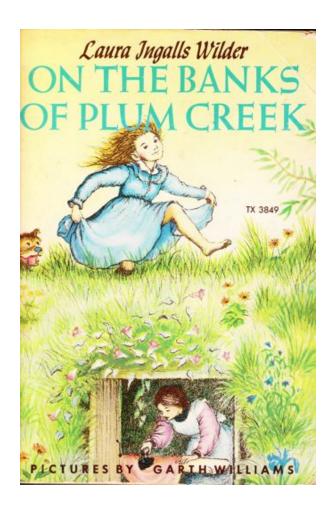
Little House: On the Banks of Plum Creek Lapbook

Designed for K-8th grades



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ISBN #

CD - 978-1-62472-209-7 L-LHBPC-C Printed - 978-1-62472-210-3 L-LHBPC-P Ebook - 978-1-62472-211-0 L-LHBPC-E Assembled - 978-1-62472-212-7 L-LHBPC-A

Publisher: Knowledge Box Central http://www.knowledgeboxcentral.com

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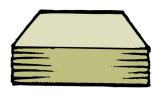
How Do I Get Started?

First, you will want to gather your supplies. Depending on which format you purchased from us, you will need different supplies. So, take what applies, and skip over the rest.

*** Printing:

*Print instructions and study guide on white copy paper.

*Print the booklet templates on 24# colored paper or 110# cardstock. For some booklets, we have suggested specific colors or cardstock. You may choose to use those suggested colors, or you may choose to print on any color that you like.



*** Assembly:

*Folders: We use colored file folders, which can be found at Walmart, Sam's, Office Depot, Costco, etc. You will need between 2 and 4 file folders, depending on which product you have purchased. You may use manilla folders if you prefer, but we have found that children respond better with the brightly colored folders. Don't worry about the tabs....they aren't important. If you prefer, you can purchase the assembled lapbook bases from our website.

*Glue: For the folder assembly, we use hot glue. For booklet assembly, we use glue sticks and sometimes hot glue, depending on the specific booklet. We have found that bottle glue stays wet for too long, so it's not a great choice for lapbooking.

*Other Supplies: Of course, you will need scissors. Many booklets require additional supplies. Some of these include metal brad fasteners, paper clips, ribbon, yarn, staples, hole puncher, etc. You may want to add decorations of your own, including stickers, buttons, coloring pages, cut-out clipart, etc. The most important thing is to use your imagination! Make it your own!!



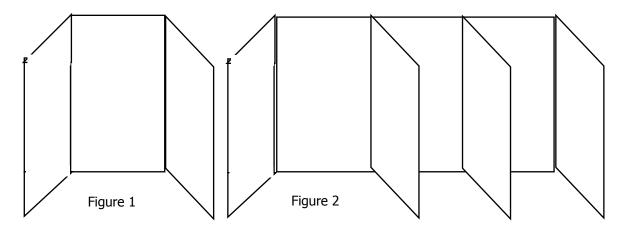
Ok. I've Gathered the Supplies. Now How Do I Use This Product?

Inside, you will find several sections. They are as follows:

- 1. Lapbook Base Assembly & Layout Guide: This section gives instructions and diagrams and will tell the student exactly how to assemble the lapbook base and where to glue each booklet into the base. Depending on the student's age, he or she may need assistance with this process, especially if you choose to allow the student to use hot glue.
- 2. Student Instruction Guide: This section is written directly to the student, in language that he or she can understand. However, depending on the age of the child, there may be some parent/teacher assistance needed. This section will also tell the student exactly what should be written inside each booklet as he or she comes to it during the study, as well as telling the student which folder each booklet will be glued into.
- 4. Booklet Templates: This section includes ALL of the templates for the booklets.
- 5. Study Guide: This section is a great resource for the parent/teacher while teaching about the *Little House* books.

