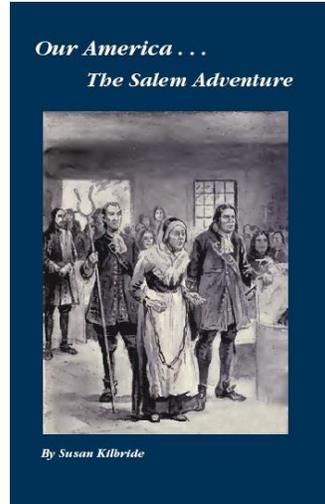


Activities to Accompany: *The Salem Adventure* By Susan Kilbride



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These activities are designed to accompany the book *The Salem Adventure*, but they can be used for any unit study on the Salem witch trials or Colonial times.

The Salem Adventure

Join Finn and Ginny as they continue to search back in time to find their lost parents. In the previous two books in the series, Finn and Ginny have adventured with the Pilgrims and survived the horrors of King Philip's War. In this third adventure, they find themselves caught up in the events of the Salem Witch Trials.

The *Our America* books are designed to teach the stories of United States history in such a fun way that the reader won't even realize that they're educational. *The Salem Adventure* is based on actual accounts written by the people who lived through the witch trials. Ages 10 and up.

Susan Kilbride is a home educator who realized that the best way to teach history wasn't by using standard text books but by telling the stories of the people who lived it. For more information on Susan and her books and for some free activities to go along with *The Salem Adventure*, visit her website at: <http://funtasticunitstudies.com/>

The *Salem Adventure* is available at Amazon at the following link:

http://www.amazon.com/The-Salem-Adventure-America-Volume/dp/1483989798/ref=sr_1_4?ie=UTF8&qid=1366217207&sr=8-4&keywords=susan+kilbride

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Praise for Books in the Our America Series

When I first informed my 10-year-old that I had a new book for her to read for school, she let out a sigh combined with a look like, "Oh, great!...That means something I won't enjoy." Little did she know that an exciting journey awaited her. She began reading and within the first chapter informed me that she already loved the book! She was taken away into a world of adventure seeking to discover a mystery. . . .Thank you, Susan Kilbride, for the fantastic opportunity to teach my children about their rich heritage and to keep them excited about learning more.

Tammy Wollner, author of Keeping His Way Pure

My 11-year-old son, who has no desire to learn from a textbook about the pilgrims and memorize boring dates, eagerly read The Pilgrim Adventure. A living book, The Pilgrim Adventure.com combines real facts with some fiction to make the subject more appealing.

Tina from Newbeehomeschooler.com

You cannot go wrong with an adventure with Finn and Ginny!

Richele McFarlin from Families.com

This series is great for kids who loved the Magic Tree House series but are now looking for books targeted to slightly older children. Written for upper elementary aged kids, this book includes two likable main characters who love history.

Pamela from the Lavish Book Shelf

Susan knows what homeschoolers are looking for and delivers that in her books.

Heidi Johnson from Homeschool-how-to.com

Never mind the mind-numbing and biased textbooks to learn history. You and your children will learn more from reading Ms. Kilbride's books and be far more entertained as well.

Gail Nagasako, author of Homeschooling Why and How

I love how Finn and Ginny become a part of the story and participate in the unfolding of the pilgrims' experiences when they arrive at Plymouth. I found myself, while reading it, forgetting that it was also educational! An especially nice fact about this book is that the author obviously knows her facts on the Pilgrims and Mayflower. . . .She very effectively brings these people to life in an interesting way for the reader.

Joy from homeschoolliterature.com

Susan Kilbride, homeschool mother and author, has done it again! The Pilgrim Adventure is Susan's first book in her new Our America series, and it is a wonderful way to involve kids of all ages in learning about early America....The storyline involves homeschooled twins, Finn and Ginny, in a search for their missing parents. This fantastic search lands the twins aboard the Mayflower and eventually the new land. Mystery and adventure keep your attention while historical facts are seamlessly woven into the story.

