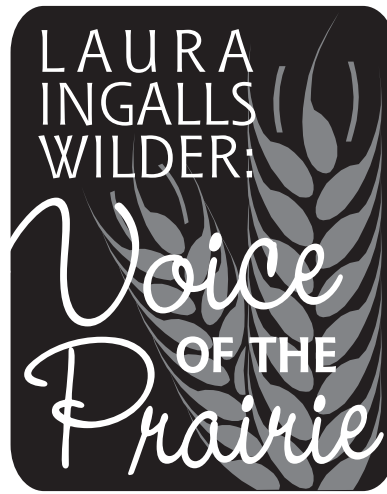


By Kathryn Shultz Miller

Directed by Andrea Urice

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By Kathryn Shultz Miller

Directed by Andrea Urice

Scenic and Costume Design

Lou Bird

Stage Manager

Brian Peters

Director of Education

Marsha Coplon

Artistic Supervisor

Jeffery Matthews

The Company

(in order of appearance)

Almanzo, Narrator, Doctor, Indian / **Matt McGaughey**

Pa, Southerner, Alfred A. Knopf / **Alan Knoll**

Ma, Northerner, Mary, Rose / **Meghan Brown**

Laura, Citizen / **Kymerlee Thompson**

The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis is grateful for support of
Imaginary Theatre Company programming from the following:

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William T. Kemper Foundation, Commerce Bank Trustee

Financial assistance for this theatre has been provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency; the Missouri Arts Council, a stage agency; the Arts and Education Council of Greater St. Louis; and the St. Louis Regional Arts Commission.



❄️ SETTING THE SCENE ❄️

In the 19th century, Laura and her family were part of a great movement toward westward expansion in the United States. In those days, America was still a young country, with new territory being discovered every day. Like Laura's father, many men wanted to take their families west to find their own land. This pioneer spirit was born of stories related by explorers and missionaries, full of images of vast, open landscapes, abundant game, rich soil and pristine rivers.

During this time, young America was a country of progress. It was growing by leaps and bounds as new territory was discovered and acquired. Some of the very first pioneers settled in Oregon in 1842 after traveling the Oregon Trail. The gold rush of 1849 saw thousands of prospectors heading toward California. In 1860 the Pony Express began operation, and delivered mail across the country in the fastest time ever. In 1861, the telegraph was invented and saw the end of the Pony Express, as information was sent over the wires. By 1869, easterners could stop writing letters to their relatives in the west and go on a cross-country rail trip via the transcontinental railroad.

Though new and exciting things were happening everyday, early American pioneers saw their share of hardships as well. In the large, open west, settlers saw very harsh weather, with blizzards, hail storms and insects often destroying whole crops. Because of this crop loss, many new farmers went bankrupt and were unable to keep the land they had traveled across the country to acquire. Disease and illness were also a problem for settlers in the new territories. In small towns there were far fewer doctors and hospitals than in the large eastern cities, and diseases such as scarlet fever and diphtheria saw the death of many. Native Americans also presented a dangerous challenge for pioneers. As Americans moved west and invaded Native American lands, bloody battles were fought, resulting in many deaths on both sides.



❄️ WHO'S WHO? ❄️

Laura Ingalls Wilder

is a strong-willed, intelligent girl, who grows up in the wilderness of the American Frontier.

Caroline Ingalls (Ma)

is Laura's mother. She is a brave woman who works hard to keep her family safe.

CHARLES INGALLS (PA)

is Laura's father. He has a strong sense of adventure and longs to build a good life for his family.

Mary Ingalls

is Laura's older sister. She is a kind soul who becomes blind after suffering a stroke brought on by scarlet fever.

Almonzo Wilder (Manly)

is a good, young farmer who helps the Ingalls family after a hard winter. He and Laura fall in love and are later married.

Rose Wilder

is the daughter of Laura and Manly. She has the same sense of adventure as her grandfather, which takes her on travels around the world. Rose is a gifted writer who publishes many books of her own.

Alfred Knopf

is a publisher whom Rose convinces to publish her mother's manuscript.



