

Logging

This lesson meets State Standards **B.8.1** Interpret the past using a variety of sources, such as biographies, diaries, journals, artifacts, eyewitness interviews, and other primary source materials, and evaluate the credibility of sources used, and **A.8.4** Conduct a historical study to analyze the use of the local environment in a Wisconsin community and to explain the effect of this use on the environment.

Logging was one of the main reasons early immigrants populated Marathon County. We will take a look at life in logging camps, as well as how a saw mill worked.

Included in this lesson is a power point presentation filled with primary sources and Logging exhibit pictures. The presentation is a great preview or post lesson activity for the exhibit. Along with the power point presentation is a list of vocabulary terms highlighted throughout the presentation. We also included expansion activities to go with the lesson.

Vocabulary

Transitory

Hazardous

Decent

Diminished

Entrepreneurs

Inexhaustible

Hub

Expansion Activity Suggestions

1. Try one of the Opinion Cards Activity ideas.
2. Explain a working sawmill using an online video.
3. Design and build a log brand out of soap you would use for your lumber company.
4. Research a lumber Company Owner
5. Build a log raft to survive going down a flowing gutter
6. Compare and contrast working in a sawmill and logging

Opinion Cards Activity

The cards included can be used in various ways. Here are a few suggestions;

- Play scoot
- Have students fill in their answers and form a continuum in the classroom having students stand where their opinion falls. Have students share their opinions trying to sway students to their part of the continuum.
- Use the cards during the power point presentation for reflections.
- Use the cards as a jumping board into a writing activity.
- Use them as task cards.

Opinion Cards

Why would logging only take place in the winter?

How did logging help create cities in Marathon County?

Why were loggers able to spread out to other parts of Marathon County?

What would your life be like if you moved to a logging camp?

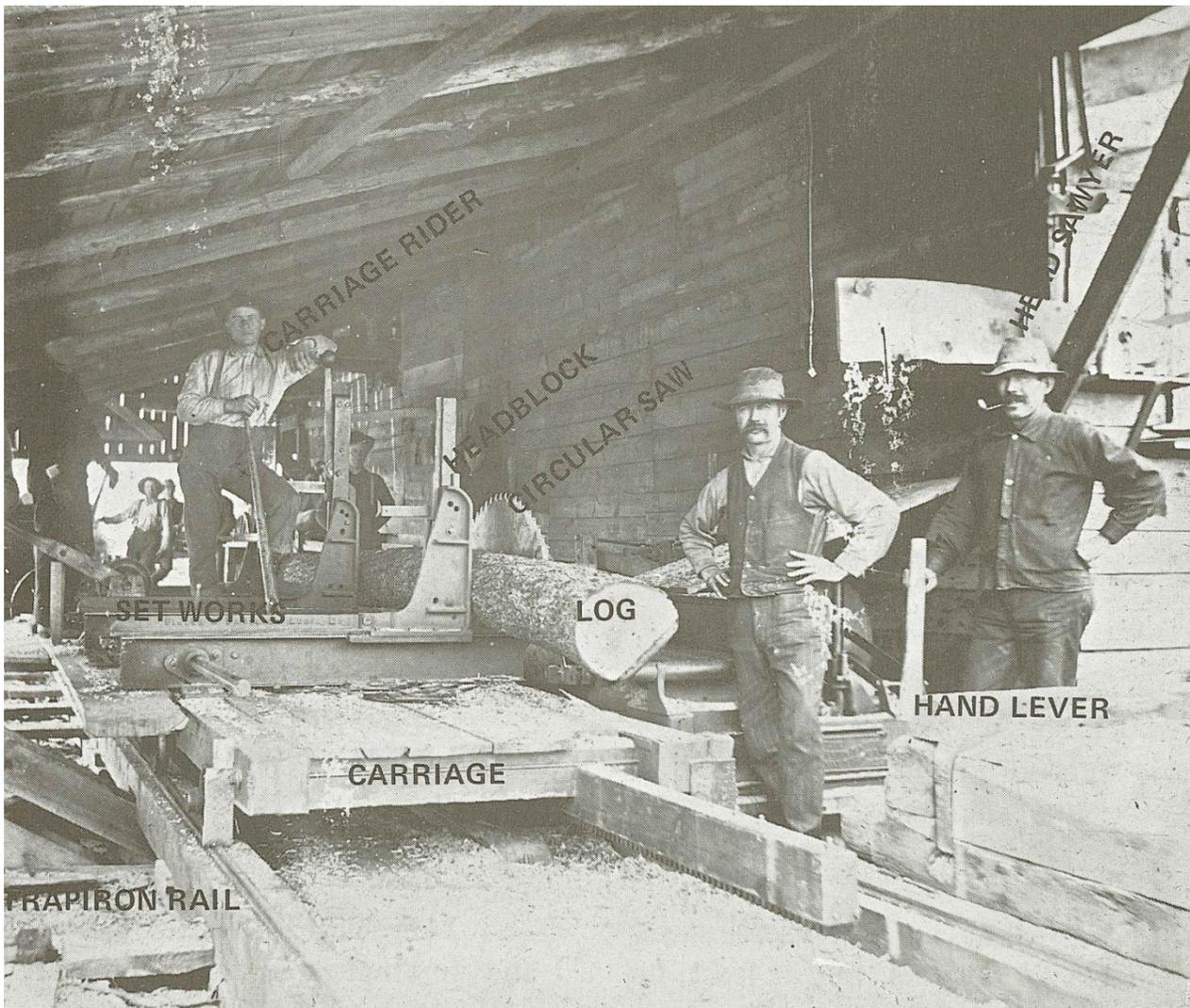
How does a Sawmill Work?

