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**Lesson Title:** Appalachian Culture in Tennessee

**Overview:**

Students will gain an understanding of the unique culture of the people who lived in the Appalachian Mountains region of Tennessee in the 19<sup>th</sup> century through the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century through the use of primary source documents from the Volunteer Voices website.

**Grade level:** 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>

**Era:** 4 Expansion and Reform (1801-1861)

**Time period:** 4 or 5 forty-five minute time blocks

**Materials required:**

- Internet access
- Copies of resources from Volunteer Voices website
- Various art materials including construction paper, markers, glue, scissors
- Digital camera

**Curriculum Standards:**

- 8.5.3-Students will recognize primary source documents and be able to state what a primary source document is.
- 8.5.11-Students will use primary source documents to describe different aspects of living in the Appalachian Mountains region of Tennessee from 1800 to 1950.
- 8.5.12-Students will, working in groups, create a scrapbook illustrating the daily life of a Tennessee Appalachian Mountains family.

**Activities:**

- Define primary and secondary sources and have students give examples of primary sources. Have examples on hand that students can examine. Explain that primary sources help students experience the past rather than just reading about the past.
- Divide students into five groups and assign group topics as follows: (Bold type represents the title of a primary source document from the Volunteer Voices website-[www.volunteervoices.org](http://www.volunteervoices.org))

## Group 1, Family life

### Mark Twain Family Cabin (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000516>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000220\_0000



### Peters House and Homestead (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000522>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000226\_0000



### Arnwine Cabin from Grainger County (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000518>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000222\_0000



### The McClung House (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000519>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000223\_0000



## Group 2, Work tools

### Medicine carrying case (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000505>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000209\_0000



### Hobart and Larry Hagoods Harness and Saddle Shop (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000515>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000219\_0000



### Joe Diehl sawmill (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000523>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000227\_0000



### Broad Ax made in Nashville (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000508>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000212\_0000



### Bark grinding stone (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000521>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000225\_0000



### Copper kettle (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000510>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000214\_0000



## Group 3, Music

### Banjo from Roane County, Tennessee (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000499>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000203\_0000



### Beersheba Springs Fiddle and Bow (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000498>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000202\_0000



### Two dulcimers (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000502>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000206\_0000



### Two mandolins (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000504>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000208\_0000



### A hammered dulcimer (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000503>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000207\_0000



## Group 4, Products of Appalachia

### Specifications on the mineral and forestry exhibit (from the Archives of Appalachia, ETSU)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200700000002621>

File Name: 0032\_000054\_000208\_0000



### Tobacco hogshead (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000509>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000213\_0000



### Bailey family (in tobacco field) (from the Archives of Appalachia, ETSU)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200700000002047>

File Name: 0032\_000050\_000208\_0000



### Beehive from Carter County, Tennessee (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000513>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000217\_0000



### Beehive from Knox County, Tennessee (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000514>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000218\_0000



### Cornfield (from the Archives of Appalachia, ETSU)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200700000002049>

File Name: 0032\_000050\_000210\_0000



## Group 5, Rural life in Appalachia

### General store (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000511>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000215\_0000



### Tater Valley Schoolhouse (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000520>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000224\_0000



### Wilson Barn from Union County, Tennessee (from the Museum of Appalachia)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000000517>

File Name: 0094\_000050\_000221\_0000



### Above the clouds, Roane Mountain (from the Archives of Appalachia, ETSU)

URL: <http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=2007000000002038>

File Name: 0032\_000052\_000200\_0000



Have copies of each of the primary sources or allow students sufficient time to view them on the Volunteer Voices website. Instruct each group to discuss what is represented in their set of sources and then make a list of what they know about each item beginning with what the item is; i.e., a document, a photograph, an artifact. Also, they should list anything about the item that they don't understand or that they have a question about. Use the following list of questions to guide their discussion.

- What is the item?
- Who may have created it or who may have owned it or used it?
- Why was it important during the time it was created/used?
- Was it used for work, for fun, at home, preparing a meal, etc.? What type of work?
- Why is this item important today?

When students have thoroughly examined their set of primary sources, instruct each group to create their own artifact to illustrate some part of the daily life of an Appalachian family; i.e., the mountain people made their own musical instruments so that group could create a facsimile of a unique musical instrument and model how it would be played and what sound it would make.

The tools group could create a new tool and state what it would be used for. Supplies would have to be furnished for their creations.

After each group has created their artifact, each should be photographed and the photographs compiled into a family scrapbook. Notations should be added to identify the item and the time period. Each group should decorate and edit their scrapbook pages.

**Evaluation:**

Have each student select a source that they have not seen and evaluate that item per a set of guidelines.