

# TELL ME WHY

## Homesteader Life

**This revision activity works best if you do it with a friend, and talk about it as you do it.**

Print off and cut out the cards below and place them face down. Turning over each in turn, explain why it happened, giving as many reasons as you can to explain each statement.

Itinerant teams went round ploughing, planting, harvest	Visiting neighbours was a treat	Farmers plough very deep furrows before winter
Homesteader wives boiled fat with potash	After 1874, settlers used barbed wire	Homesteaders dug 'dugout' houses into the side of hills
The government passed the Desert Land Act (1877)	Abbie Bright spent 3 hours of many days baking bread	Many homesteaders had a second job
Farmers bought windpumps	Farmers shared in the cost of a John Deere steel plough	Carrying a stick when you went out walking
You might shoot a rat in the house, but not a skunk	Homesteader housewives collected buffalo dung	In 1892, the Johnson County War took place
Dry farming	A homesteader would buy quinine	The government passed the Timber and Culture Act (1873)
Many single women filed Homesteader claims	Farmers spread a layer of dust over their fields after rain	Vigilante groups operated in some areas
Farmers used a McCormick mechanical reaper	Homesteaders gave their sod houses a coat of whitewash	Farmers switched to 'Turkey Red' wheat
Most men rarely did any housework	Homesteaders exaggerated and invented Indigenous attacks	Homesteader wives were glad to receive mail