Jackie from Quaint Scribbles

Thank you Ms. Kilbride. This captivating book is a keeper to add to our early American time period.

Tina Robertson from New Beginnings

Materials Needed for this Unit

Newspaper	Pencil
Sticks	Candle wick
Matches or a lighter	A quart-sized milk carton
A 16-oz bag of beans	Paperclip
2 Onions	Paraffin wax
2 Ham hocks	Wax dye
2-3 Cloves garlic	Cheese cloth
2 T brown sugar	A square cake pan
1 bay leaf	2 tsp. basil
Vinegar	Tinfoil
Soup pot	Quill feather
Whipping Cream	Washable ink or tempera paint
An empty baby food jar	Salt
1 1/4 C cornmeal	Berries, onion skins, or turmeric
3/4 tsp. salt	Fabric or a tee-shirt to dye
1 Egg	1/2 C lemon juice
Cooking oil	1/2 Gallon of whole milk
Skillet	Candle decorating wax, either liquid or sheets
Hot pads	
A double boiler or a large metal coffee can and a saucepan to put it in	
Either two colors of playdough or:	
1 C of white flour	
1/2 C of salt	
1T of oil	
2 tsp. cream of tartar (you can find it in the spice section)	

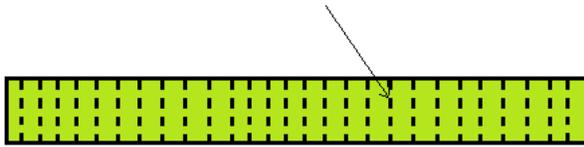
Activity 1: The Gossip Game

In the beginning of *The Salem Adventure*, Ginny overhears some gossip about her parents that upsets her. Later, she sees how gossip and rumor hurt the people of Salem Village and contributed to the witchcraft scare. There is a classic game that children have been playing for years that shows how gossip and rumor can change a story. You will need a fairly large group of children to play this, around ten or more. Have everyone sit in a circle and then whisper a silly phrase in the ear of one of the kids. It could be something like, "Sally went to the market to buy salmon and stubbed her toe." Have the first child whisper what he or she heard into the ear of the child on the right and have that child whisper what they heard to the next child, and so on. The last child says the phrase out loud. Very often, the phrase comes out totally different at the end than what it was when it started around the circle. Talk to the kids about how each time someone spreads a story about someone else it gets changed a little, to the point where sometimes what is being said isn't even true. Discuss the damage that gossip can do and talk about how it would make them feel if they heard that their friends were talking about them behind their backs.

Activity 2: Nine Men's Morris

Nine Men's Morris is a board game that has been around since Roman times and is one that was played in the American colonies. The game is played with two players who will each need nine game pieces. You can make your game pieces by taking two different colors of play dough, rolling them into two "logs" that are about a half inch in diameter, and cutting

**Cut the Playdough
on the Dotted lines
to form disks**



the logs into little disks. Let the disks dry out before playing.

If you don't have any playdough, you can make it yourself by mixing 1 C of white flour, 1/2 C of salt, 2 tsp. cream of tartar (you can find it in the spice section of your grocery store), 1 T of oil, and 1 C of water in a saucepan. Put the mixture on a stove set on medium heat and stir constantly for at least three minutes, until the dough forms a

