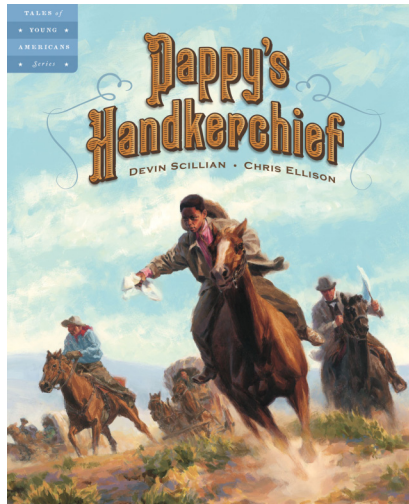


# Teacher's Guide



## Pappy's Handkerchief

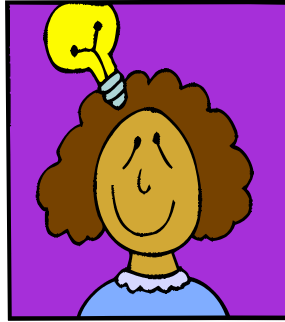
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**Published by  
Sleeping Bear Press  
310 N. Main St., Suite 300  
Chelsea, MI 48118  
800-487-2323  
[www.sleepingbearpress.com](http://www.sleepingbearpress.com)**

**PRE-READING QUESTIONS**  
*Pappy's Handkerchief*



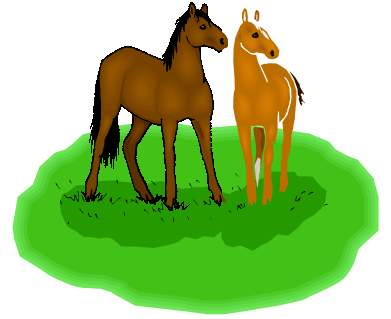
**DIRECTIONS**

The following questions are meant to stimulate discussion prior to reading the story, *Pappy's Handkerchief*. The questions could be posed to a group, used as journal topics, a bulletin board starter or any way to precede the reading of the story.

- 1) How do you feel when you travel to a place you have never been before?
- 2) What is bravery? What is courage? Cite examples.
- 3) Do you have family/household responsibilities?
- 4) If you had to leave home and were never able to return, what three things would you take and why? Would those three items fit in a container the size of a shoe box?
- 5) Does your family have any heirlooms? If so, what are they? What personal item would you like to pass on to future generations of your family?
- 6) Do you believe everything you hear?
- 7) What do you think it would be like to be unable to read? What obstacles would you face?

## COMPREHENSION

### *Pappy's Handkerchief*



DIRECTIONS: Read each of the following questions carefully. Use the story, *Pappy's Handkerchief*, to help you write complete answers.

- 1) What was Moses' father's occupation?
- 2) What was the process to stake a claim and obtain free land?
- 3) How was Liberty so helpful on the journey?
- 4) Who made the journey to the new land?
- 5) What problem was encountered in trying to sell the fish stall?
- 6) What did people in Moses' family sell in order to obtain money for the trip?
- 7) How did Moses and his family finally manage to leave Maryland for the new land?
- 8) What are the names of the two horses that pulled the family to the new land?
- 9) When did Moses' family arrive at camp in Indian Territory?
- 10) What area was being divided to those able to stake a claim?

11) What was Pappy's dream?

**CRITICAL THINKING**  
**Pappy's Handkerchief**

# Group Discussion

**DIRECTIONS:** Read each question below. Write your answer to each question and discuss them with others. What similarities and differences can you discover in the answers given?

- 1) Why do you think that Moses' entire family made the journey? What would have been the disadvantages in leaving some of the family behind in Maryland?
- 2) Why do you believe Moses' father, Ephraim, took the chance to leave Maryland for the Oklahoma Territory? Remember, there was no guarantee that he would receive land.
- 3) Why do you think no one protested Moses' leaving on his own to make the claim after the accident? What do you think Moses was thinking at this time?
- 4) As people waited for the April 22nd start, why do you believe some people attempted to cross the line early to stake a claim? Would you have made the attempt early?
- 5) Even though Moses was not eighteen years old, the U. S. Marshals allowed him to claim his land. Why?
- 6) If you were Moses' father, would you have taken this chance for your family? Explain your answer.

