

Daniel Boone and the American Frontier



Teacher's Guide

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**Produced
by
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Daniel Boone and the American Frontier

Grades 2-5

Viewing Time: 17:36

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Intended Audience and Uses

Daniel Boone and the American Frontier has been produced for social studies students in grades 2-5. Its primary purposes are to help youngsters appreciate the bravery, skill and determination of perhaps America's greatest frontier hero and to give a realistic picture of life in early frontier America. It also can deepen student understanding of U.S. history in the 18th century.



Program Synopsis

Using animation carefully researched to give a realistic picture of American clothing, tools, artifacts, housing and other aspects of pioneer life in the 18th century, the program begins with a grandfather and grandson fishing on the Yadkin River in present day North Carolina. The grandfather tells his grandson the story of Daniel Boone who lived on the banks of the Yadkin more than 250 years ago. The story begins in Gwynedd

(pronounced GWIN-ess), Pennsylvania, Daniel's boyhood home. There, he helped tend the family's livestock, roamed the nearby woods and made friends with local Native Americans. In 1850, Daniel's father had a serious disagreement with the family's church, prompting a move to North Carolina, where the Boones supported themselves by hunting. When the French and Indian War broke out in 1755, Daniel, now 21, became a wagon driver for the British army. A year later, he married Rebecca Bryan. The newlyweds moved farther upstream on the Yadkin and several years later started their family. A host of pioneer activities, such as candle and soap making, are covered during this section of the program. The next section discusses the troubled relationship between pioneers and Native Americans in the area, primarily the Shawnee. When more settlers moved into the lower Yadkin area after one troubled



period, Daniel felt crowded and moved his family farther northwest, to the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. He dreamed of hunting on the western side of the mountains, where large numbers of deer and buffalo roamed. In 1769, Boone and five other men set out on a long hunt beyond the Blue Ridge Mountains, spending two and a half years hunting and gathering animal pelts. At one point, a party of Shawnee captured the hunters, seized their furs and skins and told the men to never return. Ignoring the warning, Boone revisited the area with several families within a few years, but was met by a war party and had to turn back. Daniel then teamed up with a land speculator, Richard Henderson, trying to convince Cherokee chiefs to sell a large parcel of land. When the chiefs agreed, Daniel led a group of trail blazers to build the Wilderness Road, on which settlers would travel after buying Henderson's land. Boonesborough, the small fort named in honor of Daniel, lay at the end of the

road. In 1776, Daniel's daughter Jemima and two friends sneaked out of the fort and were kidnapped by Indians. Using his prodigious tracking skills, Daniel found the girls and saved them. Later, Daniel was captured by the Shawnee and was adopted by the tribe's chief. But he escaped to warn the Boonesborough residents about an impending attack.



VIEWER OBJECTIVES

After viewing this video and participating in the suggested activities, viewers should be able to do the following:

1. Give a brief synopsis of Daniel Boone's life.
2. Explain why native Americans fought pioneer settlers.
3. Describe pioneer life on the American frontier in the 18th century.

The producers encourage you to make adaptations and changes to the following lesson plan whenever you feel it will enhance your students' learning experiences. Only by tailoring the material to your unique classroom situation will you be able to maximize the educational experience afforded by these materials.

SUGGESTED LESSON PLAN

Viewing Strategies

Various strategies may be employed when showing *Daniel Boone and the American Frontier* to your class. If



you wish to use the video as a way to give general information about Boone's life and times, you may find it useful to show the entire program in one screening, then follow up with appropriate questions (see the *Suggested*

Discussion Questions blackline master) and/or activities suggested in this guide. Alternately, the program may be used to cover various topics -- pioneer life, Anglo relations with Native Americans, etc.

Introduce the Program

The producers encourage you to prescreen the program to familiarize yourself with its content.

Ask the class if anyone has heard of pioneers. Why are pioneers so important in the history of our country? Has anyone heard of Daniel Boone? Then turn the class's attention the American frontier. What is a frontier? Help

your students understand that a frontier is a border -- in this case, the border between settled land and the wilderness. Explain that moving beyond a frontier often can be dangerous because few people are truly aware of what will be found in unknown lands. What might lie beyond the frontier in America some 250 years ago?