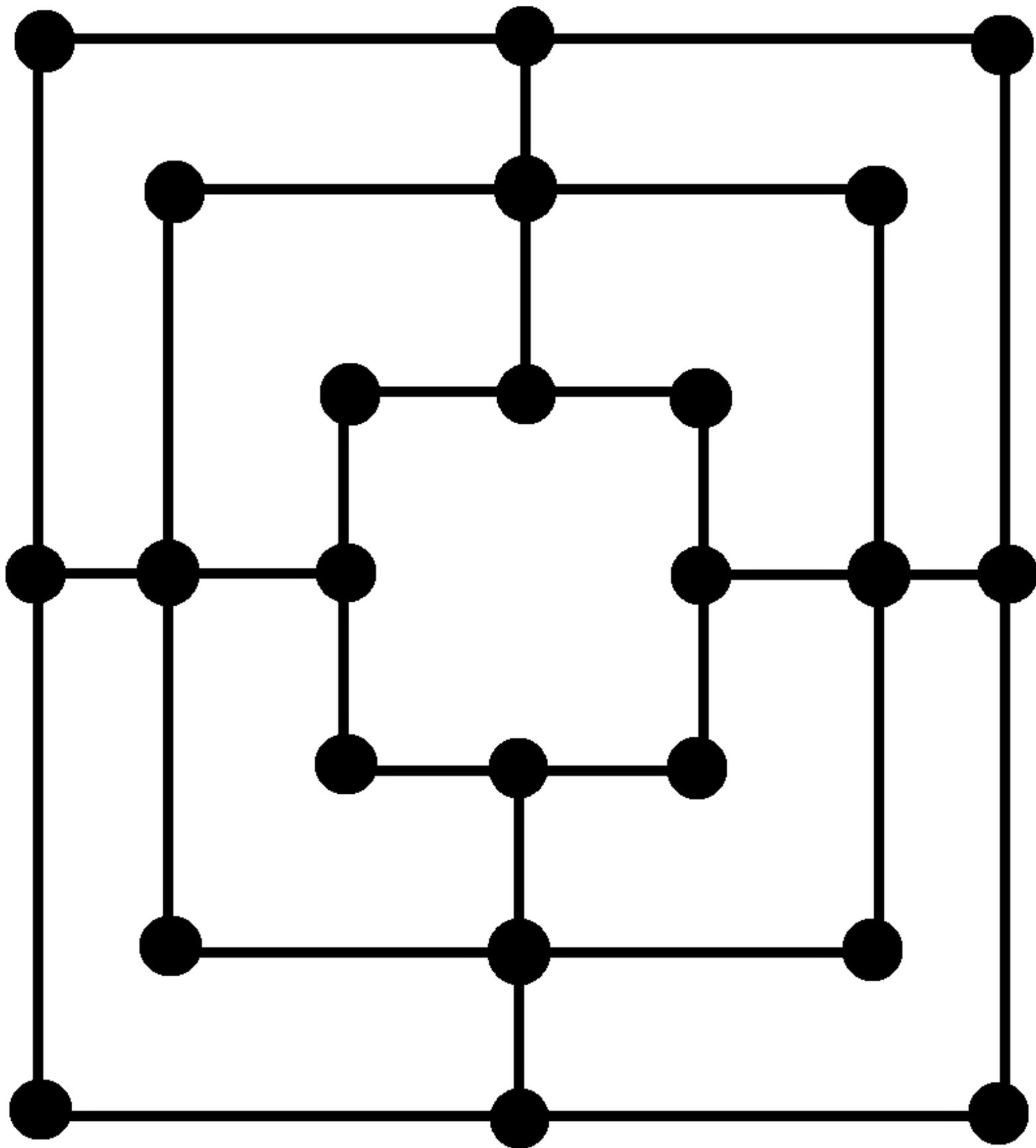
thick ball. Take the pot off the stove and cool the dough on tin foil until you can touch it without burning yourself. Knead the dough until it has the consistency of playdough. You can add a few drops of food coloring while you knead it to give it color. Remember that you will need two colors of disks for the game. Store the playdough in a tightly sealed container.

Once you have made your playing pieces, print out the game board from the following page. The game has two parts to it. In the first part, the two players take turns putting their pieces (nine each) on the board. The pieces can go anywhere on the board where two lines intersect at a point. If one player is able to place three pieces in a row, either vertically or horizontally (not diagonally), he or she has formed what is called a "mill" and can remove any one of the other player's pieces off the board. However, a piece can only be removed from an opponent's mill if there is no other piece available to move. Once all of the pieces are placed on the board (except for the ones that have been removed from the game), it is time to start the second part of the game.