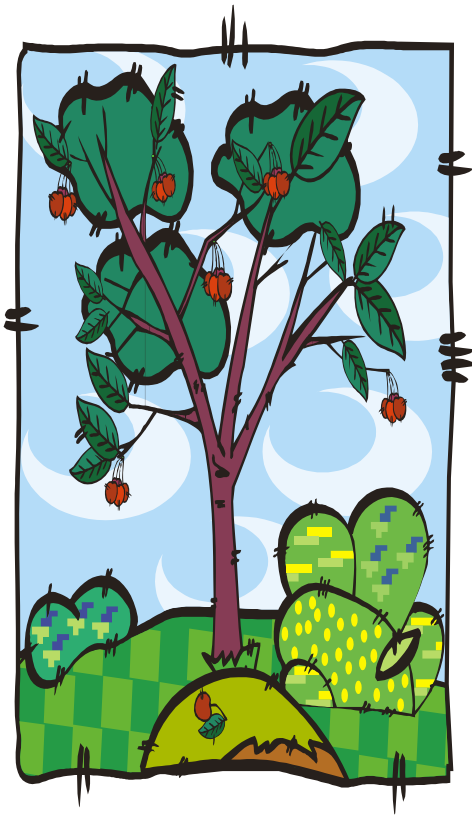


**JOURNAL/CHARACTER EDUCATION**

*Pappy's Handkerchief*

# The American Dream

**DIRECTIONS:** In *Pappy's Handkerchief* you read how one family took chances in order to achieve the American Dream. On the lines provided below write some examples of the chances Moses and his family took on their journey to the new land.



You've got to go out on a limb sometimes because that's where the fruit is.

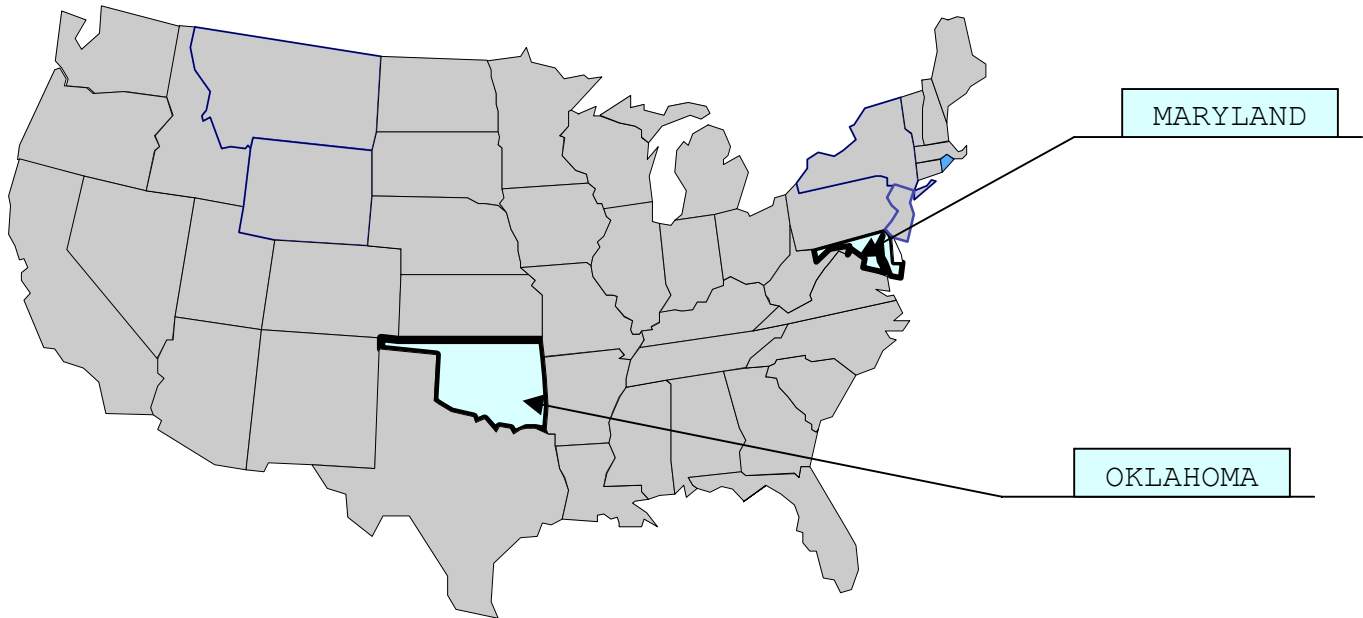
—Will Rogers

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What are some of the chances you would have taken if you were a member on this journey?

# THE JOURNEY

**DIRECTIONS:** Use the map of the United States to answer the questions below. The highlighted states of Maryland and Oklahoma show the family's starting point and ending point.