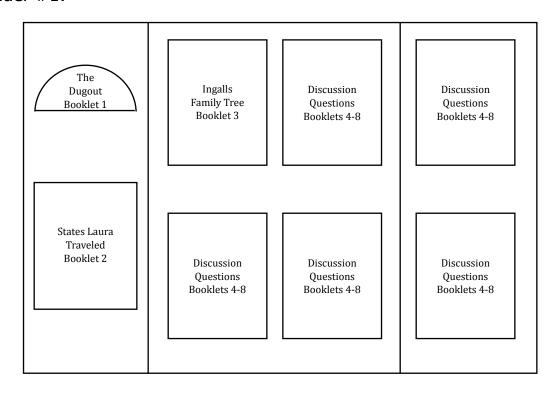
On the Banks of Plum Creek Lapbook Base Assembly & Layout Guide

You will need 3 folders of any color. Fold both sides toward the original middle fold and make firm creases on these folds (Figure 1). Then glue (and staple if needed) the backs of the small flaps together (Figure 2).

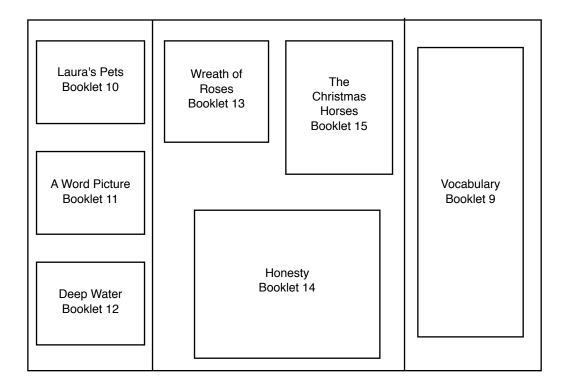


This is the "Layout" for your lapbook. The shapes are not exact on the layout, but you will get the idea of where each booklet should go inside your lapbook.

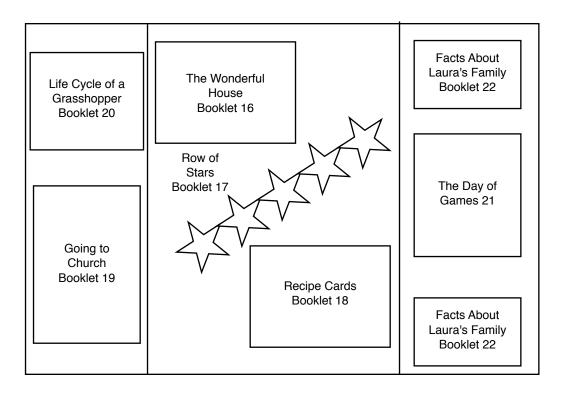
Inside of Folder #1:



Inside of Folder #2:



Inside of Folder #3:

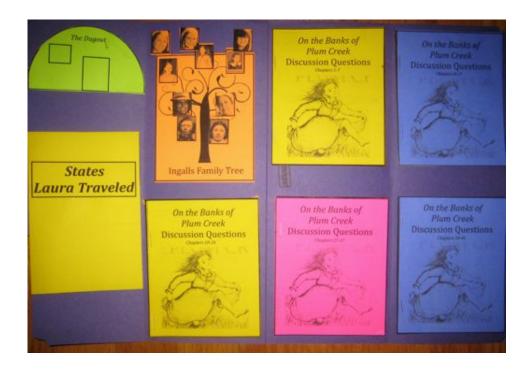


Below you will find pictures of a completed *On the Banks of Plum Creek* Lapbook. YOUR lapbook will be laid out in the SAME way.

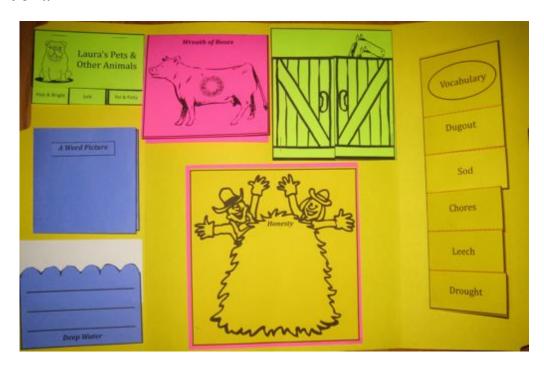
This should help in figuring out how to assemble the booklets and then how to put it all together!