Sawmills have changed over the years. The basic equipment has increased in size, but the basic ideas have stayed the same. Watch a sawmill video online, there are many to choose from. Try to pick out the different parts of the sawmill listed in the picture. Here are a few

A family run sawmill: www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvbOcsW7Q6Y

Sawmill Operation: www.youtube.com/watch?v=hvOONmoON58

Working Sawmill: www.youtube.com/watch?v=zhwXsDjd1mY



Build your own Log Mark

In the spring loggers would send their logs down the river to the sawmills. The logs would become mixed together as they traveled down river. As the lumbermen arrived at the saw mill they would pull their logs from the piles and send them down the channel to the mill. How could the lumbermen tell their logs from the others? The logs had a mark hammered in each end. The lumbermen looked at the end of each log for their mark.

If you were a sawmill owner what would your mark look like? Mill owners would use their initials, a shape with a letter inside or a combination of shapes. Each mark had to be made into a hammer, so the designs had to be simple to make. They used a lot of straight lines, not many had curves or swirls.

Look at the pictures of log marks and think about what type would represent you and your family.

Design your log mark on paper, make sure it is about the size of your bar of soap, not too big or too small. Place the drawing on top of the bar of soap and trace it using enough pressure to leave an indentation in the soap. Remove the drawing.

Carve away the outside of the soap around the drawing.

After the carving is finished, wet your finger or a brush and rub the soap to smooth the edges.

Let the soap dry.

You have just created the hammer end of the mark. You may try stamping your log brand into paint or ink and stamping it on paper.

Research a Lumber Company Owner

Use the QR Codes to learn about the sawmill owners. Record your answers in the boxes.

	Name	How long was he in the lumber business?	What role did he play in the community?	What did he do after his sawmill closed?	How would Marathon County be different without this person?
					
