

Kid's KOrner

Double Fun For Witmer Twins And Brother Derek

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MANHEIM (Lancaster Co.) —
Double fun is what Danae and Danette Witmer have on their Manheim farm. The 6-year-old twins and their brother Derek, 3, find lots of exciting things to do on their 200-acre farm.

Their parents, Natalie and Darrel, raise alfalfa, hay, and wheat. They milk 65 Holsteins and raise heifers and bull calves on the farm.

Each morning, the children's mother helps in the barn. While their mother is busy in the barn, Danae, Danette, and Derek ride bikes on their long macadam driveway, play with their eight cats, or climb into their tree house.

When their mother works in the house, the twins and their brother are big helpers. They especially like to make cookies, applesauce, and tomato juice.

When their mother makes either applesauce or tomato juice, the children crank the handle which grinds the apples or tomatoes. The children take turns cranking, which teaches them to wait patiently for their turn.

The twins are not identical in looks. Danae has blond hair and blue eyes. Danette and light brown hair and dark brown eyes. Sometimes the twins dress alike, but not always.

This week, the twins started

going to school in East Petersburg. They are in separate classrooms so that they will make other friends instead of only playing with each other.

But afterschool, the twins continue to have plenty of time to play together and to help their mother. Here is their favorite cookie recipe. The twins and their brother like to roll the dough in balls, shake them in a cinnamon-sugar mixture, and place them on a cookie sheet.

The twins believe that other children will enjoy helping their mothers make Snickerdoodles.

SNICKERDODDLES

4cup shortening
1½ cups sugar
2¼ cup flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
½ cup butter
2 eggs
2 teaspoons cream of tartar
¼ teaspoon salt
Mix shortening, butter, sugar, and eggs. Add remaining ingredients. Roll into balls the size of small walnuts. Roll into the following mixture:

2 tablespoons sugar
2 teaspoons cinnamon
Place 2 inches apart on ungreased baking sheet. Bake at 400 degrees for 8 to 10 minutes or until lightly browned but soft. Makes 5 dozen 2-inch cookies.



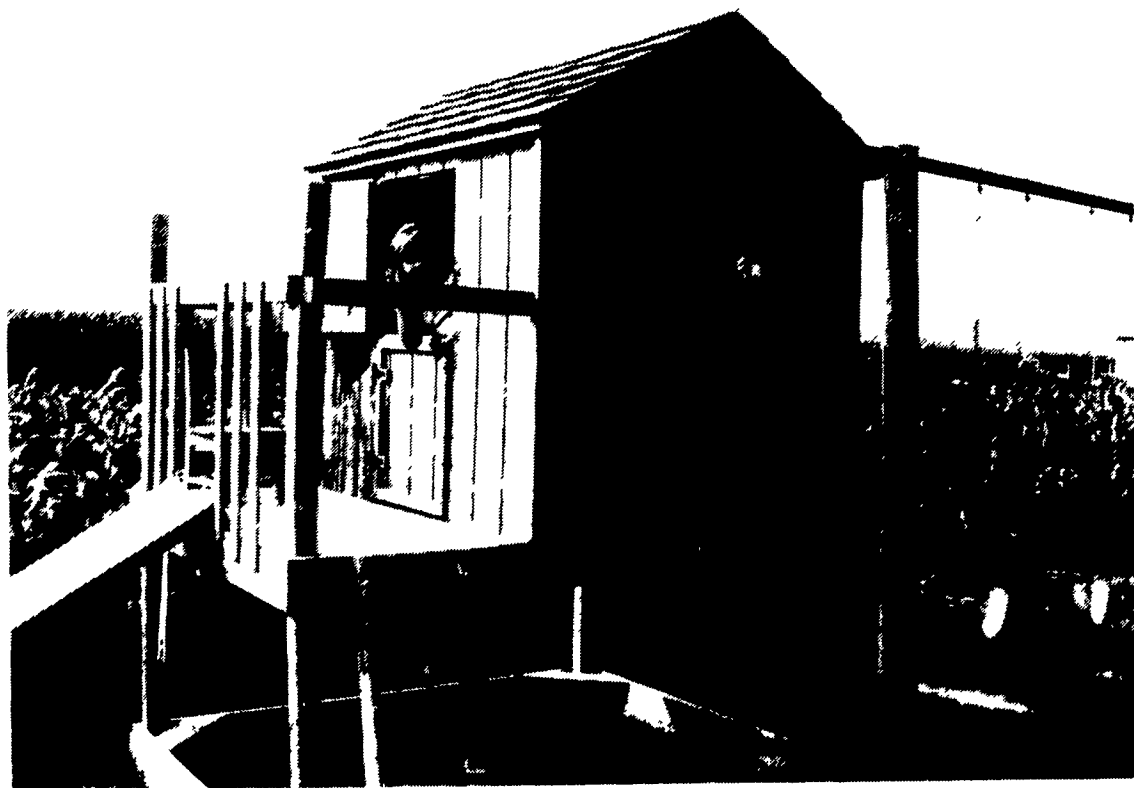
The Witmer family includes from left: Danae, Derek, and Danette with parents Darrel and Natalie.



Derek takes a turn cranking the applesauce while his sisters wait impatiently to turn.



Cookie baking time is a family affair when Natalie Witmer stirs up some batter. From left: Derek, 3; Danae, 6; and Danette, 6.



The twins wave from their playhouse.



For their sixth birthdays, the twins received new dolls. From left: Danae is holding Katelyn and Danette is holding Abigail.