In the second part of the game, the players continue taking turns to try to form mills by moving their pieces into empty spaces. The pieces can only move into empty spaces that are next to them; they can't jump over other pieces. Just like in the first part of the game, every time a player forms a mill, he or she can remove one of the opponent's pieces. Players can break their own mills and re-form them as a strategy to remove their opponent's pieces.

Once a player is down to two pieces, he or she can no longer form a mill and has lost the game. Another way to win is to block your opponent in so that he or she can't make any moves.

In one variation of the game, when one of the players gets down to three pieces, then both players can take turns moving their pieces to any vacant point on the board. Again, the players play until one player has only two pieces or is blocked in.

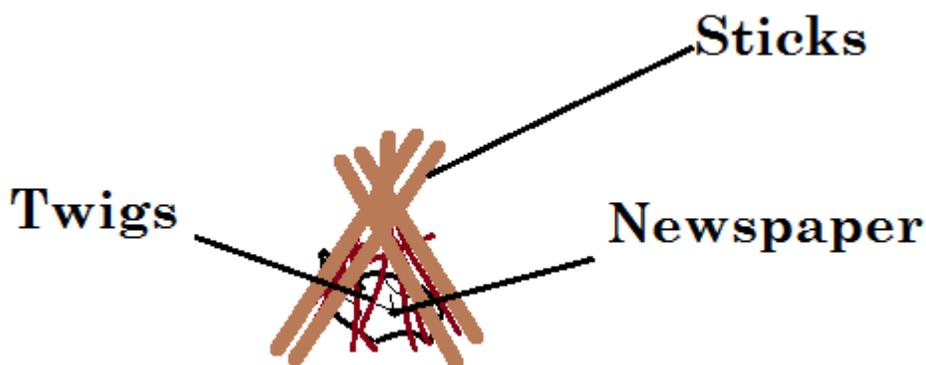


Activity 3: Cooking a Colonial Meal on a Fire

When Finn first entered the Nurses' house, he noticed the huge hearth downstairs. Colonial fireplaces were often large enough to walk in, sometimes with a space for an oven built right into the bricks. Some of the easiest meals to cook over a fire are one pot meals like soups and stews, so these types of meals were common during colonial times. Below are directions for building a fire and a recipe for bean soup that you can cook over it. If you don't have a safe place to build a fire, you can always just cook it on your stove!

The first step in building a fire is to make a ring of rocks that will surround your fire. The ring should be no more than two feet in diameter. You don't want to make your fire too large, or it will be hard to cook over. The rocks you use should be about five inches tall.

Once you have made your ring, it is time to start building your fire within it. Start with a small pile of birchbark, dried pine needles, or paper that is about as big as your fist. Then take some very thin (one sixteenth to one eighth inch in diameter) twigs and lay them over the birchbark. Next, take larger sticks, about an inch in diameter, and lay them on top of everything in the shape of a tepee. Leave an opening in the front to start the fire in. The opening should face the wind, so that any wind blowing will blow into the fire:



Finally, take some logs and put them in a square around the whole thing. At this point you can start the fire by lighting it with a match in the opening and *softly* blowing on it to get it lit. A successful fire should take only one match to light (or of course, you could use a lighter).

Always use dry wood for your fire, and *always* have water nearby in to prevent forest fires. When you are done with your fire, put it out *completely*. Never leave a fire unattended. On the following page is a recipe for bean soup that you can cook over the fire. You will need some sort of grate to put across your rocks that your soup pot can sit on. Don't put it on the fire until after the fire has died down a bit and has some good coals.

Bean Soup

- A 16-oz bag of beans that has been rinsed and soaked for 6 hours
- 2 Onions
- 2 Ham hocks
- 2-3 Cloves garlic
- 2 T brown sugar
- 1 bay leaf
- 2 tsp. Basil
- A splash of vinegar

Good beans to use for this recipe are black beans, pinto beans, navy beans, or great northern beans. Put everything in a large soup pot, add water, and place the pot over the fire. If you don't have a fire, you can cook this over a stove by first bringing it to a boil and then lowering the heat to medium or medium low until cooked. Stir frequently to prevent burning.

