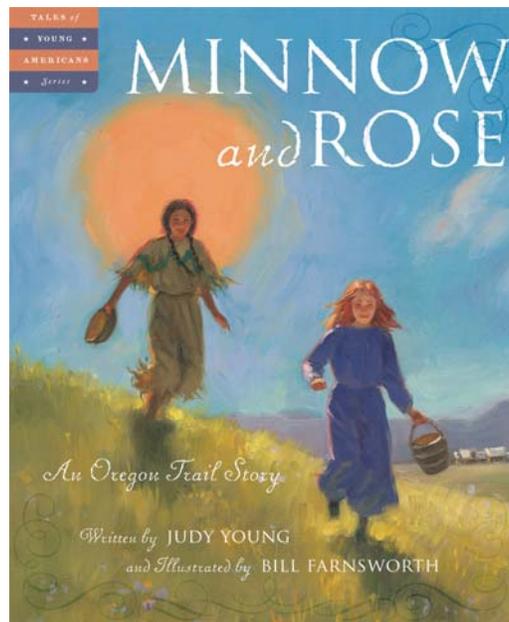


Teacher's Guide



Minnow and Rose An Oregon Trail Story

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Minnow and Rose

Anticipatory Set of Questions

These questions will help you to set the stage for the reading of *Minnow and Rose*.

1. What is a wagon train?
2. Why don't we use wagon trains today?
3. Have you ever met someone who looked different from you? Were you afraid of that person?
4. How do you think Native Americans felt about settlers taking over their land?
5. What does it mean to be brave?
6. Why did people leave their homes to go west in the pioneer days?
7. How could you show friendship to a child who doesn't speak your language?

1. Use a map of the United States to trace the route of the Oregon Trail with students.
2. Discuss what the pioneers would need to take with them to live on the trail. Remind students of the limited space there was in a wagon.
3. Discuss some of the problems encountered by the wagon trains.
4. Teach students songs from that time.

Minnow and Rose Practicing Place Value

Enjoy reading the story of two girls from different cultures who form a friendship in *Minnow and Rose*. The girls didn't share their skills in math but you can practice yours by solving the problems below.

1. Write the number that has:
4 ones, 6 thousands, 2 ten thousands, 5 tens, 7 hundreds. _____

2. Write the number that has:
7 millions, 9 ten thousands, 2 hundreds. _____

3. The number 3,468,295 has:
_____ ten thousands _____ millions _____ thousands
_____ ones _____ tens _____ hundreds
_____ hundred thousands

4. I have a 3 in the tens place
I am less than 1,000
I have a 7 in the ones place
Circle my number

3,670 973 793 537

Write a place value problem.

Geographic Terms

Minnow and Rose

Enjoy reading the wonderful story of *Minnow and Rose*. You will learn about the special bond that developed between these two young girls. As Rose's family crossed the country they encountered many different types of geography and the challenges that came with them.

Match each geographic term with its meaning.

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| _____ 1. prairie | A. In the direction of a stream's current |
| _____ 2. upstream | B. Large natural stream of water |
| _____ 3. river | C. The slope of land next to the body of water |
| _____ 4. rapids | D. Steady and smooth movement of water |
| _____ 5. bank | E. Extensive area of flat or rolling grassland |
| _____ 6. currents | F. Small body of still water |
| _____ 7. downstream | G. An extremely fast-moving part of a river |
| _____ 8. pool | H. Opposite direction of the stream's current |

Minnow and Rose

Common or Proper?

After reading *Minnow and Rose*, think about the frightening experience the girls had. It's quite a story!

Throughout any story there are many, many nouns. There are two types of nouns, common and proper.

A **common** noun names general people, places, and things.
Example: child, mother, city, town

A **proper** noun names specific persons, places, and things.
Example: Gary, Gladwin, Mrs. Brown

Write C for common or P for proper after each of the words below.