- 1) In which direction did Moses' family travel in order to arrive in Oklahoma Territory? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Which state is located directly south of Oklahoma? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Which ocean partially surrounds the state of Maryland? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) As mentioned in the story, put an "X" on at least three states that Moses' family traveled through on their journey to their new home.
- 5) Which four states surround Maryland? \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and  
\_\_\_\_\_

In your opinion, did Liberty Grosjean choose the best possible direction when traveling from Maryland to the Oklahoma Territory? Explain your answer.

# Figure it out...

**Directions:** Read each story problem carefully. Use the space provided to solve each math question and write your answer on the line provided.

Mr. Sanders purchased 5 pounds of salt cod from Moses' father.  
How many ounces of salt cod did he buy? (1 pound=16 ounces)

**Answer**\_\_\_\_\_

Mrs. Wayburn needed clams for the soup she served at her tavern.  
She purchased 48 ounces on Monday and 48 ounces on Thursday.  
How many pounds of clams did she purchase altogether that week?  
(1 pound=16 ounces)

**Answer**\_\_\_\_\_

Moses and his father trudged twelve blocks twice a day from their row house to their fish stall. If they made this journey seven days a week, how many blocks did they travel each week?

**Answer**\_\_\_\_\_

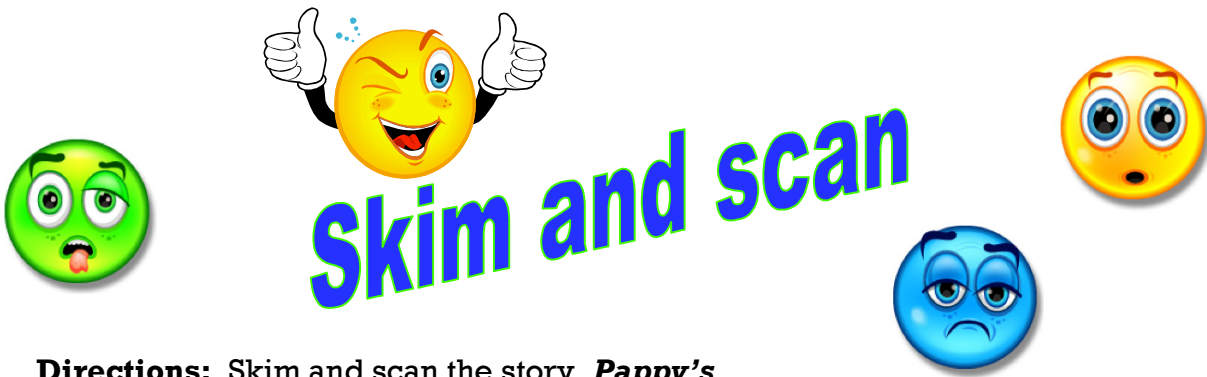
If Moses' father were to equally distribute the 160-acres to each of the ten family members that made the journey, how many acres would each person receive?

**Answer**\_\_\_\_\_

Of the 160 acres Moses' family claimed, four acres contained water, two acres contained a barn and home and 34 acres were sown with corn.  
How much of the land was still able to be farmed?

**Answer**\_\_\_\_\_





**Directions:** Skim and scan the story, *Pappy's Handkerchief*, for details describing the journey Moses and his family took from Baltimore, Maryland, to the new land in Oklahoma Territory. Describe how Moses felt at the beginning, middle, and end of the story.

# THE ORDER OF EVENTS

DIRECTIONS: Read the following sentences carefully. Show the correct order of the events by numbering the sentences **1** to **9**.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pappy asked Moses to take Rumble and claim the land.

\_\_\_\_\_ The cannon fired.

\_\_\_\_\_ Moses and his father flew off the buckboard and into the grass.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pa made sure everyone was okay.

\_\_\_\_\_ The wagon crashed down on Pa's leg.

\_\_\_\_\_ Rumble and Maybelle surged across the line.

\_\_\_\_\_ Maybelle stumbled forward on her bad leg and lost her footing.

\_\_\_\_\_ Ma, Granny, and Moses helped pull the wagon off of Pa.

\_\_\_\_\_ Moses raced along a creek to place Pappy's handkerchief in an unclaimed area.



**DIRECTIONS:** Please draw a picture of an event that occurred in the story, *Pappy's Handkerchief*. Some examples you may choose from might be the ice storm in the Cumberland Mountains, the flooded river incident in Kentucky, or making camp each night—plus many more! Be sure to write a paragraph explaining the event shown in your picture and why you chose to draw that event.

