



ACTIVITY 4

Ranch Life With & Without Technology

RANCH LIFE SERIES / BOOK 1 / RANCHING AND LIVESTOCK

Chapter 4

Content Area

Social Studies

Topic

Impact of Technology

Objective

Students will compare and contrast life on a ranch with technology and without technology.

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS):

K.6A, K.6B, K.6C, 1.7A, 1.8B, 1.8C, 1.10B, 2.10A, 2.10B, 3.7A,
3.7B, 3.8A, 3.8B, 4.10B, 4.12A, 4.12E, 5.12A, 5.12B, 5.13B



Ranch Life With & Without Technology

CONTENT AREA: Social Studies

TOPICS: Impact of Technology

ACTIVITY MATERIALS:

- SECURITY BRIEFING (page A4-2): 1 per student or student group
- RANCH LIFE WITH AND WITHOUT TECHNOLOGY - CHART (page A4-3): 1 per student or student group
- RANCH LIFE WITH AND WITHOUT TECHNOLOGY - TEACHER KEY (page A4-4): 1 per student or student group
- Pencil or pen
- THE BOTTOM LINE (pages A4-6): 1 per student or student group

READING STRATEGY:

Students will read Chapter 4 (pages 15-22) as they complete the activity below.

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Each student (or student group) will receive a RANCH LIFE WITH AND WITHOUT TECHNOLOGY - CHART to fill out.
2. As they read through the chapter, students will identify and notate on their chart how ranch life situations would differ with the use of or the absence of technology.
3. Teachers will use the RANCH LIFE WITH AND WITHOUT TECHNOLOGY - TEACHER KEY to check student work.

STUDENT SKILLS ASSESSMENT:

- Have students (or student groups) complete THE BOTTOM LINE worksheet at the end of the activity.

Ranch Life With & Without Technology



SECURITY BRIEFING –

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM HANK THE COWDOG:

Loper needs a certain amount of machinery to operate his ranch. **Pickup trucks and stock trailers** make work easier for the cowboys, but it adds to the list of demands on me.

**In case you haven't already guessed, I take great pride in my ability to lay a good strong marking on a set of tires. When a vehicle leaves my ranch, I want the world to know where it's been. On a good day, I can knock out an entire pickup and stock trailer all by myself, and then rush to the yard gate to bark at the driver. That's an eight-tire job. A lot of dogs wouldn't even attempt a job that big, but it's nothing special to me. On your bigger assignments, like the eight-tire deals, a dog's overall physical condition and endurance become a major factory.*

Factor, I should say. A major factor.

And the same goes for technology. It is a major factor in the day to day operations of the ranch!

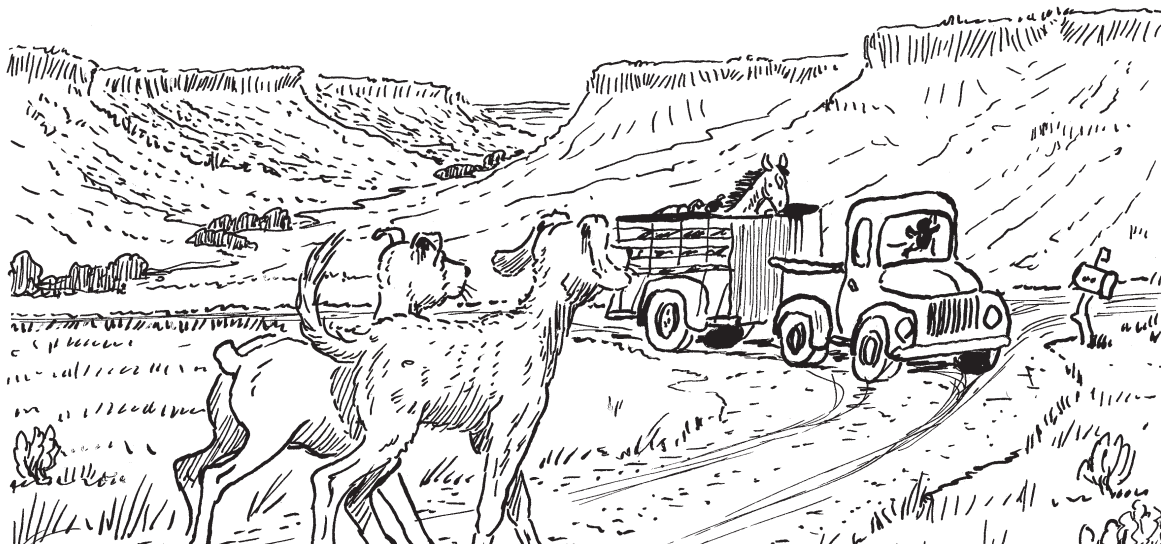
**excerpts from "Lost in the Blinded Blizzard" by John R. Erickson*

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Read Chapter 4 (pages 15-22)
2. As you are reading, fill out the RANCH LIFE WITH OR WITHOUT TECHNOLOGY - CHART

WRAP UP:

Fill out THE BOTTOM LINE worksheet after you have completed the activity.

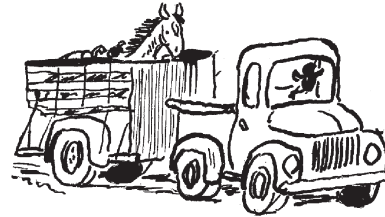


Ranch Life With & Without Technology

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

COMPARISON CHART

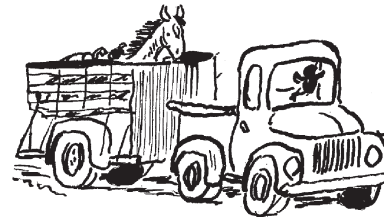


PICKUP TRUCK		STOCK TRAILER	
Life <i>WITH</i> Technology	Life <i>WITHOUT</i> Technology	Life <i>WITH</i> Technology	Life <i>WITHOUT</i> Technology

Ranch Life With & Without Technology

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

COMPARISON CHART



PICKUP TRUCK		STOCK TRAILER	
Life <i>WITH</i> Technology	Life <i>WITHOUT</i> Technology	Life <i>WITH</i> Technology	Life <i>WITHOUT</i> Technology
Carry fence supplies and windmill parts to job site	Pull wagon with horses to carry supplies	Haul cattle from one pasture to another	Would have to ride horseback or not move cattle
Load with hay	Deliver by walking or with horses pulling a wagon	Carry horses	No way to carry horses
Pull a stock trailer	Can't pull a stock trailer	Portable catch pen	Would have to build a pen in every pasture
Climb steep hills and plow through snow and mud	Horses can go all terrain	Take sick cattle back to headquarters	No way to carry cattle - they would have to walk
Travel several miles in one day	Would be much slower		



Ranch Life With & Without Technology



NAME: _____ DATE: _____

THE BOTTOM LINE

Technology can really make a difference in the daily life of a cowdog. Technology can change the way people work and how people meet basic *needs*. Ranching is a *business*, and it requires a big investment in technology to be successful in today's world!

Answer the questions below:

1. What was the most difficult decision you had to make in the book?
2. Do you feel that having a truck is beneficial for a ranch?
3. Give three reasons explaining how a truck can have a positive impact on ranch life.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
4. What do you think cowboys would have to do if they did not have a stock trailer?
5. Name one way technology has had a positive impact on how you live your daily life.
6. Name one way your life would be different without technology.