1. St. Louis _____
2. man _____
3. teacher _____
4. Montana _____
5. Platte River _____
6. horse _____
7. Minnow _____
8. minnow _____
9. chief _____
10. Rose _____

All About Minnow and Rose

All of the material needed to answer these questions can be found in the book *Minnow and Rose*. After you've read the book you'll have no trouble finding these answers!

1. Why is Girl-Who-Comes-With-Berries called Minnow?

2. At what time did the wagon train get up each morning? _____

3. What color was Rose's hair? _____

4. What type of animal pulled the wagons? _____

5. What did Rose find to eat by the stream? _____

6. What did Minnow's father want in exchange for helping the wagon train cross the river? _____

7. How did they take the wagon across the river? _____

8. What pulled Rose down after she fell in the river? _____

9. Who rescued Rose? _____

10. What did Minnow and Rose give each other to show their lasting friendship? _____

Draw your favorite scene from the book.

Minnow and Rose

Writing Similes

A simile is a figure of speech that compares two things using either **like** or **as**.

Example: The soft white snow was like a fluffy sheet of cotton covering the ground.

When you read *Minnow and Rose* look for similes in the book.

Complete these sentences with similes from the book.

1. The red-haired girl had eyes like _____

2. The girl in the river had eyes as dark as _____

Finish these similes with your own answers.

3. The black bear was as big as _____

4. The fluffy clouds look like _____

5. Falling in the river was like _____

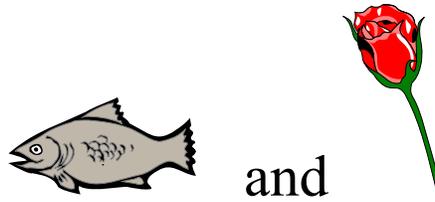
6. Rose's hair was as red as _____

7. The row of teepees looked like _____

8. Crossing the prairie was as boring as _____

9. The water was as cold as _____

10. The night was as black as _____



Why Were They Afraid?

Children are often afraid of the unknown. Sometimes even adults are afraid of the unknown. Imagine traveling across the United States in a wagon searching for a new life. Perhaps you are an Indian girl and you see the wagon train crossing your land, you might be worried about what they intend to do. Read *Minnow and Rose* and see how curiosity overcame fear.

Make a list of reasons Minnow might have been afraid of the wagon train.

Make a list of reasons Rose might have been fearful of the teepees.

What did the girls discover about fear?

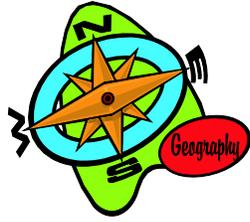


Learn about life in the pioneer days in the book, *Minnow and Rose*. Rose and her family were traveling the Oregon Trail in a wagon. Are there other ways they might have gotten to Oregon in the mid-1800s?

Brainstorm forms of transportation that were available in the 1800s.

Brainstorm forms of transportation we have today.

Brainstorm forms of transportation we might have in the year 2100.



MAKE A COMPASS

A compass was a necessary tool for the pioneers who headed west. A compass tells you the direction you are going. In the book *Minnow and Rose*, Rose's family was headed west across the Oregon Trail.

Make your own compass.

Materials

- Metal sewing needle (the larger the better)
- Strong magnet
- Square of plastic foam that is larger than the needle
- Masking tape
- A shallow bowl (not glass)

Directions

1. Pull the needle toward you **ACROSS** the magnet. Pull it at least 25 times. Always pull in the same direction.
2. Test your needle by trying to pull another needle that hasn't been magnetized. If it won't pull the needle, continue to magnetize the first needle by pulling it across the magnet.
3. Tape the magnetized needle on the foam.
4. Float the foam in the water.

Explain what happened and why you think it happened.



Following Directions

Pioneers who made the trip across the Oregon Trail had to be able to follow all types of directions. Learn about the near tragedy that happened in *Minnow and Rose*. Would the outcome have been different if Minnow had obeyed her father?

Carefully follow the directions below. Draw on this paper.

1. Draw a compass rose.
2. Draw a river in the center of the map.
3. Northeast of the river draw a pioneer wagon train.
4. Northwest of the river draw five Indian teepees.
5. Directly south of the river draw four trees.
6. In the river draw six fish.
7. Directly north of the wagon train draw the moon.
8. On the west bank of the river draw a berry patch.



