

TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS IN KENTUCKY ACTIVITIES



Writing Prompts

- What's a place or an activity not mentioned in the book that you think would be a good representative of Kentucky? Write about sharing the place or activity with a visiting friend or relative.
- When Martin visits Lincoln's birthplace, he writes home—"[The log cabin] reminded me that people can do great things even if their beginnings don't seem great. Wondering if I'll do great things, Martin" Write about a great thing you'd like to do with your life. What can you be doing now to help prepare you to meet that goal?
- What was your favorite place Martin and Marybeth visited? Write about why you particularly liked it. Have you ever been there yourself? If you have, tell about your experience.
- Choose a holiday (Christmas or any other) and describe how you celebrate it. Interview someone else and ask them how they celebrate the same holiday. Write about the similarities and differences.
- Pretend you are trying to convince someone to come live in Kentucky. Write a persuasive piece that would make them want to move here.



Science

Biology—Have students choose an animal mentioned in the book and find out more about it. Possibilities include: cave crickets (their part in the cave eco-system), bats and the white-nose syndrome, mastodons and mammoths (similarities and differences), thoroughbred horse, viceroy (state butterfly), brachiopods (state fossil), venomous snakes (helpful uses for the venom), and, of course, the cardinal!

Geology—How is coal formed? Why does Kentucky have so many caves? How are they formed? What causes sinkholes like the one that swallowed those eight museum Corvette cars?



Culture

- Have someone come to your school to teach your class a Kentucky Appalachian folk dance, or go online to find the directions and music. "Bingo" (this has the advantage of being sung, so you don't need music), "Patty Cake Polka," and "Ace of Diamonds" are three possibilities.
- Have someone come share some traditional Kentucky folk songs or some Bluegrass music with your class. If this isn't feasible, find a simple piece of Kentucky music online and teach it to your class yourself.
- Have your students help fix Hot Browns and enjoy a taste of Kentucky!

Geography

Have each student choose a different Kentucky state park and prepare a report about the park to share with the class.

Geography and Math

Give each student a copy of the Kentucky map*. Have them locate the places Martin and Marybeth visited and draw a path that shows the sequence of the visits.

Using internet map resources, have the students list the mileage between each of the sites along the route and then determine the total mileage Martin, Marybeth, and her parents travelled. If you want to simplify the addition, have the students round each of the distances before adding. Calculators are also an option.

An alternative is to divide the class in half. One group rounds the distances and then adds. The other group adds first and then rounds their answer. Are the final answers the same? Why might they not be? When is it helpful and appropriate to use rounding? What are some situations where it would not be appropriate to use rounding?

Geometry

Discuss quilting with your class—what’s involved in the process, why people might have originally chosen to make quilts, why people still like to make them. Have students research and find a quilt square pattern they like, or show samples on the overhead. Talk about what shapes are involved in the patterns. Discuss symmetry.

Give each student a blank white square of construction paper. For older students provide construction paper in a variety of colors, rulers, scissors, and glue. For younger students provide them pre-cut construction paper shapes (rectangles, triangles, squares, etc.) and glue. Let each student design their own quilt square. When they are finished, you may want to glue all the squares on a large sheet of paper to create a classroom ‘quilt.’ This could be hung in the classroom or perhaps in the lunch room or elsewhere in the school.

History

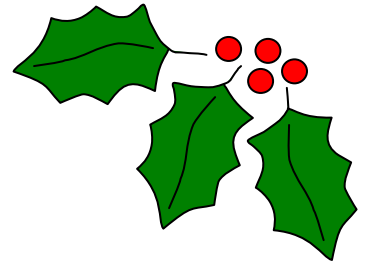
Have students choose one of these Kentucky people to research and write about:

Daniel Boone
Abraham Lincoln
Harland Sanders
Isaac Murphy
George Ella Lyon
Diane Sawyer

Mary Breckinridge
Whitney M. Young
John James Audubon
Thomas Hunt Morgan
Jennifer Lawrence

Henry Clay
Muhammad Ali
Loretta Lynn
Bill Monroe
Garrett Morgan

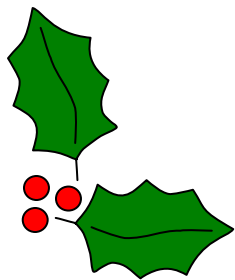
*See answer key page for link.



KENTUCKY SUDOKU

Fill in the squares so that each row, column, and 2x4 rectangle has the letters K-E-N-T-U-C-K-Y (2 Ks in each).

	K		Y		N	U	E
Y		U		K	E		C
C	T	K			Y	K	
E		K	C	N			K
	E		T	U	C	K	
U			E	K		N	T
N	Y	T	K		K		
	K	E			U	C	K





Famous People of Kentucky Matching Activity

Match the people on the left, mentioned in *The Twelve Days of Christmas in Kentucky*, with the item on the right.

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. Daniel Boone | A. Nobel Prize Winner for genetics |
| ___ 2. Garrett Morgan | B. The Great Compromiser |
| ___ 3. Mary Breckinridge | C. Children's author |
| ___ 4. Abraham Lincoln | D. Olympic Gold Medalist in boxing |
| ___ 5. Bill Monroe | E. Civil rights leader |
| ___ 6. Isaac Murphy | F. Award-winning actress |
| ___ 7. George Ella Lyon | G. Fried chicken |
| ___ 8. John James Audubon | H. Three-position traffic light |
| ___ 9. Henry Clay | I. Father of Bluegrass Music |
| ___ 10. Diane Sawyer | J. Frontier Nursing Service |
| ___ 11. Muhammad Ali | K. Nature painter |
| ___ 12. Loretta Lynn | L. United States President |
| ___ 13. Thomas Hunt Morgan | M. Television news journalist |
| ___ 14. Whitney M. Young | N. Three-time Kentucky Derby winner |
| ___ 15. Harland Sanders | O. Pioneer explorer |
| ___ 16. Jennifer Lawrence | P. Country music singer |

SOLUTION TO KENTUCKY SUDOKU

K	K	C	Y	T	N	U	E
Y	N	U	K	K	E	T	C
C	T	K	U	E	Y	K	N
E	U	K	C	N	T	Y	K
K	E	N	T	U	C	K	Y
U	C	Y	E	K	K	N	T
N	Y	T	K	C	K	E	U
T	K	E	N	Y	U	C	K

ANSWERS TO FAMOUS PEOPLE OF KENTUCKY MATCHING

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. O | 9. B |
| 2. H | 10. M |
| 3. J | 11. D |
| 4. L | 12. P |
| 5. I | 13. A |
| 6. N | 14. E |
| 7. C | 15. G |
| 8. K | 16. F |

KENTUCKY MAP may be found here:

<http://evelynchristensen.com/kymap.pdf>