WHAT'S THE STORY?



WORDS TO THE WISE



covered wagon:
a large wagon covered with an arched canvas top, used especially for prairie travel



scarlet fever:
a disease occurring predominantly among children and characterized by a high fever



pioneer:
someone who ventures into unclaimed or unknown territory to settle



Dakota Territory:
a territory of the north-central United States organized in 1861 and divided into the states of North Dakota and South Dakota in 1889

The year Charles and Caroline Ingalls are married, the country is in turmoil, nearing a civil war. A young Charles reads the headlines and hears the call of freedom ring throughout the nation. Though Caroline is wary about leaving her home, Charles convinces her that they can find a better life if they go west in search of land. The young couple packs their belongings and departs.

A few years later, Charles and Caroline are settled on a farm in Wisconsin, and are living happily with their two daughters, Laura and Mary. One night Laura hears her parents talking about moving and she worries about leaving her home. Pa comforts her, telling her that they will always be safe as long as they are together.

Pa packs the covered wagon to move his family, and as they ride, they pass through several years of their lives. The family moves through many states and homes before settling again in a new house that Pa built. The girls admire their new home, complete with metal door hinges and glass windows, but through the new windows they see their family's next challenge. As the family watches helplessly, all of their hard work is destroyed as a swarm of hungry grasshoppers destroys their wheat crop.

Later that year, Mary falls ill with scarlet fever. Though they try, Ma, Pa, and the town Doctor cannot help Mary and she has a stroke which results in the loss of her sight. Laura is very saddened by her sister's loss, but is resolved

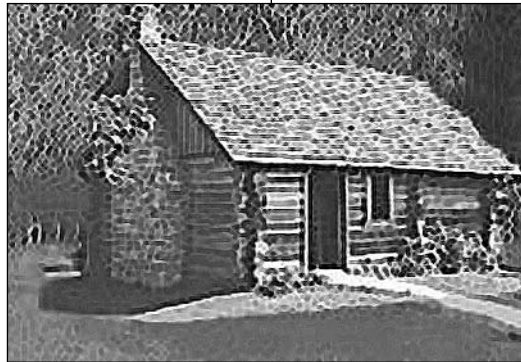
to help her see again by explaining everything that she sees in the world. As Laura describes all of the colors in a beautiful sunset, Mary tells Laura that someday she should be an artist, because she can paint with words.

As the girls talk, Ma and Pa discuss the possibility of another move. Ma wants to live in a safe place where the girls can go to school and church. Pa convinces her that they can find the perfect land further west, and then they won't ever move again.

In the new town, Pa enters a General Store to buy salt pork. At the store, he sees an old Indian man who warns

Pa that there is a terrible storm approaching. Pa takes the news home to Ma, who doesn't believe the Indian, but Pa is worried. Days later a blizzard sweeps through town covering everything with snow. The family burns through most of their firewood and has to resort to making logs out of straw. Pa fears that they will run out of food and asks a young farmer in town for help. The farmer, Almonzo Wilder, has no wheat to spare, but agrees to help Pa buy some from another farmer.

Laura is very grateful to the young Almonzo, and though the two are shy, they strike up a long friendship that results years later in a marriage proposal. Laura loves Almonzo, but she worries about spending her life farming like her parents. Laura consents to marry Almonzo, but only after he agrees to her one requirement: if, after three years, they are unable to make a life of farming, he must promise to try another way of life.





The young couple is married and moves into a beautiful little house that Almonzo has made for Laura. A year later, the wheat crop is bountiful and Laura gives birth to a healthy baby girl, Rose. It seems as though their luck is changing, until suddenly, an early winter hail storm sweeps through destroying all of their hard work. To make matters worse, Laura and Almonzo are both stricken with diphtheria. Ma and Pa take Rose to their house to keep her from catching the illness. After a few weeks in bed, the young couple is on the mend, but Almonzo, fearing the loss of their farm, returns to work too early and has a stroke resulting in a crippled leg.

