

Kids Korner

Campers Learn Early American Farm Skills

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York Co. Correspondent
YORK (York Co.) — Let's suppose you lived back in the early, colonial days of America.

And let's suppose it was your job to milk the family cow. You needed a milking stool to sit on while you did your chores. Where would you find one?

Remember, there were no malls, no department stores, not even catalogs where you could buy your milking stool. So, you did what other early colonial settlers did to provide most of the things they needed for everyday farm living.

You made it.
At the recent Colonial Life Camp in York, students in the fifth, sixth and seventh grades spent five days learning some of the skills that were necessary for living on a farm during the early days of America. The camp was a program of The Agricultural and Industrial Museum, West Market Street, and was taught by the mu-

seum's outreach coordinator, Joyce White.

The 15 students who participated in Colonial Life Camp learned some of the basics of quilting, dipping candles, marbelizing paper, spinning and dyeing wool and preparing foods, such as churning butter and making apple butter. They also spent a morning "rushing" their own milk stools, just as early Americans might have done.

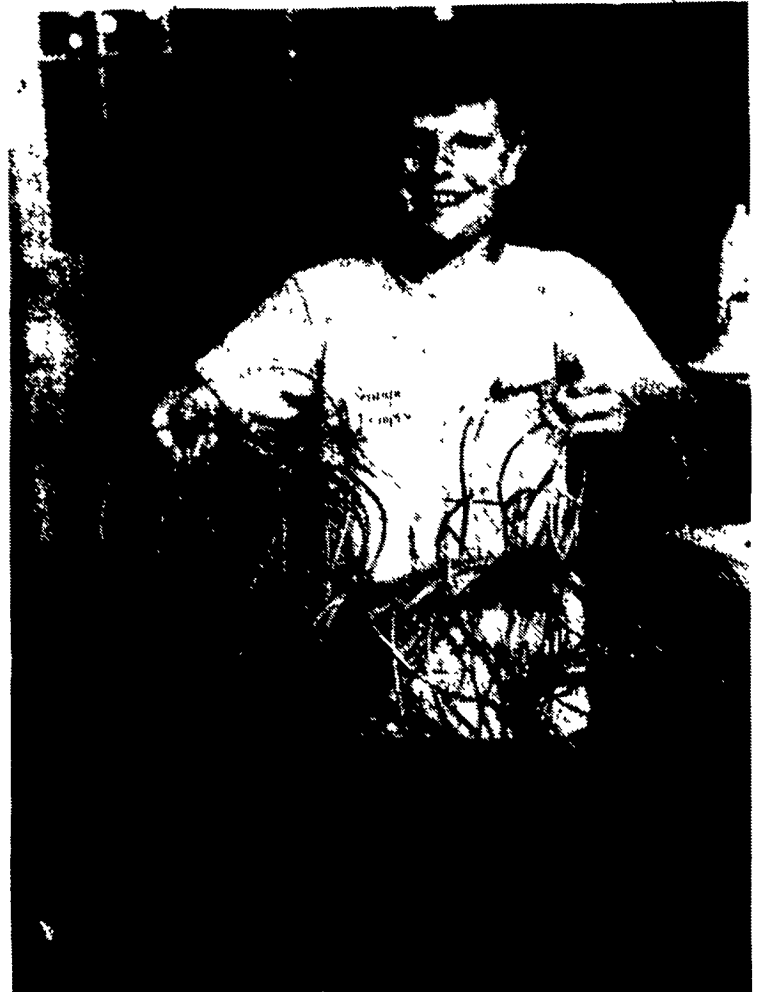
"Rushing" is the weaving of dried strands of a grass-like material, called rush, that settlers would have gathered from along rivers and streams. The material was tightly woven around a stool or chair frame to form the seat. Because the pieces of rush were not very long, colonists had to tie many, many of them together to form the long strands necessary to weave a seat.