How Would You Feel?

You may have a better understanding of how people of different races and cultures communicate and become friends as you read *Minnow and Rose*.

Stretch your imagination as you answer each question below.
Use at least two complete sentences for each answer.

1. How would you feel if you were Rose as she was falling off the raft?

2. How would you feel if you were a smoke signal?

3. How would you feel if you were an ox pulling a wagon across the country?

4. How would you feel if you were an overcrowded canoe?

5. How would you feel if you were a berry about to be eaten?

Illustrate your favorite answer above.

What Color Is Your Hair?

Survey and Graph

Minnow was fascinated by Rose's red hair; it was so different from her own black hair. Discover the story of these two young girls in the book *Minnow and Rose*. Which hair color do you think the largest number of students in your class have?

Survey 25 students to find the color of their hair.

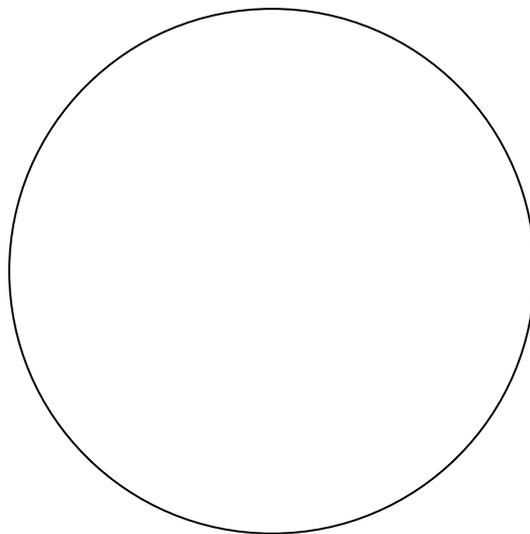
Black

Brown

Blonde

Red

Use the data you collected to make a circle graph showing the results. Remember, circle graphs show percents.





Yummy Blueberry Jam

Rose was picking berries when she discovered the native camp across the river. Enjoy reading the story of *Minnow and Rose* and then enjoy this yummy jam!

Blueberry-Apple Jam (Adult supervision advised)

Ingredients

4 cups fresh or frozen blueberries
4 medium-sized cooking apples. Core, peel, and dice
2 cups water
3³/₄ cups sugar
jars with lids
saucepan

Directions

1. Simmer water and apples in a saucepan for about 20 minutes until the apples are soft and mushy.
2. Add the blueberries to the apples and simmer for 5 minutes.
3. Add the sugar and bring to a boil. Boil for 5-6 minutes.
4. Pour jam into the jars. Let cool and put on the lids.
5. Enjoy your jam on a slice of toast!



Rose's Journey Journal

Enjoy reading *Minnow and Rose*. Think about what it would have been like to cross the country in a covered wagon. Your journey might have taken four to five months!

Pretend you were on the same wagon train as Rose.
Write one week of diary entries about your trip.

Monday _____

Tuesday _____

Wednesday _____

Thursday _____

Friday _____

Saturday _____

Sunday _____



Minnow and Rose

A Letter to a Friend

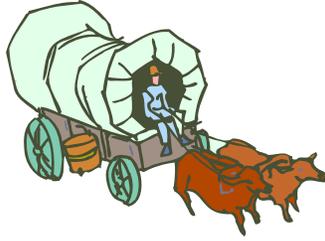
You've read about the friendship that took place between Rose and Minnow in the book *Minnow and Rose*.

Write a letter from Rose to Minnow telling her about the rest of her trip west.

Dear

Write a letter from Minnow to Rose telling her about an adventure that happened to her with another wagon train.

Dear



Crossing the Prairie

Imagine what it might have been like to spend over a month traveling across the prairie in a covered wagon. A prairie is an extensive area of flat or rolling grassland. This is what Rose was experiencing as her family headed west in the book *Minnow and Rose*.