# Show & Tell



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# True OR False

DIRECTIONS: Read each of the following statements from the story, *Pappy's Handkerchief*. Decide if the statement is true or false and write the word TRUE or FALSE on the line provided. If the statement is false, cross out the incorrect information from the sentence and write in the correct information.

- 1) Pappy grew up as a slave on a peanut farm in Virginia.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Moses took Rumble to go on and claim the land after the accident.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3) On Saturday, April 20, 1889, Moses and his family arrived at a camp in Indian Territory. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Moses' father, Ephraim, taught Liberty how to read.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5) President William Henry Harrison announced the first Land Run in 1889. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) One condition to obtaining free land was to promise to farm the land for three years. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) In order to help pay for the trip, Moses' parents sold their wedding rings. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) While traveling, Moses' family fell three days behind because they became lost in Arkansas. \_\_\_\_\_



# Can you find that word?

Directions: Skim and search for the following words in *Pappy's Handkerchief*. Read the context in which each word is used, then choose the word from the box that best matches the definition. Spell out the word on the spaces provided.

acre	boundary
buckboard	burlap
culvert	
homesteader	
pier	rein

- 1) a person settling on a 160-acre tract of United States public land, granted to develop as a farm

\_\_\_\_\_

- 2) a drain or channel under a road or embankment

\_\_\_\_\_

- 3) a structure built out over water

\_\_\_\_\_

- 4) an open carriage whose floorboards rest on axles

\_\_\_\_\_

- 5) a narrow strap of leather attached to a horse's bit which helps to control the animal

\_\_\_\_\_

- 6) a coarse cloth used for making bags

\_\_\_\_\_

- 7) a measure of land equaling 43,560 square feet

\_\_\_\_\_

- 8) anything marking a limit or border

\_\_\_\_\_



# Create a Journal

**DIRECTIONS:** Write three journal entries detailing an event from the story. You may choose to write from the point of view of any character mentioned in the story.

**SAMPLE:** In late March of 1889, Moses and his family left their row house in Baltimore, Maryland, for a chance to stake a claim in Oklahoma Territory. The journey was difficult at times.

**Journal Entry #1**      **Character** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Journal Entry #2**      **Character** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Journal Entry #3**      **Character** \_\_\_\_\_

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KEY

*Pappy's Handkerchief*

**COMPREHENSION**

- 1) a fishmonger
- 2) a cannon would sound at noon on April 22, 1889–Indian Territory of Oklahoma, first come first served, any American with the promise to farm the land for five years
- 3) he could read, he helped with the journey
- 4) Ma, Pa, Moses, Granny, Pappy, Liberty, Noah, James, Virginia, and Lacy
- 5) Someone wanted to buy the stall, but pay for it over time–Moses' family needed the money immediately
- 6) Ma and Pa=wedding rings, Granny=lace tablecloth, Pa=fish knives, Pappy=cane
- 7) Newcomer traded wagon and two horses for the fish stall
- 8) Rumble and Maybelle
- 9) Saturday, April 21, 1889
- 10) Indian Territory of Oklahoma
- 11) Farming his own land

**CRITICAL THINKING**

ANSWERS VARY

**JOURNAL**

ANSWERS VARY

**SEQUENCING**

8, 1, 4, 5, 6, 2, 3, 7, 9

**TRUE/FALSE**

- 1) TRUE
- 2) TRUE
- 3) TRUE
- 4) FALSE-LIBERTY TAUGHT MOSES' FATHER
- 5) FALSE-PRESIDENT BENJAMIN HARRISON
- 6) FALSE-FIVE YEARS
- 7) TRUE
- 8) TRUE

**VOCABULARY**

- 1) HOMESTEADER
- 2) CULVERT
- 3) PIER
- 4) BUCKBOARD
- 5) REIN
- 6) BURLAP
- 7) ACRE
- 8) BOUNDARY

**MATH**

- 1) 80 OUNCES

- 2) **6 POUNDS**
- 3) **168 BLOCKS**
- 4) **16 ACRES**
- 5) **120 ACRES REMAIN**

**MAP**

- 1) **WESTWARD (SOUTHWEST DIRECTION ACCEPTABLE ALSO)**
- 2) **TEXAS**
- 3) **ATLANTIC OCEAN**
- 4) **TENNESSEE, WEST VIRGINIA, KENTUCKY, ARKANSAS**
- 5) **VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA, PENNSYLVANIA, DELAWARE**