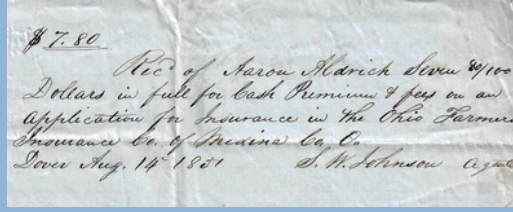


BAY VILLAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Preserving the Character of Our City



Arriving on Wagon Wheels

In October 1810, the Cahoon family wagon, led by four horses, stopped along a creek in Dover Township #10. They were thankful for their safe arrival. They had left their home in Vermont six weeks earlier and traveled through the wilderness to get here, led by blazed trees and Native American trails. This area is now known as Bay Village.

What items accompanied the Cahoons in the wagon to begin their new life?

The wagon was packed full with everything from basic household necessities – such as a **kettle**, **butter churn**, and the tools needed to construct their new home – to a few of the family's special possessions, like the **Cahoon cookie jar** pictured below.

Can you think of 10 items you may need to bring with you? Families often hit rough terrain along their journey. Imagine you hit a steep area to cross – you must lighten the wagon's load. What **3 items** would you be willing to leave behind?



This cookie jar is believed to have arrived with the Cahoon Family in October 1810.



Visit the Rose Hill Museum and find the items pictured above!



With winter soon approaching, the family set to work building a permanent shelter. They constructed the Cahoon Log Cabin in just four days. The many trees in the surrounding area provided the construction material for the log cabin. They also repurposed the floor of the wagon as the new cabin front door. With seeds brought from Vermont, they planted apple and peach trees in the surrounding areas.

Joseph Cahoon, the Father of the Cahoon family, had visited southern Ohio more than 10 years earlier. On this visit, he decided he wanted to live in the new country he had found west. Now his family of 9 had traveled to the unsettled wilds of Ohio. A few of his adult children did not settle in Dover, but in other parts of Northeastern Ohio.

A life size replica of an early cabin now sits in the valley in Cahoon Park. John Brandt, scout master, organized building this in 1976. He was in charge of the construction. It took 220 boy scouts and 33 girl scouts working 3,000 hours, as well as 24 men working 900 hours at the site to build the cabin. They used hand tools that would have been used in 1810, the project took six years to complete.

We encourage you to visit the Rose Hill Museum to find the artifacts pictured in this article.

Open Sundays 2:00 - 4:30, April through December.

The Cahoon Cabin is located in Cahoon Park;

Open Sundays 2:00 - 4:30, mid-May through October;
weather permitting.



Replica Cabin
2009
Donated by Jonathan Miller
This miniature log cabin was made by Western students Jonathan Miller for a school project. It is a replica of the cabin in the valley behind Rose Hill that was built to show the type of living conditions pioneers that the Cahoon family experienced in 1810. That cabin was constructed under the direction of Boy Scout leaders John Brandt and Donald Harris between 1976 and 1981.



Covered Wagon Craft

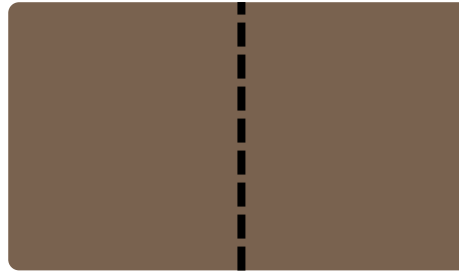
Supplies Needed:

- glue stick
- scissors
- pencil
- ruler
- brown construction paper - (1) 9" x 12" piece
- white construction paper - (1) 9" x 12" piece
- black construction paper - (1) 9" x 12" piece
- various colors of construction paper or white paper and drawing utensils

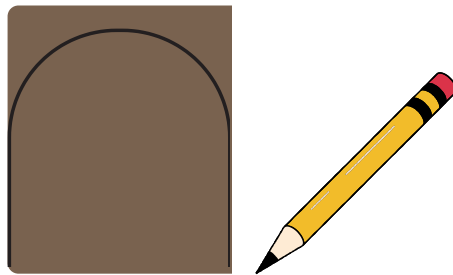


Steps

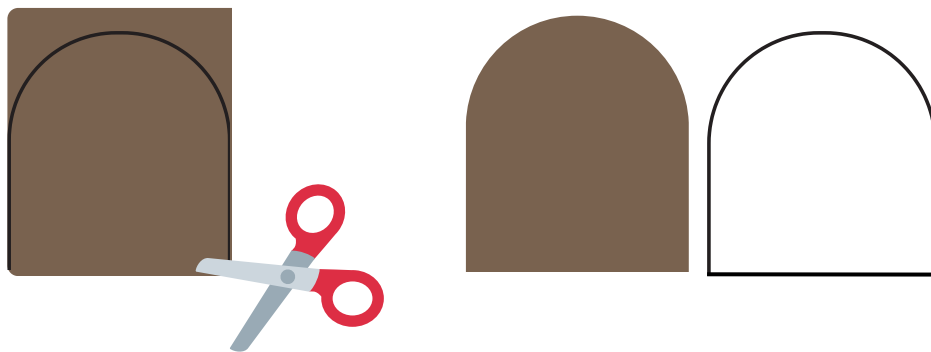
- First cut the brown construction paper in half so you are left with two 9" by 6" rectangles.



- Repeat the previous step with the white construction paper.
- Draw an arch on one of the brown rectangles.