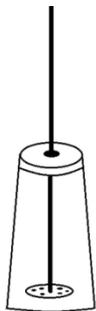
This is a good meal to eat with a slice of bread, or you could make the following recipe for Johnny Cake, which was a cornmeal pancake eaten by the colonists (though it probably had a different name). There are many different recipes for Johnny Cake, but all of them are fairly simple.

Johnny Cake

- 1 1/4 C cornmeal
- 1 C water
- 3/4 tsp. salt
- 1 Egg
- Cooking oil

Mix all of the ingredients together except for the cooking oil. Pour some oil in a skillet and place it on either the fire or your stove. Once the oil is hot, drop the batter into the skillet and cook the batter just like you would pancakes. Johnny Cakes are good with honey or maple syrup, or you can use the homemade butter from the next activity to spread on them.

Activity 4: Making Butter



Tell your students that the colonists did not have grocery stores where they could buy things like butter; they had to make it themselves. In colonial times, they made butter in a butter churn—a tall wooden container that they would pour cream into. The lid had a handle going through it with a plunger on the end. The colonists would move the handle up and down to turn the cream into butter. You don't need a butter churn to make your own butter though. You can easily make it by purchasing some whipping cream (it needs to be whipping cream and not half and half) and beating it in a mixer until it turns into butter.

A fun way to make butter with kids is to fill a baby food jar about one quarter full and have the kids shake it until it turns into butter. You could pass it back and forth (shaking it the whole time) while you tell a story.

Activity 5: Making Candles

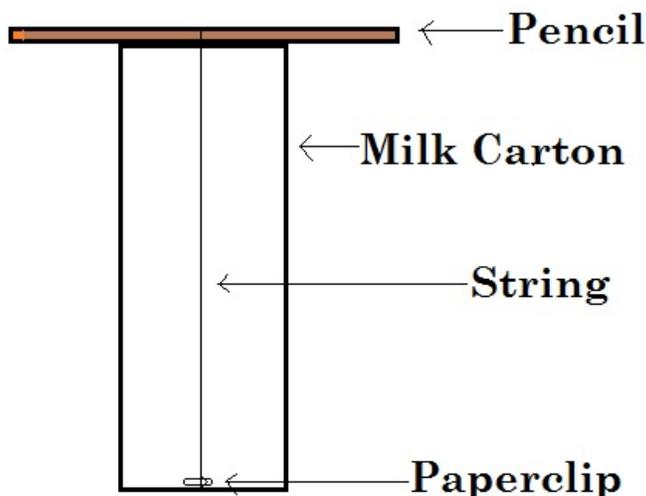
Point out to your students that butter wasn't the only thing that the colonists had to make themselves. They had to make almost everything that they needed to survive. And, since they had no electricity, they also had to make their own light sources. One common light source was slices or knots of wood from the pitch pine tree. The high concentration of pitch in the knots and center of this wood made for a brightly burning flame. Unfortunately, it also left a lot of sticky droppings.

Candles were a preferred light source, but they were harder to make than the pitch pine knots. There were two main ways to make candles, with a mold or by dipping them. Below are two types of candles that you can make using these methods.

Molded Candles

- A quart-sized milk carton
- Candle wick
- Paraffin wax
- Paper clip
- Double boiler or a large coffee can and a large saucepan that it will fit in
- Wax dye
- A square cake pan
- Tinfoil
- Pencil
- Candle decorating wax, either liquid or sheets

Take a quart-sized milk carton and cut off the top so that it is the height that you want your candle to be. Then, take a candle wick, attach a paper clip to one end, and place it inside the milk carton so that the paper clip is resting on the bottom of the carton. Cut the wick so that it is a few inches above the carton and tie the free end to the middle of a pencil. Make sure that the wick goes down the center of the carton.

