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CHAPTER 1:

Little House in the Big Woods, Part 1

PRE-READING

Day 1:

- New Words: *Laur·a, Ma, Pa, list·ened, guard, com·fort·a·ble, front, salt·ed, bur·ied, length, fast·ened, sev·er·al, butch·er, on·ion*
- Syllabication for Pronounce & Spell Words: *Wis·con·sin, scat·tered, hol·low, cel·lar, bar·rel, hick·o·ry, Pep·in*
- Phonics Flashcards:
y·fly-38
gu·guitar-125
er·fern-155
al·oval-159
le·apple-161
ə (schwa)-171

POST-READING

Day 1:

- Phonetic Word Study with *Classical Phonics*
 - Review teaching how to decode compound words by breaking the word into two smaller words and then reading. Use the following words from the story. Read the word. Tell what two smaller words make up the compound word.
 - Read these compound words: *nothing, Muskrats, everywhere, anything, bedroom, snowdrifts, daylight, wagonload, starlight, daytime.*

Pronounce & Spell

Wisconsin	hollow	crawled	barrel
scattered	whole	cellar	hickory
fierce	howled	wolves	Pepin

Vocabulary: Write the meaning of each bold word or phrase.

1. Foxes had **dens** in the hills and deer **roamed** everywhere.
 - a) n. places where animals live
 - b) v. wandered
2. Jack, the **brindle** bulldog, lay on guard
 adj. patchy coloring (dark streaks on a gray or brownish background)
3. That day, Pa and Ma and Laura and Mary had fresh **venison** for dinner.
 n. deer meat
4. The deer and the rabbits would be shy and **swift**.
 adj. fast
5. The green chips **smoldered** and filled the hollow log with thick, choking smoke.
 v. burned and smoked without flame
6. But the light was **dim** and in his **haste** he missed the bear.
 - a) adj. not bright
 - b) n. hurry

Activity:

- To **compare** things means to tell how they are **alike**. To **contrast** things means to tell how they are **different**. Think about the list below and then compare and contrast:
- the food you eat and the food Laura's family might eat
 - how you usually get your food and how Laura's family got theirs
 - where your food is stored and where Laura's food was stored

Comprehension Questions

1. If you travel to the north of the Little House in the Big Woods, what will you find?

If you travel to the north, you will find nothing but woods and the wild animals in them.

What will you find to the east and to the west? _____

To the east and to the west you will find miles of trees and a few little log houses
spread apart.

2. List the people who live in the Little House. Laura, Pa (Laura's father), Ma (Laura's mother),
Mary (Laura's sister), and baby Carrie (Laura's sister)

3. What sounds can Laura hear at night from her trundle bed? _____
Laura can hear the sound of the trees whispering, and sometimes a wolf howling.

4. Laura feels safe in her solid cabin when she hears the wolves. What makes her feel safe?

Her father's gun hanging over the door and their bulldog Jack make her feel safe.

5. Jack paced up and down before the door, growling.

The hair stood up along his back and he showed his sharp,
fierce teeth to the wolves.

6. Where do the children play when the rain drums on the roof? _____

When it rains, the children play in the large attic.

7. How does Laura know winter is coming? _____

Laura knows winter is coming because the days are shorter, and there is frost on the
window panes at night.

CHAPTER 1:

Little House in the Big Woods, Part 2

PRE-READING

Day 1:

- New Words: *Un-cle Hen-ry, Aunt Pol-ly, min-ute, cau-tious-ly, shoul-ders, i-ron, car-ried, cel-lar, herbs, med-i-cine, co-sy, Su-san, re-pea-ted*
- Syllabication for Pronounce & Spell Words: *blad-der, i-ron, hand-ker-chief, cau-tious-ly, pot li-queur, bris-tles, bu-sy, dang-led, sau-sage*
- Phonics Flashcards:
 - ie-chief-102
 - gu-guitar-125
 - oul-137
 - au-sauce-139
 - le-apple-161
 - ed-168
 - words ending in /æɪ/-172 (*color*)

POST-READING

Day 1:

- Phonetic Word Study with *Classical Phonics*
 - herbs* (CP, p. 116 – **silent h**)
 - cellar* (CP, p. 127 – **ar**)
 - sausage, cautiously* (CP, p. 102 – **au**)
- In the word *iron*, what sound does the letter **o** make? *It is silent.*
- Can you think of two ways to write the sound of **sh**? *sh as in shoulders, ti as in cautiously*
- Complete **Chapter 1, Part 2 Enrichment** in Appendix.

Day 2:

- Review as needed.

Pronounce & Spell

built	handkerchief	pot-liquor	lard
bladder	cautiously	bristles	dangled
iron	tongue	busy	sausage

Vocabulary:

 Write the meaning of each bold word or phrase.

1. Pa and Uncle Henry built a bonfire, and heated a great **kettle** of water over it.
n. a big pot
2. [They] lifted it up and down in the boiling water until it was well **scalded**.
adj. burned; cooked
3. The hams and the shoulders were put to **pickle in brine**.
v. to preserve the meat in salty water
4. They could throw it into the air and **spat** it back and forth with their hands.
v. hit
5. into the large end he **thrust** a sharpened stick.
v. stabbed
6. She would use them to flavor **johnny-cake** later.
n. pancake
7. "You must never **interrupt**," said Pa.
v. to talk while someone else is talking

Activity

Laura lived far away from her aunts, uncles, and cousins. They could not call each other or send emails. Laura's family had to write letters when they had news to share. Pretend you are Laura or her Pa. Write a letter to someone in your family and tell them about Butchering Time. Be sure to include the fun thing Pa did with the pig's bladder.

Comprehension Questions

1. Why must Mary and Laura play in the house after Butchering Time?

The girls must play inside the house because it is getting cold outside, and the leaves are falling from the trees.

2. What kind of doll does Laura have? _____

Laura's doll is a corncob wrapped in a handkerchief.

3. Laura's doll is named _____ Susan _____ and Mary's is _____ Nettie _____.

4. While he _____ greased _____ the traps, _____ Pa _____ told Laura and _____ Mary _____ little jokes and _____ stories _____, and afterward he would _____ play his fiddle _____.

5. Who is Black Susan? _____

Black Susan is their cat.

6. Why does Black Susan go through the cat door quickly?

Black Susan goes through the cat door quickly so the door won't catch her tail when it falls shut behind her.

7. What does Pa tell Laura about interrupting? _____

Pa tells Laura that interrupting is rude.

8. At night, when all the work is done, Pa takes out his fiddle and begins to play. It is the best time of all _____.