Inside of Folder #1:



Inside of Folder #2:



Inside of Folder #3:



On the Banks of Plum Creek Student Instruction Guide

Booklet #1

*Booklet Title: The Dugout (Chapter 1)

*Student Instructions: Inside this booklet, either explain how a dugout was made, or draw the way you think the inside of the dugout would have looked.

*Completed booklet will be glued into Folder #1 (See Layout)

**Assembly Instructions: Cut the booklet out around the outer black line edges. Fold the booklet on the center line with the door and window on the front. Glue the booklet into the folder.

Booklet #2

*Booklet Title: States Laura Traveled (Chapter 1)

*Student Instructions: Write the name of each midwestern state through which Laura traveled on the line beside its shape. Use a map if you need help.

*Completed booklet will be glued into Folder #1 (See Layout)

**Assembly Instructions: Cut the booklet and title out around the black line edges. Fold booklet on center line with the state shapes inside. Glue title onto front of booklet. Glue booklet into folder.

Booklet #3

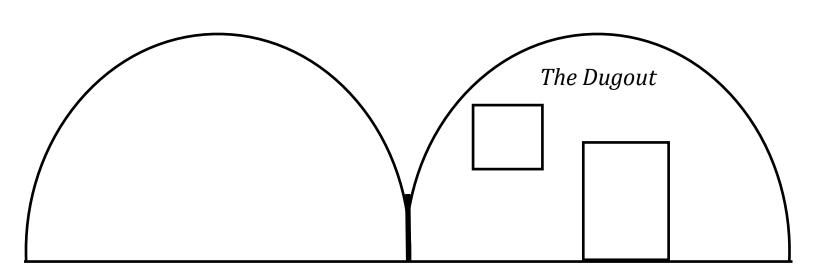
*Booklet Title: Ingalls Family Tree (All Chapters)

*Student Instructions: Place the picture of each family member, along with his or her TV counterpart, on the family tree. Do you think the TV actors look much like the real people? You may also look at the bigger pictures in the study guide.

*Completed booklets will be glued into Folder #1 (See Layout)

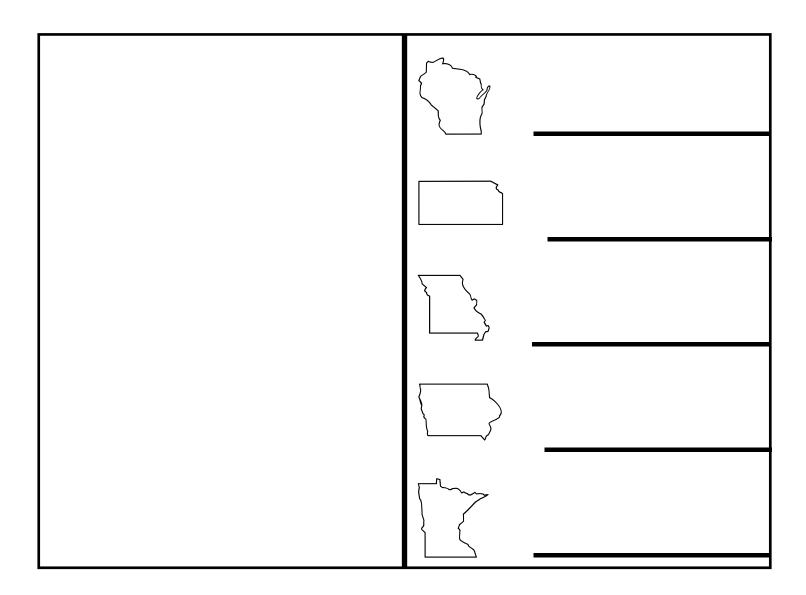
**Assembly Instructions: Cut the Ingalls Family Tree booklet and each picture of the family members out around the outer black line edges. Glue the booklet into the folder and glue the pictures and names onto it. You may write the names instead if you wish.

The Dugout



Booklet #1 (Printing suggestion: Print on green paper.)