Pre-Viewing Activities

On a map show students where the Yadkin River is located in North Carolina. Tell them that much of what happens in the program takes place near the river. Then point out the following places: Pennsylvania, Virginia and Kentucky. Show where all these places are located in relation to your area or state. Explain that Daniel Boone, the main subject of the program, spent time in each of these states. Finally, ask your students to pay attention to the reasons early Americans moved to frontier lands.

Post-Viewing Activities

Discuss the program using the *Discussion Questions -- Daniel Boone* blackline master if you prefer. Assign students more in-depth written or oral reports on the following topics covered in the program: The Shawnee, the Cherokee, Daily Life of 18th Century Pioneers, The French and Indian War, The Quaker Religion, Squire Boone, Ft. Duquesne, Food Preservation in the 18th Century, Pioneer and Native American Relations in the 18th Century, The Cumberland Gap, Blue Ridge Mountains, Boonesborough (also spelled "Boonesboro"), the Wilderness Road, Richard Henderson and the Transylvania Company, The Last of the Mohicans, and Chief Blackfish.

Hand out *The Shawnee Capture Daniel*, *The Boone Family and the Quaker Church*, and *The Shawnee Capture Daniel* to several different groups. Have each group prepare a short one-act play based the information in the handouts.

If students wish, they may do their own independent web research to get additional information to



include in their plays. Hand out *Pioneer Family Chores* and A Daniel Boone Timeline and have your students complete the exercises. Finally, as an extra credit project, refer your students to http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Daniel_Boone.aspx. The article discusses Daniel's court martial after he escaped to Boonesborough.

Description of Blackline Masters

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS -- DANIEL BOONE – Gives questions that may be asked after the program is viewed.

THE SHAWNEE CAPTURE DANIEL – Gives students an opportunity to learn more about the capture of Daniel Boone.

THE BOONE FAMILY AND THE QUAKER CHURCH – Gives students a more detailed look at the Boone family and its relationship to the Quaker Church.

PIONEER FAMILY CHORES -- Reviews typical chores of pioneer families.

A DANIEL BOONE TIMELINE – Helps students place major events in Boone's life into chronological order.

ANSWER KEY

Video Quiz: 1. c. 2. Roam the nearby woods 3. False
4. North Carolina 5. French and Indian 6. Any of the following:
work in the garden, cook meals, hunt, make candles, tan leather,
make soap, make bullets, check traps, make clothing, go fishing
7. c. 8. Lands beyond the Blue Ridge Mountains (Kentucky) 9.
False 10. b.

Pioneer Family Chores: (Left column, from top to bottom)
Tanning leather, preparing food, making soap, making clothes,
making bullets. (Right column, from top to bottom) Hunting,
gardening, fishing, checking traps, making candles.

A Daniel Boone Timeline: 1734, Daniel is born; 1750, Boones
leave Pennsylvania; 1751, Family settles in North Carolina; 1755,
Daniel is a wagon driver in the French and Indian War; 1756,
Daniel marries Rebecca Bryan; 1759, Boone family flees to
Virginia; 1760, Daniel crosses the Blue Ridge Mountains; 1766,
The Boones move farther up the Yadkin, to where Wilkesboro is
found today; 1769, Daniel and five other men go on a long hunt
beyond the Blue Ridge Mountains; 1773, Daniel's son James killed
in an Indian attack; 1775, Wilderness Trail blazed and
Boonesborough built; 1814, Congress grants Missouri land to
Daniel; 1820, Daniel Boone dies.

TRANSCRIPT OF THE VIDEO

GRANDFATHER: I remember when *my* grandfather took me
to this fishin' spot.

GRANDSON: *Your grandfather?*

GRANDFATHER: Yup.

GRANDSON: I didn't know there were people here that long ago!

GRANDFATHER: Oh, heavens, yes! Fact is, one of 'em was the famous pioneer, Daniel Boone. Lived not too far upriver from here, more 'un 250 years ago!

GRANDSON: Wow! That's a *long* time ago!

GRANDFATHER: Sure is!

Daniel's father, Squire, worked for himself as a weaver in Gwynedd, a small town north of Philadelphia, to support his wife Sarah and their eleven children.

Daniel, the sixth of Squire and Sarah's kids, spent his summers tendin' the family's livestock.

Even so, he had a lot of time to roam in the nearby woods, which was his favorite thing to do.

Daniel even made friends with the Native Americans who lived near Gwynedd.

When he was 12, Daniel got his first gun, a big event in those days.

Unlike today, rifles were a necessity. And when a youngun' got his first gun, it showed that he was becomin' a trusted adult.