Laura worries about her family, but Almonzo soon heals and returns to work on the farm. One day, while he is working far from the house, an accident in the kitchen results in a fire that burns down their house. Laura saves the deed box with their possessions and money, but they lose everything else to the flames.

Since they have been trying to farm for three years, Almonzo honors their wedding

agreement, and consents to move with Laura to find a new life. As they pack to leave, Ma and Pa give Laura the gift of a writing desk and encourage her to write about her life and adventures.

As they travel, several years pass and Laura decides that farming is the best life for her family. They settle in the Ozarks of Missouri on Rocky Ridge Farm, and a grown Rose persuades her mother to finally use that writing desk. Laura writes a memoir of her life, which, with a little help from Rose, becomes a published bestseller.



Rose, who is a writer herself, travels all over the world writing and living a life away from the farm. One day, far into the future, an elderly Laura is asked to speak at a book fair. While a nervous Laura approaches the stage,

Almonzo hopes that Rose will come home to see her mother speak. As Laura speaks about her books, she sees her daughter in the crowd. Happily, Laura continues to reminisce about the life she has led, and Rose hopes that she can live up to her mother's example.

bushel:

a unit of dry measure equal to four pecks, or 2152.42 cubic inches



diphtheria:

a disease of the throat and other respiratory passages, causing difficulty in breathing, high fever, and weakness



deed box:

a strongbox used for holding money and valuables



manuscript:

a typewritten or handwritten version of a book, especially the author's own copy, prepared and submitted for publication in print



half-pint:

slang for a small person or animal, also Pa's nickname for Laura

Pioneer children didn't have the numerous toys and electronic entertainment devices that children have today, but they still had fun—when they were not working on their numerous chores. The following are a few of the toys and crafts they liked to make. If you do not know what some of these are, visit the website

www.olywa.net/tumwaterhistory/games-text.htm to find out!

Cornhusk Doll
Fresh Butter
Whirligig
Pincushion
Thaumatrope
Berry Jam
Family Tree
Block Puzzle
Whimmydiddle
Jacob's Ladder



Laura Ingalls was born just after the Civil War to a time of national grief and hope. As a young woman, she saw a great forward motion of energy, a whirlwind of frontiers conquered, railroads forged, then telephones, radios, even television. She lived through two horrific World

Wars and a crushing Depression. At the end of her life, U.S. advisors had touched down in Vietnam and satellites circled the planet.

In the writing of *Laura Ingalls Wilder: Voice of the Prairie*, I tried to set down American events in the context of Laura's life. But this is not a history for schoolbooks—this is the inner, gently rolling landscape of an American heart and soul. One of the most fascinating aspects to her books is the detail she imparts to ordinary things. How to do the laundry properly and which day of the week it should be done. How to mold a pat of butter so that the pretty side is on top. And in the midst of ordeal, how to twist hay for fuel and how to use a coffee grinder to make meal for bread. Laura did not like to teach school but she surely educated us all, showing us how to

cherish the peaceful history of our nation, one small accomplishment at a time.

Laura knew she had the talent and the desire to write, but it was her daughter Rose who knew how much Americans would clamor for her books. Rose was a thoroughly modern woman who rejected much of the life Laura loved. But in the end it was the writing that brought them together. There is a lot of speculation as to how much of the writing should be attributed to Rose. I don't care much about that—the two women held hands across a sea of change and left us with a marvelous gift.

As a girl, Laura hated to think that the events then happening would one day be gone and lost to the distant past. But Laura found a way to keep that from happening. She set it all down, simply and gently, so that we could enter her long-ago world any time we liked. I hope this play will send young readers to the library to visit Laura again and pass her gift along to the next generation—and the next and the next.

Kathryn Shultz Miller
Playwright



READ MORE ABOUT IT

We encourage you to examine these topics in-depth by exploring the following books, websites and videos.

The *Little House* books by Laura Ingalls Wilder. Harper Trophy; 1994 (Reprint). Although these books are available in many different editions and formats, this is a nicely illustrated boxed set available in most bookstores.

