

ANSWER KEY

NEW SALEM WORKSHEET (GRADES 6 - 8)

1. Why type of village was New Salem?
- a. farming village
 - b. commercial village
 - c. fishing village
 - d. artist colony

Answer: b. commercial village New Salem, being a commercial village, relied on surrounding farmers to come to the village to trade food items for the many goods produced in the village.

2. What was the religious affiliation of the Robert Johnston family?
- a. Baptist
 - b. Lutheran
 - c. Methodist
 - d. Presbyterian

Answer: d. Presbyterian. As part of the Presbyterian church, the Johnstons often attended the Rock Creek camp meetings conducted by Rev. John M. Berry.

3. T or F At its peak, New Salem had a population of about 250 people.

Answer: False At its peak, New Salem had a population of approximately 125 people.

4. Which two regional groups were represented at New Salem?
- a. Southern Uplanders and Yankees
 - b. Confederates and Yankees
 - c. Sooners and Federalists
 - d. Yankees and Whigs

Answer: a. Southern Uplanders and Yankees Southern Uplanders, such as the Millers and the Kelsos, often traveled in groups or families, whereas the Yankees were more independent travelers.

5. How many oxen-powered carding mills are in operation in the world today?
- a. 1
 - b. 5
 - c. 3
 - d. none

Answer: c. 3 New Salem's oxen-powered carding mill is the only one in the Americas. The other two mills of that kind are located in Siberia and southern Poland.

6. T or F New Salem had a temperance society led by Dr. Regnier.

Answer: False The New Salem Temperance Society was led by Dr. Allen.

7. What is the name of the girl with whom it is rumored Abraham Lincoln had a romance?

- a. Hannah Kelso
- b. Susan Burner
- c. Ann Rutledge
- d. Parthenia Hill

Answer: c. Ann Rutledge Historians are still baffled by the alleged romance between Lincoln and Ann Rutledge, one of the daughters of James Rutledge - it may never be known if there is any truth to the story.

8. What family was the only family left in New Salem after 1840?

- a. the Rutledges
- b. the Hills
- c. the Bales
- d. the Onstots

Answer: c. the Bales The Bales were the only family left in New Salem after 1840. The Bales ran the carding mill as well as the saw and grist mill.

9. In which city was Abraham Lincoln going to sell the goods from Denton Offutt's flatboat?

- a. New Orleans
- b. Columbus, Ohio
- c. Chicago
- d. Beardstown, Illinois

Answer: a. New Orleans In 1831, Denton Offutt hired Lincoln to navigate his flatboat from Springfield to New Orleans. After his trip to New Orleans, Lincoln came back to New Salem and was offered his first job in the village, a clerking position at Denton Offutt's general store.

10. What is the state tree of Illinios that can be found in abundance in New Salem?

- a. maple
- b. birch
- c. white oak
- d. sassafras

Answer: c. white oak

*****BONUS QUESTION*****

Abraham Lincoln's middle name was:

- a. Thomas
- b. Isaiah
- c. George
- d. none of the above

Answer: d. none of the above Abraham Lincoln did not have a middle name.

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1. A cooper is a tradesman that:

- a. tans hides
- b. operates a livery stable
- c. makes shoes
- d. makes wooden containers

Answer: d. makes wooden containers Henry Onstot, the village cooper, made barrels, buckets, and other wooden containers which were all a very important part of the village economy.

2. Lincoln's New Salem is a reconstructed village. Who primarily reconstructed the village during the 1930's as part of a public relief work program?

- a. the TVA (Tennessee Valley Authority)
- b. the FWA (Federal Works Agency)
- c. the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps)
- d. the PWA (Public Works Administration)

Answer: c. the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) The CCC was organized by President Roosevelt to combat the Great Depression.

3. Which occupation required more years of training? doctor/ blacksmith (circle one)

Answer: blacksmith Like many other trades of the time period, to become a blacksmith it could easily take up to a seven year apprenticeship with a trained blacksmith. To become a doctor, one only studied for six months to a year.

4. T or F The most expensive part of attending school was paying the high textbook fees.

Answer: False Textbooks were not used in the New Salem school. Most lessons were learned orally, making the style of school in the village a "blab school."

5. T or F During the Blackhawk War, the New Salem militia went to Indiana and Kentucky.

Answer: False The men of New Salem went to war in northern Illinois, but Lincoln also went to present-day Wisconsin.

6. T or F The majority of the people who settled in New Salem were from New England.

Answer: False The majority of the people who settled in New Salem were Southern Uplanders, coming mainly from Kentucky, Tennessee, and western Virginia.

7. Which of the following trades was **NOT** represented by a New Salem resident?

- a. blacksmith
- b. potter
- c. woodworker
- d. cobbler

Answer: b. potter The closest potter to the New Salem community lived eight miles away in Athens, Illinois. All of the other trades mentioned above were represented in the village.

8. What organization did Lincoln join to better his public speaking?

- a. New Salem Debating Club
- b. Clarys Grove boys
- c. Temperance Society
- d. Sangamon Speech Society

Answer: a. New Salem Debating Club In this club, Lincoln was given the opportunity to develop his public speaking skills as well as his debating abilities which were both helpful to him in his later years as a lawyer and politician.

9. T or F The Rutledge Tavern was a place where New Salem residents purchased liquor and picked up their mail.

Answer: False The Rutledge Tavern was like an inn or a hotel. Since the Rutledge family was part of the New Salem Temperance Society, no alcohol was served at their establishment. General stores were often the pickup points for mail.