Guns were needed for huntin,' one of the main ways people got food in those days.

Within a few years, Daniel was known as an excellent hunter and marksman.

Now, 'bout that time, in 1750, Daniel's parents had a serious disagreement with the members of their church.

So the Boones left the Quaker church and moved south to settle along the Yadkin River, in the English colony of North Carolina.

Now, when they moved, Squire Boone quit the weavin' trade, and became a hunter like, Daniel.

They hunted for the next five years.

Then, when the French and Indian War broke out in 1755, Daniel, now 21, joined the British army as a wagon driver.

George Washington was an officer in the same regiment.

Well, he, Daniel and the other soldiers in their unit were on their way one day to attack Ft. Duquesne, a French garrison where Pittsburgh, PA stands today.

But they never made it. The French and their Indian allies attacked them on the way, and the British soldiers were routed. Luckily, Daniel got away.

Well, a year later, he married Rebecca Bryan, who lived with her family not too far away from where the Boones had their cabin.

The couple settled farther upstream. Within a few years, the first of their children -- there'd be ten in all -- was born.

As with other frontier families, the Boones led busy lives -- workin' in their garden of corn, squash and other vegetables, cookin' meals and makin' candles.

They also tanned leather. The leather was used to make buckskin shirts and pants.

Now, makin' clothes was still another job in frontier homes like the Boone's.

They made soap, too -- which meant pourin' animal fat and lye into pans. Lye was made by soakin' ashes in rain water.

Frontier youngsters also learned how to fish if there was a river nearby -- and there usually was.

Three other important chores were checkin' traps, huntin', for food and makin' bullets for their rifles.

Bullets, rifles and gunpowder were must-have items on the

frontier -- for huntin' for food, 'o course, but also for defendin' themselves and their families against Native Americans.

Now, the natives often saw pioneers as trespassers.

After all, Indians had been livin' on these lands for thousands of years before the settlers arrived.

It was where they built their homes and did their huntin'.

They believed the pioneers were huntin' Indian food on Indian land.

Not only that, the white man's soldiers tried to wipe 'em out.

So the Indians fought back. Fact is, it became so dangerous for white folks in the Yadkin River Valley that Daniel, Rebecca and their children fled to Virginia. That was in 1759.

Many settlers, includin' the Boones, returned after things died down several years later.

In fact, so many settlers moved in that the Boone family, feelin' crowded, set off once again, travelin' farther northwest.

They settled close to where Wilkesboro, NC is located today, near the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, part of the Appalachian chain.

Daniel knew that no Native Americans lived there, although they did hunt buffalo, deer and other animals on those beautiful lands.

So Daniel and five other men left North Carolina on May 1st, 1769, on a "long hunt," meanin' they would be gone a long time -- many months, perhaps even more than a year.

When the party crossed the Cumberland Gap, what they saw took their breath away!

A magnificent, fertile plain stretchin' as far as the eye could see. The Iroquois called it "Ken-tok-kee," or "open grassy meadow."

It was glorious!

Daniel and his fellow hunters spent about two and a half years on these lands, huntin' and gatherin' animal pelts to sell when they returned to civilization.

Durin' that time, Daniel learned a lot about the lands of Ken-tok-kee, and even more about the Shawnee who hunted there.

They took Daniel and his friends captive one day, and after seizin' their furs and skins, one of 'em told Daniel, " All the animals of Ken-tok-kee, belong to us.

"You must leave and never return! You will be sorry if you do!"

Well, Daniel left, but he wasn't discouraged. He told anyone who'd listen 'bout the wonders of the lands west of the Appalachians.

Ignorin' the Shawnees' warnin', Daniel returned to Kentucky with several families a couple of years later.

Didn't take long for him to discover that the natives were true to their word.

They attacked!

And when the battle was over, two settlers lay dead. One of 'em was Daniel's oldest son, James.

Fearin' more attacks, the party turned back.

But Daniel returned to Kentucky the followin' year, searchin' for some surveyors who had been trapped there by the Indians.

For savin' the surveyors, Daniel was given a job in the Virginia militia. Later, he became a captain.

Even so, he was becomin' deeper and deeper in debt.

By all accounts he was a remarkable frontiersman, but a terrible businessman.

To help him repay his debts, Richard Henderson, a merchant who had loaned Daniel some money, offered him a job.

And Daniel accepted.