Frontier House (2002) is a PBS series accurately recreating the experience of frontier life. The series is available on DVD or VHS from PBS. Visit www.pbs.org/wnet/frontierhouse/project/index.html to learn more about the series, or for informational articles, lesson plans and other classroom resources.



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR




I've been re-reading the *Little House* books recently and in doing so have been transported back to my childhood. The first time I read the series of books was nearly thirty years ago. Yet as I reacquaint myself with the Ingalls family, the sights, sounds, smells and tastes of a winter in the Big Woods and a summer on the prairie come flooding back with surprising, joyful familiarity. In sharing the story of her own childhood, Laura Ingalls Wilder created a world rich with sensory details—the taste of maple sugar, the smell of burnt grass, the sounds of an Indian war cry and the image of a cabin encircled by wolves in the moonlight.

Wilder also created a rich, warm world where the family was everything and all events of life were treasured. Pa was a charismatic storyteller and lively fiddler on those long, cold winter evenings. Ma's quiet strength steadied the family through a series of moves across the Midwest. Jack, the vigilant bulldog, protected the family through thick and thin. And a Christmas stocking filled with a tin cup, peppermint

candy and a shiny penny brought unparalleled joy to Laura and her sister Mary. These rousing stories of a life fully and deeply lived provide ballast in the midst of our own chaotic and complicated times.

In Kathryn Shultz Miller's delightful play *Laura Ingalls Wilder: Voice of the Prairie*, the remarkable life of the title character is captured from her early days in the Big Woods of Wisconsin through her youth and marriage in South Dakota to her adult years in southern Missouri. With quick, sure brush strokes Miller evokes both the vivid sensory world and the loving family circle that surrounds Laura. As we watch a little girl grow, become a woman, a mother and an award-winning author, Miller traces a parallel journey through a period of equally astonishing growth and change in the country. We welcome you to this powerful individual and national story of strength, perseverance and achievement.

Andrea Urice
Director



Like kids today, pioneer children also loved to play games. However, instead of buying games that came in a box, they played games that had been memorized and passed down from generation to generation. Have you played any of the pioneer games listed below?

- Hopscotch
- Blind Man's Buff
- Jump Rope
- Marbles
- Jackstraws
- Hide and Seek
- Game of Graces
- Apple Harvest Games

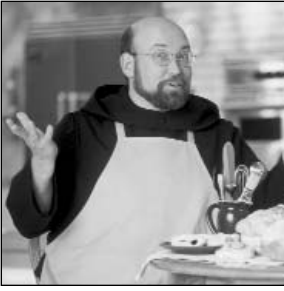


The Little House Cookbook: Frontier Foods from Laura Ingalls Wilder's Classic Stories. HarperTrophy; 1989. If you would like to try your hand at some of the pioneer recipes described in Laura's books, this cookbook contains over 100. It is written to be historically instructive and suitable for young people as well.

The website "Laura Ingalls Wilder: Frontier Girl" is located at <http://webpages.marshall.edu/~irby1/laura/frames.html>. The site gives a detailed history of Laura's life, including descriptions of friends and family as well as a map of Laura's travels. A guide to Native American sign language is available online at www.inquiry.net/outdoor/native/sign. The website gives a written description and picture of each sign.



CORN STICKS



Fr. Dominic Garramone, OSB, is a

Benedictine monk of Saint Bede Abbey in Peru, Illinois. While his primary ministry is teaching high school religion and theatre, he is best known as the host of his cooking show *Breaking Bread with Father Dom* on public television. Mixing recipes with humor, history and spiritual insight, Father Dom teaches baking in a way that makes his viewers eager to try out his recipes. "It's bread," he says, "It's going to forgive you!"

Fr. Dominic is an avid herb gardener and the author of three cookbooks as well as a book of spiritual reflections. He has no spare time to speak of.

Fr. Dom will bring dramatic new recipes to share with The St. Louis Food and Wine Experience audience on January 29 & 30 at the Chase Park Plaza Hotel! These premiere breads are a culinary reflection of the rich cultural diversity produced on The Rep's stages and inspired by Fr. Dom's love of theatre!