10. T or F Foxglove, found in Dr. Allen's garden, is grown commercially to make a heart regulating medicine.

Answer: True

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1. Which of the following would the cooper **NOT** have made?
- a. barrels
 - b. cabinets
 - c. butter churns
 - d. buckets

ANSWER: b. cabinets The cooper would not have made cabinets, because cabinet-making was a specialized trade.

2. Approximately how many feet deep were the root cellars?
- a. 2-3 ft.
 - b. 4-6 ft.
 - c. 8-10 ft.
 - d. 12-15 ft.

ANSWER: b. 4-6 ft. Depending on the expertise of the person digging the cellar and the time of year, it was usually around four to six feet deep.

3. T or F Lincoln and the New Salem militia fought two battles in the Blackhawk War.

ANSWER: False Many men from New Salem volunteered, but they did not fight any battles in the Blackhawk War.

4. What was the trade of Martin Waddell?
- a. tanner
 - b. blacksmith
 - c. carpenter
 - d. hatter

ANSWER: d. hatter Martin Waddell made felt, rabbit fur, and coonskin hats.

5. Which medical treatment was used by New Salem doctors?
- a. blistering
 - b. bleeding
 - c. purging
 - d. medicinal herbs
 - e. all of the above

ANSWER: e. all of the above Traditional "heroic methods" of treatment (i.e. bleeding, blistering, and purging) often did more harm than good.

6. What was Abraham Lincoln's nickname?

- a. "Railsplitter" c. "Honest Abe" e. both a and c g. all of the above
b. "The Statesman" d. "Old Sod" f. both b and d

ANSWER: e. both a and c

7. Which store survived the longest in New Salem?

- a. 2nd Berry-Lincoln store c. Samuel Hill's store
b. Denton Offutt's store d. Reuben Radford's store

ANSWER: c. Samuel Hill's store Samuel Hill's store lasted about ten years at New Salem and then was moved into Petersburg.

8. Who did Abraham Lincoln wrestle in his famous wrestling match?

ANSWER: b. Jack Armstrong, It is uncertain who actually won the match, since there are numerous accounts of the match, none of which match.

9. How much would a meal cost at the Rutledge Tavern?

- a. 37 1/2 cents c. 25 cents
b. 9 1/2 cents d. 50 cents

ANSWER: c. 25 cents (two bits) and 50 cents (three bits) was the price for one night's room and board.

10. T or F The lemon balm herb had no uses and was considered a weed.

ANSWER: False The lemon balm herb was used to mask the flavor of other medicinal teas and would have been used to relieve fevers.

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1. T or F The Onstot cooper shop is the only building original to the 1830s village of New Salem.

ANSWER: True When Henry Onstot left New Salem in 1840, he relocated his home and his workshop to Petersburg; it remained there until the state gained control of it and moved it back to the original site in 1922.

2. T or F The style of architecture of the Miller/Kelso home is called a "dogtrot."

ANSWER: True It is called a "dogtrot" because of the porch or breezeway adjoining the two residences.

3. T or F Like many men in the village, the blacksmith Jack Kelso had a trade.

ANSWER: False The blacksmith's name was Joshua Miller; his brother-in-law Jack Kelso was a hunter, fisherman, and trapper. New Salem was not a farming community, but a commercial village where most men had trades.

4. T or F The log homes in New Salem did not have glass windows.

ANSWER: False Glass was available at a cost of approximately 64 a pane.

5. Which residence has the most artifacts original to the family who lived there?

- a. Robert Johnston residence
- c. Martin Waddell residence
- b. James Rutledge residence
- d. Samuel Hill residence

ANSWER: d. Samuel Hill residence A few examples of artifacts original to the Hill family are the chest of drawers, the gun hooks, the looking glass (mirror), the branding iron, and some of the china.

6. How many miles could a man on horseback typically travel in one day?
- a. about 5 miles
 - b. about 20 miles
 - c. about 35 miles
 - d. about 50 miles

ANSWER: b. about 20 miles Settlements were often situated about 20 miles apart so people would have a place to stay while traveling. The Rutledge Tavern was one such place, situated about halfway between Springfield and Havana.

7. Who was Abraham Lincoln's first employer at New Salem?
- a. Samuel Hill
 - b. Denton Offutt
 - c. Henry Onstot
 - d. Alexander Trent

ANSWER: a. Denton Offutt Offutt first employed Lincoln to navigate a flatboat from Springfield to New Orleans. When Lincoln returned to New Salem, Offutt hired him as a clerk in his general store.

8. T or F The people of New Salem used paper money because coins were rare.

ANSWER: False The federal government had not yet issued paper money at this time and people were wary of the easily forged local banknotes.

9. Who built the saw and grist mill?
- a. Rutledge & Cameron
 - b. Burner & Gulihur
 - c. Kelso & Miller
 - d. Trent & Onstot

ANSWER: a. Rutledge & Cameron The two were cofounders of the town, which grew up from the mill.

10. What was lamb's ear used for?
- a. tea
 - b. bandages
 - c. cooked greens
 - d. jellies and jams

ANSWER: b. bandages Lamb's ear has soft leaves that can be used as bandages, but it has no medicinal properties suited for relief of pain or cure of disease.

**** BONUS QUESTION ****

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ANSWER: d. none of the above Abraham Lincoln had no middle name.