?
6. Engagees, paid workers for a fur trading company, would carry two packs weighing 180 pounds. If you carried a 25 pound pack, how much more would an engagee carry than you?