



DUNDAS
MUSEUM &
ARCHIVES

DISCO

“I learn!”

GRADE 1 SOCIAL STUDIES - Community Helpers Past and Present

This education module complements Strand B-

PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENTS: THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

.Everyone knows that a farmer harvests his crops. But at one time, not very long ago, one of the essential helpers in every community harvested ice! Do you know someone whose last name is

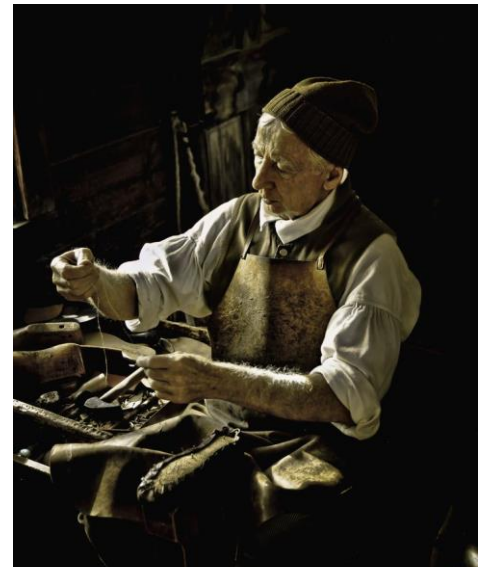


Harvesting ice in winter to keep food cold in summer!

“Cooper”? Of “Miller”? These were two helpers in every village that early settlers depended on. You’ve heard of a blacksmith. But did you know that just as common in early settler times was a *whitesmith*? He worked alongside the cobbler, the chandler, the wheelwright and, if there was no doctor, right across the way from the apothecary! Which community helper might use some “nippers”?

This grade 1 Social Studies program invites your students to explore the concept of “community.” What are the communities they live in now? What makes a community a *community*? What are some of the important roles and responsibilities that people assume in the communities of their family or their school? What characteristics do these two communities share? How are they different? Who are the people in these communities that they depend on? In what ways? Finally, what are the responsibilities of the grade 1 student in these communities?

In considering the village of Dundas, your students will explore various community helpers that we depend on every day for our very survival. While some of these helpers are obvious – police,



There were no shoe stores! The Cobbler both made and repaired boots and shoes.

firefighters, paramedics – there are many that we sometimes take for granted or overlook: the grocer, the gas station attendant, the garbage man.



Before electricity, a community helper called a Chandler made candles by dipping tapers into beeswax or bayberry wax.

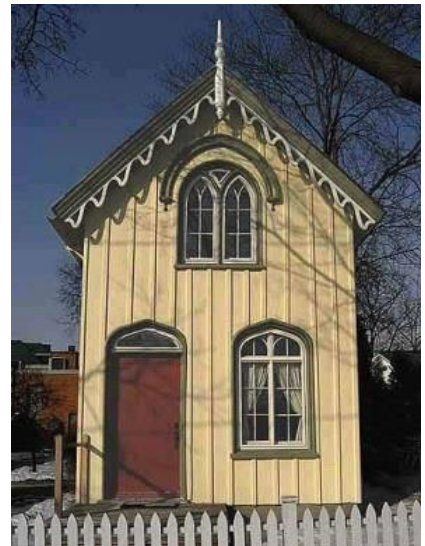
Then, it's an exciting leap back in time to discover those people – many of whom are commemorated in our gallery – who were the community helpers in the Valley Town more than two centuries ago. A sleuthing game will challenge your students to explore the main gallery matching up people and names and tools of the trade: who did his job riding a horse named “Nell”?

This includes a tour of The Doctor's Office where you students can see some of the ways medicine treated sick or injured patients in the past.

This education program will also acquaint your students with specialized tools, vehicles and clothing that our community helpers employ both today and in the past: which community helper needed a “gaff” or a machine for “boring fellies”? Who used an important tool called a “croze”?

What a great opportunity to touch the tools of those who helped the community of Dundas yesterday, and develop a deeper appreciation of those community helpers that surround us today.

From The Ontario Curriculum, Social Studies Grades 1-6; History and Geography, Grades 7 & 8, 2013, this Education Program offered by the DMA addresses the following expectations: B1.2 identify some services and service-related occupations in their community B2.4 interpret and analyse information and data relevant to their investigations, B3.7 identify some of the services in the community for which the government is responsible.



The Old Doctor's Office