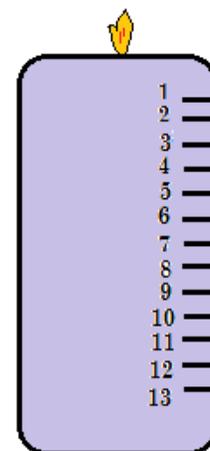


Next, melt some paraffin wax over a double boiler while stirring frequently. If you don't have a double boiler, you can melt it in a *metal* coffee can sitting in a pot of water. There are a few things you should be aware of when melting wax. It is extremely flammable, so do not melt it directly over the stove—always have a pot of water under the container that you are melting it in, and don't put your stove setting on higher than medium heat. Do not leave your melting wax unattended. Take it off the stove as-soon-as the wax has melted. If for some reason your wax catches on fire, treat it as you would an oil fire and use a fire extinguisher, not water, to put it out.

Once your wax is melted, add the wax dye per the instructions on the package. Then, take the milk carton and place it in a square cake pan that is lined with tinfoil. Fill the milk carton with wax, keeping the wick in the center of the carton. Do not fill it completely to the top; you don't want your pencil to get stuck in the wax. Let it cool for twenty-four hours and then peel the milk carton off the wax. Cut the wick off the pencil and, if you can, cut the paper clip off the bottom of the candle.

After your candle is made, you can decorate it using either sheets of decorating wax or liquid decorating wax. One fun thing to do is to make a child's birthday countdown candle. A countdown candle has numbers down the side of it to mark a year in age. Every year you light the candle on the child's birthday and burn it down one number.

You can also decorate the candle by cutting fun shapes out of a sheet of decorating wax and sticking them on to the candle. You might want to point out to your students that the colonists probably didn't spend much time decorating their candles.



Dipped Candles

- Paraffin wax
- Candle wick
- Wax dye
- Double boiler or a coffee can and a saucepan that it will fit in
- A tall pot of room temperature water
- Hot pads

The other type of candle the colonists made was dipped candles. These were more labor-intensive, but they did not require a candle mold.

First, spread your work surface with a few layers of newspaper. Then melt your paraffin and add the color as you did for the molded candle. Using a hot pad, remove the can (or top of the double boiler) with the melted wax away from the heat and on to your work surface. Place your pot of water next to it.

Cut the candle wick into pieces that are ten to twelve inches long. Take one piece of wick and dip it into the wax. Then dip it into the water. Keep repeating this until you have a candle. At some point, you will want to press the bottom flat so that it will be able to stand up. If you like, you can mold it with your fingers somewhat after each dip in the water.

If the wax in the coffee can starts to harden, you can always return it to the stove to heat it again. Be sure not to touch the sides of the hot can while dipping the candles.

Activity 6: Hold a Mock Trial

In *The Salem Adventure*, Finn and Ginny are stunned by how unfair the witchcraft trials seem when compared to modern trials. They were particularly surprised with how the judges accepted spectral evidence (when one person says that they saw someone else's spirit do something). This type of evidence is not accepted in courtrooms today. Another type of evidence generally not accepted in courtrooms today is hearsay evidence. Hearsay is when one person says they heard something, but they didn't actually experience it themselves. So if Jane says, "Little Red Riding Hood said that the wolf ate her grandmother," that is hearsay evidence because Jane didn't actually see the wolf eat the grandmother.

A fun way to teach about how courtrooms work is to hold a mock trial. You will need a few students to do this. Before you begin, talk to them about the spectral evidence in *The Salem Adventure* and about hearsay evidence.

First choose a fairy tale to use for your mock trial. Then, choose a character in the fairy tale that you want to bring to trial for their crimes. Assign people to be the judge, prosecuting attorney, defense attorney, defendant, witnesses for the defense, witnesses for the prosecution, and a jury (or if you don't have enough students, you can skip the jury, but explain that in a criminal trial there would normally be a jury).

Have the attorneys talk to the defendant and their witnesses and build their cases. When they are ready, the trial can begin. When the judge enters the room, everyone should stand until the judge tells them to be seated and says something like, "Good morning ladies and gentleman. The court will now hear the case of the State versus The Big Bad Wolf. The Big Bad wolf is charged with eating Little Red Riding Hood's grandmother. He has pleaded not guilty to these charges."