Most rushing of chair and stool seats today is done with a sturdy paper-twist material, rather than



"Over, under and across," explains Joyce White as she teaches Julia Reno how to weave the strands of paper rush in a pattern around the frame of a milking stool.

the grass-like material, Joyce White told the campers. During one of the crafting sessions, each of the 15 colonial-life campers learned to weave the long strands of paper rush around a wooden frame of a four-legged milking stool. When they were finished, each had a sturdy stool to take home, even if they did not need it to milk a cow.



Schuyler Thompson, 11, of Red Lion, likes the colonial style of his family's house and thought his milking stool would fit with the other furniture. But Schuyler's roll of rushing material developed a few tangles as he worked.

Coloring/Activity Book Free At Maryland Agricultural Fair

GAITHERSBURG, Md. — Youngsters will get a special treat when they visit the 48th annual Montgomery County Agricultural Fair in August — an official fair coloring/activity book.

The 16-page book, designed by local resident Pam Johnson of Network Printing, has numerous activities for youngsters to occupy their time by . . . from coloring to puzzle solving to the 1996 Coloring Contest sponsored by Gaithersburg Ford Tractor. The book commemorates the fair's observation of the Year of the Dairy Goat and the Year of Arts, Crafts, Hobbies and Photography.

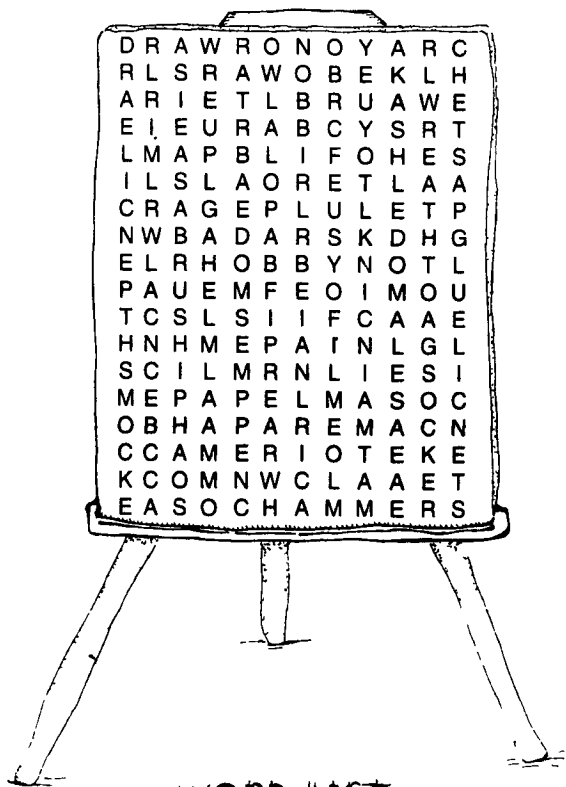
The printing of the 10,000 copies of the coloring was co-sponsored by Citizens Savings Bank, Southern States Cooperative Gaithersburg, Bob and Betsy Stabler, Schmidt Baking Company, Montgomery County Farm Bureau, Pam Johnson, and Network Printing.

"We're real excited about the coloring book at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair," said fair board president, David Rippeon. "This is the seventh coloring book that the fair has done for the youngsters and we're very appreciative that its design and a portion of the printing costs were covered by our sponsors."

The coloring/activity book will be distributed at various locations during the fair which begins August 16 and ends Aug. 24 at the county fairgrounds in Gaithersburg.

The coloring/activity book made its official debut when the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair was taken to patients at Chil-

WORD SEARCH



WORD LIST

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|--------|-------|----------|
| DRAW | PAINT | FILM |
| CAMERA | EASEL | CRAYON |
| HOBBY | BUILD | GLUE |
| PENCIL | BRUSH | HAMMER |
| CLAY | SMOCK | RIBBON |
| MODEL | INK | CHAMPION |
| PASTE | PAPER | STENCIL |
| WREATH | BOW | |

distributed to the hospital's patients to go with the coloring books.

dren's Hospital in Washington, D.C., Tuesday, July 16. Agnes Arnold donated crayons that were



Elizabeth Buterbaugh, Rossville, concentrated on her milk stool "rushing" technique.