As an employee of Henderson's new "Transylvania Company," Daniel's job was to convince Cherokee chiefs to sell the company a large tract of land in central Kentucky.

When they agreed, Henderson hired Daniel to lead a team to blaze a trail settlers could use to get to his company's lands -- which they would buy.

The trail, called the Wilderness Road, started in Virginia, ran west through the Cumberland Gap, then northwest into Kentucky -- a total of some 200 miles.

Daniel and his men completed the project in only two months!

Boonesborough, a settlement named after Daniel, was built at the end of the road.

In reality, the settlement was a small group of log cabins inside a barricade that protected the pioneers from Indian attacks.

Daniel brought his family to Boonesborough in 1775.

By now, Daniel was well known on the frontier. But two things happened at Boonesborough that spread his fame throughout the world.

The first followed an attack on the settlement in 1776. The Shawnee joined the British wagin' war against the American settlers.

Meanin' that everyone -- especially the youngsters -- had to spend their days inside the fort.

Tired of bein' cooped up, Daniel's daughter Jemima and two friends, Betsey and Fanny Callaway, sneaked out of the garrison one day, climbed into a canoe they found on the nearby river bank and paddled to the opposite shore.

Unknown to the girls, two Cherokee and three Shawnee were hidin' out there.

Well, as you might imagine, the Indians kidnapped the girls.

Jemima, knowin' that her father would be comin' after them, left a

trail of clues as they were marched through the woods.

Daniel found 'em, and with his knowledge of Indian ways, caught up with Jemima, the Callaway girls and their captors several days later.

Upon firing his rifle, the Indians fled and the girls were saved.

The rescue became famous when a version of the incident appeared in "The Last of the Mohicans," a popular book by James Fenimore Cooper.

The second thing that made Daniel famous was when he and some others were acquirin' salt outside the fort.

Salt was important for preservin' food, o' course. Daniel decided that he'd get the salt in winter, when he thought no Indians would be in the area.

But he was wrong. When he was out huntin' for the group one day, the Shawnee ambushed him.

Recognizin' that the warriors far outnumbered his men, Daniel made a deal with 'em: his group would surrender and the Indians could take 'em to their village -- which is exactly what happened.

As was Shawnee custom, the captured men were adopted. Chief Blackfish adopted Daniel and named him Big Turtle.

About four months after bein' captured, Daniel heard Chief Blackfish tell his warriors about an upcomin' attack on Boonesborough with British and Indian forces.

Daniel quickly escaped with the Shawnee in hot pursuit.

Took him only four days on foot to travel 160 miles, only to be met with angry distrust in Boonesborough.

The settlers believed he had shamefully handed over the salt workers and had sided with the British and Indians.

Yet, it was Daniel Boone who led the settlers to victory when the Shawnee and British forces attacked.

Daniel and Rebecca Boone spent much of the rest of their lives deep in debt.

Daniel never was successful in business.

But when he was 80 years old, congress finally rewarded him for his many accomplishments by grantin' him a large tract of land in Missouri, which he sold to settle his many debts.

When Daniel Boone died at the age of 85, in 1820, he was regarded as America's greatest frontiersman -- the man who more than any other encouraged settlement beyond the Appalachian Mountains; and who, by buildin' the Wilderness Road, made it all possible.

He's also remembered for livin' a remarkably adventurous life on the American frontier.

Daniel Boone. Yes, sir! He was America's greatest frontier hero!

Web Resources

The Encyclopedia of World Biography's entry on Boone
<http://www.notablebiographies.com/Be-Br/Boone-Daniel.html>

Biography.com's site on Daniel Boone
<http://www.biography.com/people/daniel-boone-9219543?page=1>

Daniel Boone's court martial when he returned to Boonesboro after being held captive by the Shawnee
http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Daniel_Boone.aspx