A Recipe With a "Little House" Flavor From Father Dom

While Laura was growing up on the frontier, most breads were made from cornmeal. Small cakes made from cornmeal, milk, oil and molasses went by various names: johnnycakes, hoecakes, corn dodgers (made of cornmeal, sour milk and bacon grease), corn daubs, and cornpone, just to name a few. Sometimes they were fried in a skillet like pancakes, or baked like biscuits on tin sheets in an open hearth fireplace. Children often mixed the batter thick and wrapped the lumps of dough in corn husks and left them in the embers of a fire to bake. Later cast iron pans were produced with molds shaped like ears of corn, and these molds are still available today.



Corn Sticks

- 2 cups yellow corn meal
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 egg

Preheat oven to 400° F. and place corn stick pans in oven to preheat as well. Place cornmeal, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, and salt in a medium size bowl and stir until thoroughly blended. In a separate bowl, combine sour cream and egg and beat until smooth. Add egg mixture to dry ingredients and stir until just moistened—do not over mix. Grease the preheated pans generously, and be sure to grease the top of the pan as well, as the batter tends to escape the mold somewhat. Fill each mold with batter to just below the top of the pan. Bake for 20 minutes or until golden brown on top. Remove from pans and cool briefly on wire racks. Serve warm. Makes 12 to 14 sticks.

* PACK YOUR WAGON! *

Laura spent much of her life in a covered wagon, moving from place to place in search of the ideal homestead. As a girl, Laura traveled with her family from Wisconsin to Missouri and through Kansas, Minnesota, and South Dakota before finally settling with her husband in the Ozarks of Missouri. With each move, Laura and her family had to decide what was most important to take with them, and what they must leave behind. They had to take necessities such as food, water, and blankets, while trying to leave room for their most prized possessions, like Pa's fiddle. In the spirit of Laura and her family, pack a covered wagon for yourself. What can you leave behind? What is necessary for survival? What will you need to face challenges like rivers and wild animals?



In packing your wagon, you can only take 1,500 pounds worth of items. Use the table below to get the weights of common items. If some of your cargo is not included in the table, you will have to estimate its weight. Compare your list of items to the lists of others in the class. Did they pack something important that you forgot, or vice versa? How do you intend to compensate for the items that you are not taking with you (for instance, a stove or a rifle)?

(MO: MA1, SS2, SS4,
SS5, CA1, CA3
IL: 1, 4, 6, 15, 16, 17, 18)

FOOD	LBS.
apples	45
bacon	100
barrel of water	355
buffalo meat	300
carrots	12
chicken	4
chocolate	20
coffee	20
cornmeal	50
dried beans	50
dried beef	55
flour	100
nuts	13
oatmeal	85
oil	8
onions	12
peaches	28
pickles	15
potatoes	100
pumpkin	9
raisins	10
raspberries	8
salt	20
salt pork	25
spices	4
split peas	23
squash	35
strawberries	18
sugar	50
tea	7

TOOLS	LBS.
animal trap	20
animal whip	1
anvil	200
axle	23
fishing pole	1
grinding stone	80
hammer	4
hatchet	10
hoe	4
hunting knife	2
pick ax	8
pistol	5
pitch fork	6
plow	63
rifle	8
rope	3
saw	8
shovel	8
wagon canvas	24
wagon wheel	16

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS	LBS.
baby cradle	60
bench	75
blankets	20
bookcase	90
broom	2
butter churn	45
candles (set of 20)	2
chest of drawers	125
clock	1
coffee grinder	6
coffee pot	1
cooking utensils	3
curtains	2
dishes (set of 8)	25
feather mattress	10
hope chest	125
iron cooking stove	1,200
kitchen chair	25
kitchen table	175
lantern	3
mirror	30
piano	1,000
picture frame	2
pitcher and bowl	6
rocking chair	55
rug	35
soup kettle	60
spinning wheel	75
stool	8
wooden bucket	15