					
					
					
					

Answer Key

	Name	When did he enter the lumber business?	What role did he play in the community?	What did he do after he left his sawmill?	How would Marathon County be different without this person?
	Dr. William Schofield	1847	Founder of Scholfield , laid out a plan for village, first to use the rotary saw in mill	Built homes, stores, boarding houses for village of Schofield	
	Alexander Stewart	1849	Helped acquire the federal building in Wausau	Served in Congress. Served on Indian Affairs and manufactures committees	
	Walter McIndoe	1847	Gave Wausau its name. Helped Wisconsin become a state. Gave Marathon County its name.	Served in Congress. Helped allow construction of Wisconsin Central Railroad Line	
	Walter Alexander	1872	Organized the Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company, Wausau Street Railway Company, and Wisconsin Valley Electric Company	Member of the Wausau Group, Served in Congress, Vice President of marathon Paper and Wausau Paper	
	Cyrus Yawkey	1889-?	Leader of the Wausau Group, Member of the National Guard, County Board Chairman, Land gifts for local parks	Formed the Wausau Group, Organized many companies	

Build your own Lumber Raft

After the spring thaw, lumbermen floated the logs down river to the mills. After the logs had been cut into lumber, it was stacked on rafts to transport down river to lumber buyers. Lumber rafts were the main source of transportation for lumber. They were very dangerous. It was said if you fell off you would not make it out of the water alive. Between the rafts on top of the water and the rocks below, men usually did not survive.

Your job is to build a raft that would keep lumbermen safe, but also quickly allow them to travel downstream. Your raft will need to fit within the gutter if you want to enter the raft contest. The fastest and safest raft to travel down the gutter will win.

Your raft must be built out of materials lumbermen would have had access to in the 1850s-1900. Modern materials will be cause for disqualification.

Build your own Lumber Raft

_____ 10pts Made same type of materials from 1850s-1900

_____ 10pts Has safety features for lumbermen

_____ 5pts Stayed afloat in the gutter

_____ 25pts Total

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Which would be the best choice?

Working in a sawmill or working as a logger?

Read each account, Ned Revie worked as a logger and August Hoertsch worked in a sawmill. Complete the Venn Diagram and then decide which job you would like to have.

Working in a Logging Camp as a Teen in the early 1930s

"[After eighth grade] I got a job working in a logging camp in upper Michigan. I went to Wausau Junction and I jumped on a box car, the door was open on the side, and rode out to Eland Junction and got a boxcar there and rode to upper Michigan because we knew that people were logging up there. I must have been maybe 13 or 14.

I was always called "the kid" when I got in the logging camp. But they were good to me up there, those old lumberjacks. I started out taking care of the horses. I used to fix the logging roads, rake the horse manure off where the sleighs had to go, anything like that. I worked in that area for six years and then the company went belly up during the Depression."

-Ned Revie

Working at a Sawmill

"At the age of 13 I went to work. When I got to be 15 years old my dad got me a job for the Alexander-Stewart Lumber Company. When I started in the sawmill I got \$1.60 a day. I started on the pond, where the logs come from the river. That was a big mill. It had two sides. It had a rotary side with circle saws-that's a quarter-inch cut when they go through a log. Then on the band side, that's the big band mill. That's only got an eighth of an inch cut. That's where all the big logs go. On the rotary side, that's where all the small logs go.