Next, both attorneys should present their opening statements (prosecution first). This is when the attorneys briefly describe the evidence that they will present to the jury.

Once the opening statements are complete, the prosecuting attorney starts by calling his or her witnesses to the stand to tell their stories. The defense attorney is allowed to cross examine the witnesses.

When talking to their own witnesses, the attorneys cannot ask "leading questions." A leading question is one which suggests what the answer is or one which the witness will basically repeat when they give their answer. A question with a "yes" or "no" answer is quite likely a leading question. However, when cross examining the other attorney's witnesses, the attorneys *are* allowed to ask leading questions. Also, witnesses are not allowed to give their own opinions unless they are expert witnesses (because they have an expertise in a subject relevant to the case).

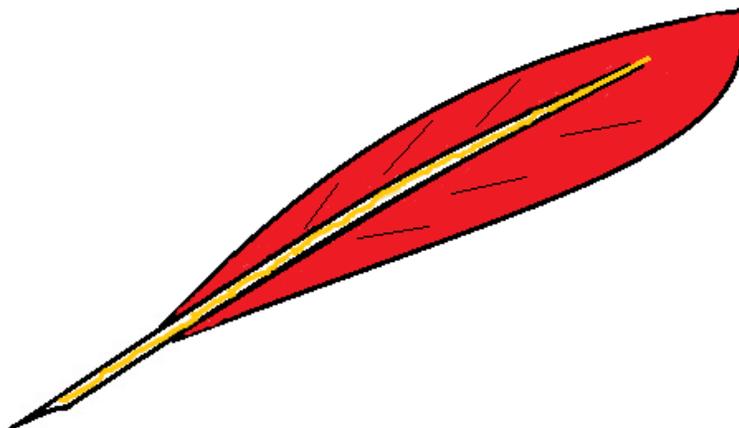
After the prosecution's witnesses have been examined, it is time for the defense attorney to call his or her witnesses to the stand to tell their stories. The prosecuting attorney should be given a chance to cross examine each witness. It is up to the defense attorney whether or not the defendant will take the stand.

Once both sides have presented their cases, it is time for the closing statements. The prosecuting attorney goes first and reviews the evidence against the defendant and asks the jury to find the defendant "guilty." The defense attorney then reviews the evidence in favor of the defendant and asks the jury to find the defendant "not guilty."

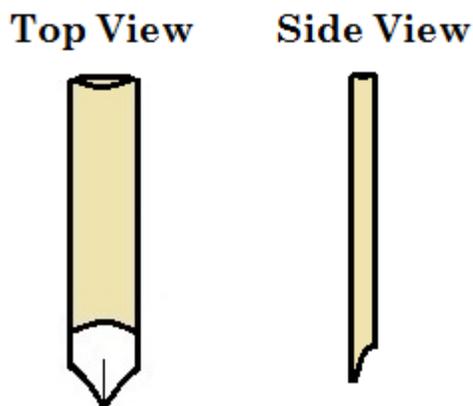
Now it is time for the jury to decide the case. The judge instructs the jury that to find a guilty verdict, the jury has to be sure "beyond a reasonable doubt" that the defendant is guilty. If it is a criminal trial, the jury's verdict needs to be unanimous.

Activity 7: Try Writing with a Quill Pen

The early colonists did not have pens and pencils like we do. They made their pens from feathers. For this activity you will need a long quill feather and washable ink or watered down tempera paint. Quill feathers are the ones with the long vanes on them. To make a quill into a pen, a piece of the end of the quill is cut away to make a point to write with:



To do this, cut the quill end of the feather so that it looks like this:



You can experiment with shortening and lengthening the tips, for example:



Dip the quill tip into washable ink and use it to write something on a piece of paper. If you don't have any washable ink, you can use tempera paint thinned with water until it is the consistency of ink.