PERSONAL ITEMS	LBS.
banjo	4
bible	4
books	2
boots	6
box of hair clips	2
doll	1
dress	4
fiddle	4
first aid kit	6
harmonica	1
jump rope	1
kaleidoscope	1
longjohns	3
pair of pants	4
shirt	3
shoes	4
snowshoes	7
stationery	1
wooden top	1
wool coat	10

Q & A

These questions and activities are designed to help students anticipate the performance and then to build on their impressions and interpretations after attending the theatre. The activities and questions are divided into “**Before the Performance**” and “**After the Performance**” categories. While most of the exercises provide specific instructions, please feel free to adapt these activities to accommodate your own teaching strategies and curricular needs. To assist you in incorporating these materials into your existing curriculum, we have provided the numbers of some of the corresponding Missouri Knowledge Standards and Illinois Learning Standards. In addition, the majority of the content integrates or allows demonstration of the following Missouri Performance Goals: 1.5, 1.9, 2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5 and 4.1.

✻ Communication Arts

Before the Performance

1 In Laura’s time, large portions of the American West were mostly unsettled, and still occupied by Native Americans. With new American settlers arriving every day to join the various Native American tribes, it became important for all to learn to communicate with those who did not speak the same language. In his encounter at the general store, Pa sees an Indian using sign language to communicate. Think about talking to someone who cannot speak your language. What are some of the most important signs you may need to know? Make a list of words you will need to communicate and look up the description of how to sign these words. You can find a dictionary of Native American sign language online at www.inquiry.net/outdoor/native/sign/index.htm. Practice words with a partner. Can you understand each other in sign language? (MO: CA1, CA3, CA6, CA7 IL: 1, 4, 5, 21, 28, 29)

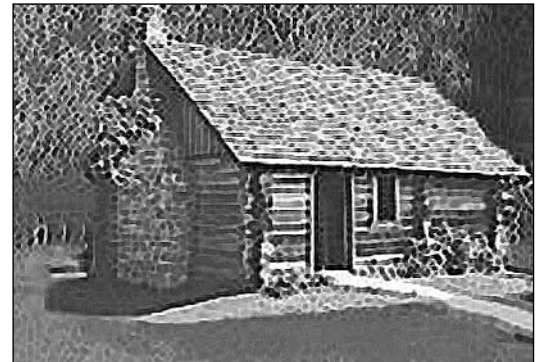
After the Performance

2 Although Laura experienced many fascinating events in her life about which she could write, if it had not been for Rose, Laura’s work would likely have never been published. Pick an event from your life that was very meaningful for you, and write two pages about it. After you have finished, exchange your paper with someone else in the class. Examine your friend’s paper critically, and try to find ways in which to improve it. Are there certain aspects of the event about which you would like more or less detail? Are there people you would like described more thoroughly? Rewrite your own paper taking into account the suggestions made by your partner—and remember, learning to accept criticism graciously is one of the best ways to learn. (MO: CA1, CA2, CA3, CA4, CA6, CA7, FA2, FA3, FA4, FA5 IL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 25, 27)

✻ Fine Arts

Before the Performance

1 Throughout the play, Laura and her family live in several different places. As a class, discuss how you would use scenery to show these different homes and areas of the country. What specific props and settings could be used to distinguish one home from another?



- Laura’s first little home in the big woods of Wisconsin
- The home Pa built them that had glass windows and metal hinges
- Laura and Manly’s first home in South Dakota
- Rocky Ridge Farm in the Ozarks of Missouri

(MO: FA1, FA2, FA3, FA5, CA1, CA3, CA6, CA7, SS2 IL: 1, 2, 4, 5, 16, 25, 26, 27)

2 Laura and her family encounter several adventures and trials. What are different ways you could use props and scenery to depict the following scenes from the play? Draw a sketch of your scenic design concept for each of the following:

- Traveling in a covered wagon
- Swarms of grasshoppers eating crops
- Fire burning the house
- Driving horses through a blizzard
- A hailstorm destroying the crops

(MO: FA1, FA2, FA3, FA5, CA1, CA3, CA4, CA6, CA7, SS2 IL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 16, 25, 26, 27)

