



ACTIVITY 2

Diary Match



RANCH LIFE SERIES / BOOK 4 / RANCH WEATHER
CHAPTERS 1 -5

Content Area
Social Studies

Topic
Ranch Work

Objective
Students will read diary entries and decide which season the diary entry best fits.

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)
Social Studies TEKS: K.3A, 1.3B, 1.6C, 2.2C, 2.7A, 3.4A, 4.8C, 5.9A





Diary Match

CONTENT AREA: Social Studies

TOPICS: Ranch Work

READING STRATEGY: Jigsaw

- Each student is assigned to read a different section of the book. Optional reading sections are listed below.
 - Fall: 7 -16
 - Winter: 17-46
 - Spring: 47-62
 - Summer: 63-78
 - Other Weather Events: 79-94
- Student are given a sticky note to make notes on what they feel was the most important information in their assigned reading.

ACTIVITY MATERIALS:

- DIARY CARDS (page A2-3): 1 per student or student table group
- DIARY ANALYSIS HANDOUT (pages A2-4 & A2-5): 1 per student or student table group

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

1. After completing the reading, students share the information on their sticky note with their group
2. Each student or student group needs a set of the DIARY CARDS and a DIARY ANALYSIS HANDOUT
 - Each diary entry card is a real quote from a real ranch journal! The Matador Ranch foreman recorded the entries in the ranch journal during 1908 -1917.
3. Students work together to sort the diary entries with the season they feel they BEST fit. Students justify their answer with details from the text.
4. Students may complete the BOTTOM LINE handout.

STUDENT SKILLS ASSESSMENT:

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

Diary Match



SECURITY BRIEFING –

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM HANK THE COWDOG:

It's me, Hank the Cowdog. Now I know to most people I may just look like a dog, but there is a lot going on inside this head of mine.

As the Head of Ranch Security, I know every inch of this ranch. It is also important to keep track of everything that goes on, so I keep a log of all happenings on the ranch, which I refer to as needed. Pretty smart, huh? I got the idea from Loper. It turns out ranchers often keep a logbook or journal to record things going on at the ranch. These documents can include things like the weather, cattle records, or a description of events that took place.

The first ranches in the Panhandle also kept records. One example is the Matador Ranch, which was established in 1879. In this activity let's take a look at journal entries from the Matador Ranch and sort them into which season they fit the best.

(The diary entries you are about to read are real entries from historical documents! Each entry is from the Matador Ranch journals from 1908 - 1917.)

ACTIVITY MATERIALS:

- DIARY CARDS
- DIARY ANALYSIS HANDOUT

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

After your teacher has assigned you to a group and Ranch Bird Station, you will use your notes, pencil and supplies given to you by your teacher to complete the following instructions:

1. *After completing the reading, students share the information on their sticky note with their group*
2. *Each student or student group needs a set of the DIARY CARDS and a DIARY ANALYSIS HANOUT*
3. *Students work together to sort the diary entries with the season they feel they BEST fit. Students justify their answer with details from the text.*
4. *Students may complete the BOTTOM LINE handout.*

WRAP UP:

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

MATATOR RANCH DIARY

ENTRY #1

Moved cattle from our pasture to Rita Blanco pasture. Tim and Van rounded up a mount of horses for Van Leonard to go to the W Kenneth to work through with them.

The worst wind storm of the season.

MATATOR RANCH DIARY

ENTRY #2

Another bad storm last night and the thermometer registered 4 above at 7 AM and kept getting colder until it was 4 below at 8 PM this evening. Snowed some during the day and a very high wind from the northeast. John Shaw went to the farm with a load of corn and bran and cake.

Was an awful hard storm on cattle.

MATATOR RANCH DIARY

ENTRY #3

Ray took the new bull to the Hollicott Carry. Mitchell went to Channing this am. Ina came in from the vats this evening. The outfit dehorned 222 yearling heifers today.

Cold and threatening.

MATATOR RANCH DIARY

ENTRY #4

Mitchell went to Amarillo. Mike Tafoga brought the stay press to the Lewis place. Commenced cutting hay this afternoon

Weather cloudy and threatening.

Diary Match



NAME: _____ DATE: _____

DIARY ANALYSIS HANDOUT

Answer the following questions.

CIRCLE THE SEASON YOU THINK DIARY ENTRY #1 BEST FITS

FALL

WINTER

SPRING

SUMMER

Justify your thinking by completing the sentence stem below:

I believe this diary entry belongs in _____ because _____

CIRCLE THE SEASON YOU THINK DIARY ENTRY #2 BEST FITS

FALL

WINTER

SPRING

SUMMER

Justify your thinking by completing the sentence stem below:

I believe this diary entry belongs in _____ because _____

Diary Match



NAME: _____ DATE: _____

DIARY ANALYSIS HANDOUT

Answer the following questions.

CIRCLE THE SEASON YOU THINK DIARY ENTRY #3 BEST FITS

FALL

WINTER

SPRING

SUMMER

Justify your thinking by completing the sentence stem below:

I believe this diary entry belongs in _____ because _____

CIRCLE THE SEASON YOU THINK DIARY ENTRY #4 BEST FITS

FALL

WINTER

SPRING

SUMMER

Justify your thinking by completing the sentence stem below:

I believe this diary entry belongs in _____ because _____

Diary Match



NAME: _____ DATE: _____

THE BOTTOM LINE

Identify the key words from the diary entries that provided the best clue for you to categorize them with the correct season.

SEASONS	KEY WORDS/CLUES
Fall	
Winter	
Spring	
Summer	