Activity 8: Dyeing Cloth

Ready-made cloth was difficult and expensive for the colonists to obtain, so they had to learn how to dye their own cloth and yarns using local plants. Your students can use plant dyes to dye an old tee-shirt or other piece of fabric.

Before you start, soak the tee-shirt in salt water. Use one cup of salt for every three gallons of water (one teaspoon of salt for every cup). Simmer the tee-shirt in the water for about an hour, checking frequently to make sure that your water hasn't evaporated. The salt will help fix the dye to the fabric. After an hour, remove the tee-shirt from the water and rinse it out.

While the tee-shirt is simmering, you can make your dye bath. Three possible dye materials are: crushed berries, onion skins, or turmeric. Chop the plant parts into fine pieces, place them in a large pot, and add twice as much water as plant parts to the pot. If you use turmeric (which gives a rich yellow dye), use four tablespoons turmeric to one cup of water. Boil the mixture until you have a rich color, then strain out the plant parts, saving the water.

When the tee-shirt is ready, put it (still wet) into the dye water that you saved. Keep heating the water, but do not allow it to boil. Stir the shirt as it heats to keep the color even. After about half an hour, remove the fabric from the dye, wring it out, and hang it to dry.

Items that are dyed with natural dyes should be washed separately in cold water.

Activity 9: Making Cheese

Butter wasn't the only milk product that the colonists had to make themselves. They also made their own cheese. You can make a simple cheese with your students using whole milk and lemon juice.

Take a half gallon of milk and, stirring frequently, heat it on a stove until it starts to boil. Just as the milk starts to boil, remove it from the stove and stir in a half cup of lemon juice. Let it sit for about two minutes. The curds will soon separate from the rest of the milk. Strain it through some cheesecloth to remove the excess liquid. Add salt to taste. These cheese curds are especially good on a buttered English muffin.

Praise for Susan Kilbride's *Science Unit Studies for Homeschoolers and Teachers*

If you are looking for quality science units, but simply don't have the time to put a unit together, Susan's book is perfect for you. If you want to supplement your existing science program, I definitely recommend taking a close look at the book. Those of you who might be a little scared of trying to put together your own science lessons for fear you might get something wrong, fear no more....

--Jackie from Quaint Scribbles--

This collection of fun science lessons and activities are designed to offer hands on experiments that will satisfy the curious nature of children, while making it easier for parents to teach science.

--Kathy Davis of HomeschoolBuzz.com--

If you're looking for a science unit study homeschool program that is easy to use and is comprehensive and worth using, then you should check out "Science Unit Studies for Homeschoolers and Teachers." I recently read through the book and really liked what I saw.

--Heidi Johnson of Homeschool-how-to.com--

I think "Science Unit Studies for Homeschoolers and Teachers" is a good value and provides a lot of fun, hands-on science for homeschoolers.

--Courtney Larson, The Old Schoolhouse® Magazine--

....the conversational style and logical, easy-to-follow instructions certainly make this a recommended and useful tool for any parent; especially those that may be uncomfortable or unfamiliar with teaching science.

--Jeanie Frias of California Homeschooler--

The wealth of information included therein is amazing and the material is novice friendly. I would definitely recommend "Science Unit Studies for Homeschoolers and Teachers."

-- Bridgette Taylor with Hearts at Home Curriculum--

Susan's book is full of so many activities that one would have a very full study of general science over the course of a school year if every activity was completed. I teach a General Science class at a local homeschool co-op and I am implementing a lot of the activities in this book into my class this year. There are even short quizzes (complete with answer keys) provided for the older student unit studies. The quizzes are multiple choice in format and cover the main points students should glean from each unit. I highly recommend this book for any science teacher or student. It really makes the teaching of science quite simple and fun.

Overall I give Susan's book 5+ stars.

--Heart of the Matter Online--

Science Unit Studies for Homeschoolers and Teachers is available online at Amazon.com:
http://www.amazon.com/Science-Unit-Studies-Homeschoolers-Teachers/dp/1463549156/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1310266925&sr=8-1