States Laura Traveled



On the Banks of Plum Creek Lapbook Study Guide



The door stood straight up in the grassy bank, where the path turned. It was like a house door, but whatever was behind it was under the ground. The door was shut.

What does your house look like? Of what material is it made? Have you ever had a treehouse or some other outdoor playhouse? Houses today are often built from treated lumber - wood boards that have been treated with chemical preservatives to protect them from pests and decay. On the outside, there may be wood siding, vinyl siding, brick, or rock. Have you ever imagined living in a house made of dirt?

Imagine how Laura Ingalls felt when she was seven years old, and she ran around a bend in the path to inspect her new home, only to find a door stuck right in the side of the bank of Plum Creek! A *dugout* was a quickly-built, probably temporary home made just the way it sounds. The earth was "dug out" of the hill or bank, and the people lived inside. Some wood supports may have been used in the walls or roof when needed. Laura describes how the Norwegians who lived there before the Ingalls had scraped the walls smooth and white-washed them, and they had kept the place very clean and swept out. There was a stove-pipe hole in the roof so that a stove could be used for cooking right inside the underground house. Laura and her mother were astounded that someone could walk right over top of that house and never even know it was there!

People on the prairie also used *sod* to quickly build shelter with the materials on hand. They could cut strips of earth from the prairie, with grass and a few inches of soil held together by its roots, and stack them up to make a well-insulated wall. The front of the dugout and the stable were built in this way.

While Garth Williams, the illustrator, was researching the areas the Ingalls had lived to illustrate the *Little House* books, he found the indentation in the bank of Plum Creek where the Ingalls dugout was located. The roof has long since fallen in and left just an unusual depression in the ground where the dugout once stood.

Site of Ingalls Dugout



Replica of Dugout at Wilder Museum



Replica of Dugout at Wilder Pageant



Historical Background

Laura Ingalls was born in the Big Woods near Pepin, Wisconsin, in 1867. The Ingalls family moved to the Indian Territory in Kansas in 1869, but were forced out by the government after a little over a year and returned to Pepin, Wisconsin, in May 1871. Wishing to build a better life for his family in an area that was not over-populated and where he could own a homestead, Charles Ingalls again moved the family West in the spring of 1874, this time to Plum Creek near the town of Walnut Grove, Minnesota. They stayed there until the fall of 1876.

Laura told her story - based on her own memories, stories from others, and research - in the *Little House* series of books. While the stories themselves are mostly accurate, she altered the timeline slightly to make the books flow smoothly. She told of her time in the Big Woods of Wisconsin as if it had been all at once, from birth to the age of 5, in *Little House in the Big Woods*. She then told of her time in Indian Territory, much of which she had to research or rely upon the memories of others because she had been so young, in *Little House on the Prairie*. In that book, the character Laura was aged 6 to 7, though Laura Ingalls had actually only been about 2 to 4. In *On the Banks of Plum Creek*, Laura told of the move to Walnut Grove as if the Ingalls family had moved there directly from Kansas, thereby catching up the timeline. This story took place from 1874 to 1876 when Laura was ages 7 to 9.

Charles Frederick Ingalls, Laura's only brother, was born in Walnut Grove in 1875, but he died in infancy, and she did not mention him in any of her books.



Land Ownership and the Pioneers

Much of the culture in early America was agricultural. Land was tied to wealth, as many people believed that if they owned a significant amount of land, they could make a good living. The Industrial Revolution of the late 18th century and throughout the 19th century brought about the growth of cities, factories, and businesses, especially in the eastern part of the United States, where most of the population was settled. Meanwhile, a growing number of people who still wanted to own their own land and make their own living moved farther and farther west, where there was land to be had. These were the pioneers. Charles Ingalls was one of these pioneers, who yearned for his own profitable piece of land. He inherited the American wanderlust, constantly looking for a better place to raise his family. Not a man of financial means, he was a determined, hard worker who dreamed of a brighter future for his children. Though he never achieved the financial prosperity for which he had hoped, he and those like him laid the groundwork for the great country we have today.