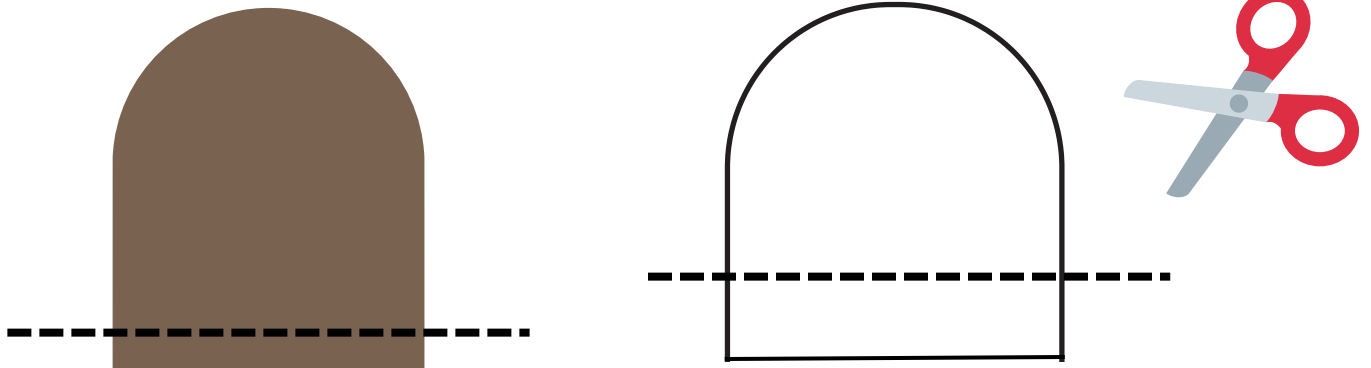


- Lining it up with a white rectangle, cut along the line you have drawn. You should have two arches, one white and one white brown.

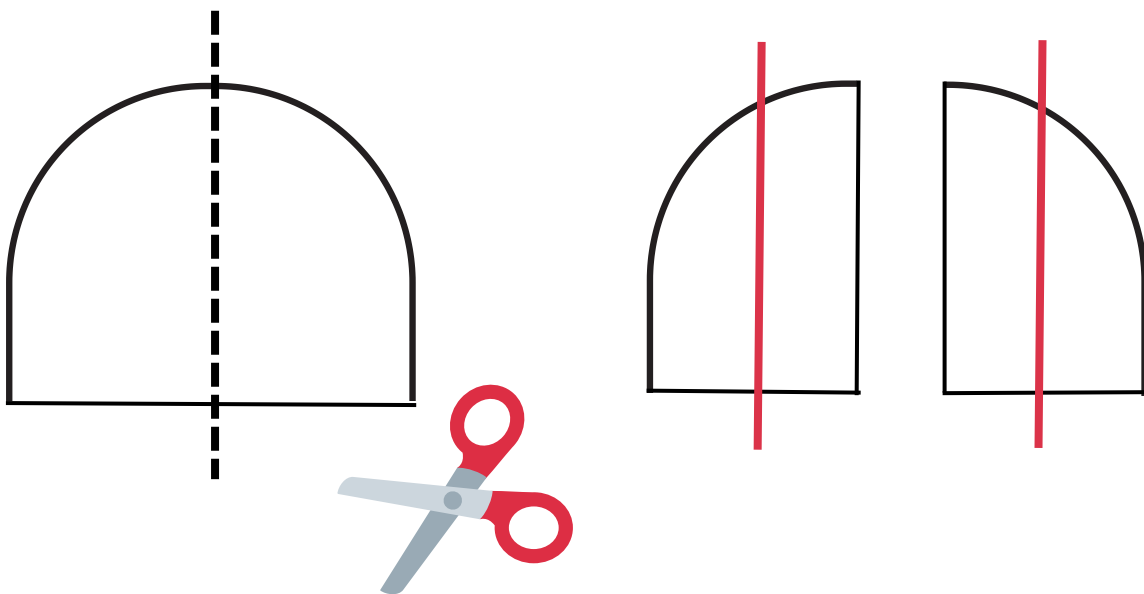


Steps (continued)

- Cut 1.5" off the bottom of the brown arch and 2.5" off the bottom of the white arch.



- Cut your white arch in half. Fold each half in half vertically (along the red line pictured below). This is the **cover** for our wagon. Place each half of the cover on the sides of the brown arch, so the edges are aligned (pictured in the next step).



Steps (continued)

- Glue the outer section of each half to the brown arch, leaving the folded flaps open like the cover of the wagon.



- Cut 2 thin black pieces of construction paper, about 2.5" by 0.5". These represent the sides of the **wheels**. The wooden wheels were often rimmed in iron to prevent wear. We will glue these vertically to either side of the wagon.



Steps (continued)

- With your remaining brown paper, cut a thin strip 3" long and 0.5" wide, and a small strip 2" long by 0.5" inch wide (pictured below). Glue these pieces to the front end of your wagon to create the **tongue** and **hitch** where the pioneers would have hooked the wagon up to their horses, mules, or oxen. The Cahoon Family traveled with four horses that drew the wagon, plus a saddle horse that rode behind.



Steps (continued)

- Using various colors of construction paper or white paper and drawing utensils, create miniature items that the settlers may have carted with them along their journey. Glue the items inside your wagon.

The Cahoons had items such as a **kettle**, **cookie jar**, **apple** and **peach seeds**, and the **tools** needed to build their new home, amongst other things. What items will you pack for the journey ahead? See the example below for inspiration. Get creative!

(note - the objects in the example below are three-dimensional, but you may also want to create two-dimensional for your wagon)

We would love to see your covered wagons! Share a picture with us via email bvhsrosehill@gmail.com, or share on Facebook and tag Bay Village Historical Society.