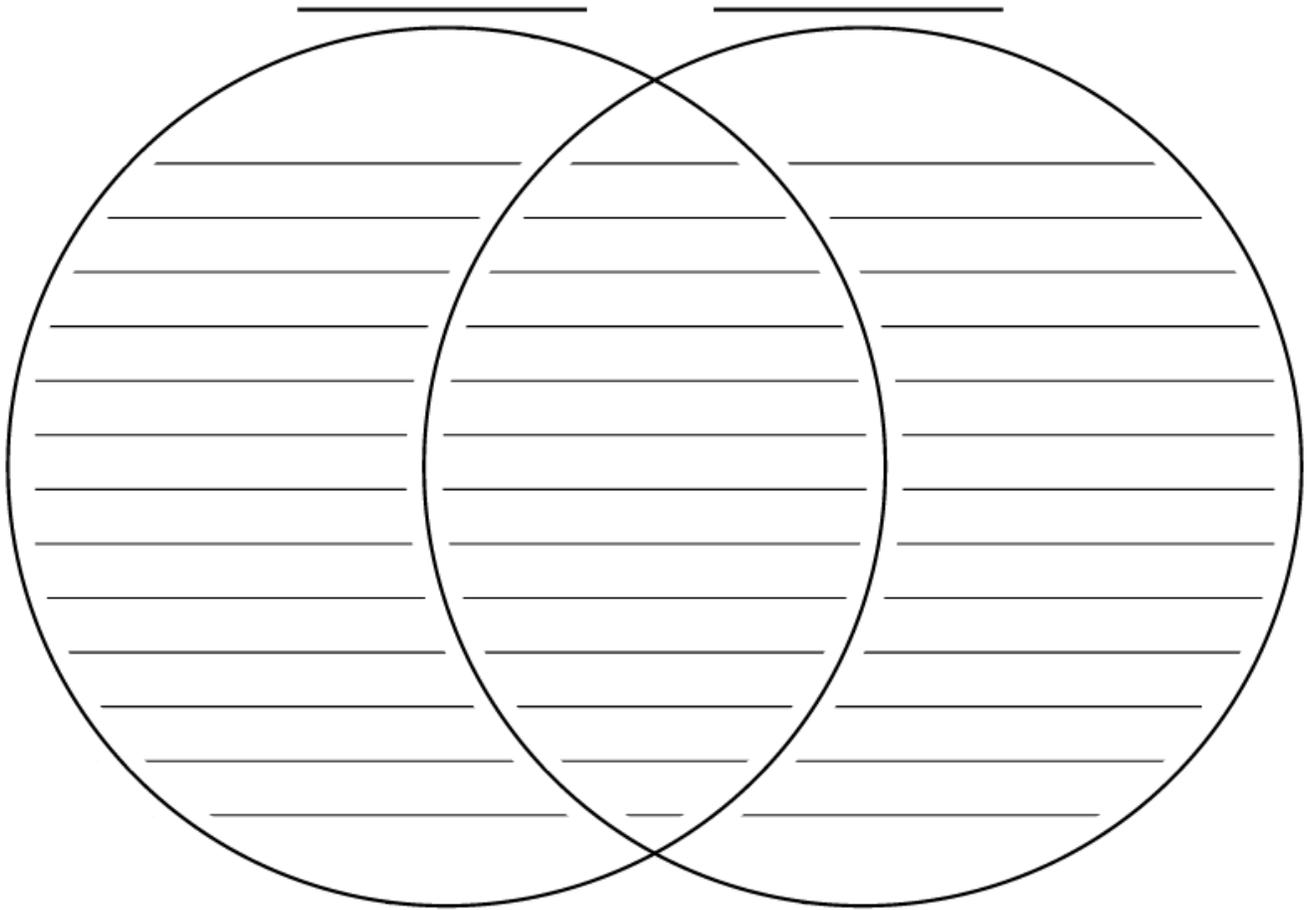
Then they've got a gang edger. Whatever that gang edger is set up for, 1" lumber or 2" lumber or 1-1/2", why it'll come out on the other end all lumber.

From the edger it goes through the trimmer. Then they cut the length – they pick up the best and the poorest is sawed off. An then it [the best] goes on a conveyor. It rolls along and there are three or four men there and they pile it up on trucks. Then they've got a lumber piler and he would pile that lumber way up in the air.

I worked myself up there and, when I got to be 21, I was a setter there on the rig that saws the logs. I'd set up the dimensions the head sawyer wanted. We go through in the spring of 1911 – in 1911 we sawed the last log. That's all the timber they had.

-August Hoertsch

Name : _____ **Venn Diagram**



After completing the Venn Diagram, which job would you choose? You must choose one.

Describe a day in the life of your job, sawmill worker or logger.