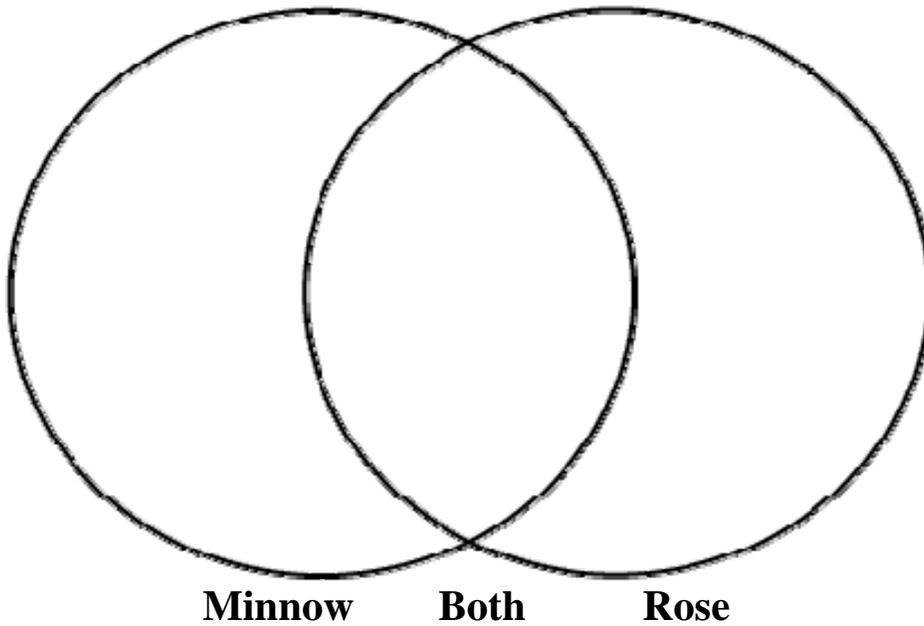
Make a list of things you think Rose might have done to keep herself occupied on this long trip. Remember there was very little room in the wagon to carry personal items. Be creative.

Alike Yet Different!

Venn Diagram

Study the ways the two main characters are alike and how they are different in the story *Minnow and Rose*. The way they look, how they live, and what they eat, are just a few of the things to consider.

Make a Venn diagram comparing the two girls.



WHAT IF?

Did you ever wonder how the end of a story might have been different if just one thing had changed in the story? After reading *Minnow and Rose*, answer the questions below.

1. What if Minnow had not gone to the river to watch the crossing?

2. What if the Indians hadn't helped Rose's family cross the river?

3. What if Rose had drifted away from Minnow's grasp in the water?

4. What if Rose's family had never joined the wagon train?

No Glass for the Window!

Minnow and Rose is the story of two young girls from different cultures who meet and share a frightening experience. Read the book to find out what happened to the girls.

If Rose's family decided to build a cabin on the plains it would have been very difficult to find glass for windows. What could they do? One substitute for glass might have been treated paper.

Use the directions below to make a paper window.

Materials

- Large brown paper bag
- Cooking oil
- Paint brush
- Scissors
- Newspapers

Directions

1. Cut the paper bag to form a 12" by 14" rectangle window.
2. Cover your work area with newspapers.
3. Use the paint brush to paint your paper window with cooking oil.
4. Let dry.
5. Hold the paper window to the light.

Explain how this window might take the place of a glass window on the prairie.

Minnow and Rose

Answers

Practicing Place Value 1) 26,754 2) 7,090,200 3) 3,468,295 4) 537

Geographic Terms- 1) E 2) H 3) B 4) G 5) C 6) D 7) A 8) F

Common or Proper 1) P 2) C 3) C 4) P 5) P 6) C 7) P 8) C
9) C 10) P

All About Minnow and Rose 1) she was very small 2) 5 3) red 4) oxen
5) berries 6) tools 7) on a raft 8) the weight of her dress pulled her down
9) Minnow 10) straw dolls of themselves

Writing Similes 1) the summer sky 2) a moonless night