After the Performance

3 In the play we travel through time with Laura from her childhood to her old age. How do the actors show the passage of time? What are other actions/props/scenery that you would use to theatrically show the movement through time? (MO: FA1, FA2, FA3, FA5, CA1, CA3, CA6, CA7, SS2 IL: 1, 2, 4, 5, 16, 25, 26, 27)

4 In speaking of *Laura Ingalls Wilder: Voice of the Prairie*, by Kathryn Shultz Miller, Director Andrea Urice has stated that there are three levels of art/life reflected in the story:

- 1) The actual life of Laura Ingalls Wilder
- 2) The *Little House* series, which while based on certain details of Laura's life, also contains fictional elements
- 3) Our play itself, which blends Laura's life, her books and American history together. This gives the play both historical context and an educational platform.



Laura and Almonzo

The popular TV series, *Little House on the Prairie* (starring Michael Landon and Melissa Gilbert), takes significant liberties with the details of Laura's books. As a class research project, have the students watch episodes of the TV show and compare them to the actual events of Laura's life. How many aspects of the show can they identify that were factual, and how many can they find that are fictionalized? Have them compile a list of the similarities and differences between the TV show and the books.

(MO: FA1, FA2, FA3, FA4, FA5, CA1, CA2, CA3, CA4, CA6, CA7, SS2 IL: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 16, 25, 26, 27)

✻ Social Sciences

After the Performance

1 When she was a grown woman, Laura's daughter Rose convinced her to write a story about her life. Laura wrote of things that were common in her day: raising chickens, gathering eggs, going to school, and making meals. These things may have been the norm in Laura's time, but today they are tasks that we know very little about. Using Laura's technique, write a short story about your life that you think would be interesting to people in the future. What day-to-day activities do we engage in now that may change dramatically in the future? (MO: SS2, SS3, SS4, SS5, SS6, CA1, CA2, CA3, CA4, FA1, FA2, FA3, FA4, FA5 IL: 1, 3, 5, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 25, 26, 27)



Rose Wilder

2 In the play we see Laura's life progress through the major headlines of the day. From the Civil War to the transcontinental railroad to the introduction of the first Bell Telephone, the world around Laura changed rapidly. Research a few of the major events that have occurred during your life. What headlines have been important? What news will people remember? Now do the same with your parents. What major news do they remember? In what ways has the world changed since your parents were kids? Are the events that they recall similar to the events that you recall, or are they very different? Support your answer. (MO: SS2, SS3, SS4, SS5, SS6, CA1, CA2, CA3, FA1, FA2, FA3, FA4, FA5 IL: 1, 4, 5, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 25, 26, 27)

3 During Laura's lifetime, people living in the large cities in the east had a very different life than the pioneers who traveled west into the prairies. How might Laura's life have been different if she lived in a big city? What things would she have to do on a farm that she would not have to do in a city? (MO: SS2, SS3, SS4, SS5, SS6, CA1, CA2, CA3, FA1, FA2, FA3, FA4, FA5 IL: 1, 4, 5, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 25, 26, 27)

THE INGALLS' TRAVELS



✪ Mathematics

After the Performance

1 Laura's travels took her over much of the Midwest in her lifetime. With the help of an atlas, estimate the distances Laura traveled between each of the locations listed below. A covered wagon could travel about fifteen miles a day. At that rate, how long would each trip have taken? Record the mileage and time required for each trip.

- 1867 – Laura is born in Pepin, Wisconsin.
- 1869 – The family moves to Independence in Montgomery County, Kansas.
- 1871 – Ingalls family returns to Pepin, Wisconsin.

- 1874 – Family moves to Walnut Grove, Minnesota.
- 1879 – Family moves to the Dakota Territory near DeSmet.
- 1894 – Laura, Almanzo and Rose leave DeSmet for Mansfield, Missouri.

Now compute the same journeys if traveling by car at an estimated 60 miles per hour. If the average speed of travel by coach is 15 miles per day, and the average speed by car is 60 miles per hour, how much faster is traveling by car compared to traveling by coach? (MO: MA1 IL: 6)