Discussion Questions – Daniel Boone

1. Where did Daniel spend his boyhood? (Gwynedd, Pennsylvania)
2. What did Daniel's father do for a living? (weaver)
3. What was Daniel's favorite thing to do when he was a boy? (roam in the nearby forest)
4. How many brothers and sisters did Daniel have? (10)
5. What big event happened to Daniel when he was 12? (received his first rifle)
6. Why was it such a big event? (showed he had become a trusted adult)
7. Where did the Boone family move to after they left their church? (North Carolina)
8. During what war did Daniel become a wagon driver? (The French and Indian War)
9. What was the name of the woman Daniel married? (Rebecca Bryan)
10. Name at least seven chores of pioneer families. (tending the garden, cooking, making candles, tanning leather, making clothes, making soap, fishing, hunting, checking traps, making bullets)
11. Why did Daniel and his family flee to Virginia in 1759? (to escape from attacks by Native Americans)
12. Where did the Boone family go to when they returned to North Carolina? (farther northwest, up the Yadkin River Valley, near where Wilkesboro, NC is found today)
13. What is a "long hunt?" (a hunt that lasts a long time -- from several months to several years)
14. What did Daniel do on his long hunt? (hunted, gathered animal pelts, learned about Kentucky and the Shawnee)
15. What did Daniel do for Richard Henderson? (convinced Cherokee chiefs to sell land to Henderson, built Wilderness Road)
16. What two events made Daniel famous throughout the world? (saved his kidnapped daughter and her friends; lived with Native Americans for about four months, then escaped to warn people in Boonesborough about an upcoming attack)

Name _____

The Shawnee Capture Daniel

As you saw in the video, Daniel Boone, while hunting for his men, was captured by the Shawnee. The event took place on February 7, 1778, near the Licking River, where Daniel led a group of men to gather salt. The Shawnee Chief, Blackfish, thought Boonesborough would fall easily without the captured men. He wanted to immediately attack the fortress and capture its residents. But Daniel convinced the chief that the women and children wouldn't survive a winter march to Chillicothe, the tribal village. Blackfish took the captured men to the village, where some were adopted to take the place of fallen warriors. The rest were sent to the Shawnee's allies, the British, in Detroit. While living with the Shawnee, Daniel was allowed to hunt by himself. But the Shawnee counted his bullets before he left and upon his return. The natives knew that Daniel was a crack shot and wouldn't use too many bullets when hunting. The Shawnee wanted to make certain that their captured hero wasn't hiding any ammunition for a planned escape. But Daniel cleverly cut some bullets in half (they were made with soft lead), and hid the extra shots. There are varied accounts of Daniel's escape. Some say he took a horse; others say he fled on foot. But it is clear that *most* of his flight was done on foot. One account says his horse quickly tired and Daniel ran most of the 160 miles to the fort. When the Shawnee attacked several months later, on September 7, Daniel successfully led the defense of Boonesborough. After an initial battle, the natives laid a siege on the fort, but then retreated 10 days later. After the battle, Daniel was tried in a court martial for conspiring with the Shawnee and British. Many people felt he should not have surrendered so easily at the Licking River the previous winter. Although he was declared not guilty, Daniel Boone was deeply humiliated by the court martial, and moved from Boonesborough to join his family in North Carolina. Although he returned to Kentucky a year later, he never again set foot in Boonesborough.

Name _____

The Boone Family and the Quaker Church

Daniel Boone's father, Squire Boone, came to America from Devon, England in either 1712 or 1713 -- the records aren't clear on the exact date. His entry point was Philadelphia. Squire's parents joined him in 1717 and the family settled in Berks County, Pennsylvania. The Boones were among some 23,000 Quakers who migrated to America between 1675 and 1725. Most came from the English midlands. The Quakers differed in their views from the Anglicans, who belong to England's official religion. Quakers had no formal worship service, no formal set of beliefs and no ordained ministers. There were no in-law relationships in Quaker families. When someone married, he or she became a son or daughter, not a son-in-law or daughter-in-law. As members of this religion, the Boones felt family relationships were very important. Squire Boone was known to be stubborn and was a strict father. He would severely punish his children if they misbehaved, which was very unusual among Quakers. Daniel was a mischievous child, so was punished regularly. The Boone family left the Quaker church through a dispute involving the marriage of their daughters. Quakers frowned upon members of their sect marrying persons who were not members of their faith. When Squire's oldest daughter married out of the faith, members of their church chastised him. Daniel's father thought the church had no business telling people who they should or should not marry. When another daughter married out of her faith, the church rebuked Squire once again. Daniel's father said he had had enough, and the Boone family left the Quaker church.

Name _____

Pioneer Family Chores

Directions: On the lines next to the pictures, tell what pioneer chores are being done. The first one is done for you. When you are finished, color the pictures.



Tanning
Leather



















Name _____

A Daniel Boone Timeline

Directions: Using what you learned from the video and your own online research, fill in the boxes to tell what happened to Daniel Boone on each timeline date.

