

**There's Just Things That Change:
The Recollections of Ruth A. Haworth
By Suzanne Cofer**

**Interdisciplinary Activities for Fourth Grade Students
Prepared by Suzanne Cofer**

Maps

1. Use a map to find the following places:
 - Snake River
 - Clarkston
 - Lewiston
 - Pomeroy
 - Walla Walla
 - Asotin County
2. Draw a map of Ruth and Leonard's farm based on the details of the story.

Math

1. What year was Ruth born? She was 98 years old when she died. In what year did she die?
2. Ruth bought fresh salmon for her family at 10 cents a pound. Today how much does fresh salmon cost per pound? What is the difference? What is the percent increase in the price? Why is fresh salmon more expensive today?
3. One year Ruth raised 83 turkeys. If she received \$2.50 per turkey, what is the most amount of money she could earn?
4. If Ruth sold 25 to 30 pounds of butter per week how much butter did she sell in a year?
5. If Ruth's husband, Leonard, butchered 25 head of hogs and rendered 80 gallons of lard, how much lard did each hog render?

Art

1. Make a model or diorama of a ranch house like the Haworth ranch. Or draw a picture of Ruth's farm animals:
 - saddle pony
 - turkey
 - hog
 - buck sheep
 - ewe
 - lamb
 - chicken

2. The hill behind Ruth's farm was covered with wildflowers in the spring and the summer, beginning with buttercups, and followed by small bright daisies, yellow bells, blue Birdbills, the showy goldenrod, and pink sweet Williams. Draw the hillside behind the farm showing all the wildflower varieties in bloom. Use a wildflower reference book from your library or explore the Internet for photographs of these flowers. Or draw a single wildflower from the story, showing its detail.

Genealogy

1. Research your family history on the Internet.
2. Interview your own grandparent(s) using notes, audiotapes, or videotape. Prepare your questions ahead of time. Ask follow-up questions to clarify your grandparent(s) story. Share your interview with your classmates or your family. Place your interview in a safe place to enjoy years from now.

Music

1. Over the years, Ruth sang *Twenty Froggies*, a children's poem by Englishman George Cooper, to her eight young children. Ask your parent or music teacher to help you find this poem/song on the Internet and sing this song.
2. Research the Internet or your library for other songs from the early part of the twentieth century and learn how to sing them.

Understanding Character

1. Respond to the story:
 - I learned
 - I want to remember
 - I wished
 - I wasn't expecting
 - I am confused about
 - I wonder
2. Describe Ruth's life as a young girl. Describe your life. Make a Venn diagram showing the differences and similarities.
3. Why did Ruth disobey her mother? Do you agree or disagree with her decision to go to the dance without her mother's permission? Why or why not?
4. Why did Ruth's grandfather tease her (that candy was made from pig intestines)? Has anyone teased you in a similar way? Describe what you were teased about and explain how it made you feel when you realized the truth later.

5. Have you ever pulled off a successful April fool's trick like Ruth? Describe it. Why is it fun to trick people? How do you know whether it is a fun or a mean trick? Describe a fun trick. Describe a mean trick. Explain the difference.
6. What was the purpose of Ruth's trick?
7. Have you ever camped outdoors? Describe your experience.
8. Do you think Ruth, as a young girl, worked harder than you do? Defend your answer with examples.
9. Do you think as a wife and mother Ruth worked harder than the adult women you know? Defend your answer with examples.
10. Did Ruth and her family have more fun than you and your family? Explain your answer.
11. Ruth lived her young life without electricity and outdoor plumbing. She later flew in a jet and watched on TV as men landed on the moon. What changes in the world do you predict you will see if you live to be 98 years old?
12. What can young people learn from reading Ruth's stories of 100 years ago?

Things to Notice and Talk About

1. What makes a place home for you? What material things from your present home would you place near you in a new one to make it feel like home? Is it something you could have had in the time in which this story is set?
2. Imagine your family transported back in time to a dwelling like the one in this story. Which members of your family would adapt best to the conditions? What about yourself?
3. What happened to the Nez Perce Tribe when Ruth's ancestors and their neighbors arrived to establish homesteads?

Websites

Washington State Historical Society

<http://www.wshs.org>

Chief Timothy State Park

<http://www.experiencewashington.com/v5/poi/poi.aspx?poiId=256>

University of Washington

Collection List for Pacific Northwest Historical Documents Database

<http://content.lib.washington.edu/pioneerlifeweb/collections.html>