



Manatee Village Historical Park  
1404 Manatee Avenue East  
Bradenton, Florida 34208  
Manatee County Historical Commission  
& Manatee County Clerk of the Circuit Court  
Historical Resources Division

# **Cow Hunter Activity Book**

# **Answer Key**



# Use Your Imagination!

The activities on page 1 and 2 asked you to use your imagination to draw what you think a cow hunter is and what you think the Florida landscape looked like in 1880.

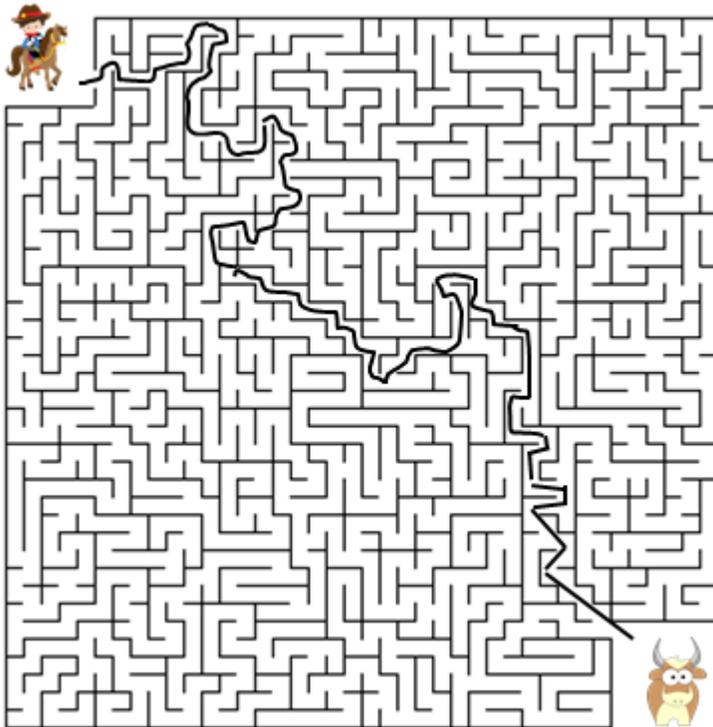
Cow hunter drawings might include a cow boy, cattle, or horses.

Landscape drawings might include Florida scrub land, weather images, wild animals, or people in a horse drawn buggy.

For these activities there is no right or wrong answer. The goal was for you to think creatively and have a chance to create some art.

## Cow Hunter Maze

Activity on page 4



Created by [Puzzlemaker](#) at [DiscoveryEducation.com](#)



# Be a Detective!

The activities on pages 5 and 6 asked you to examine two historical images and answer some questions based on your observations.

Since your answers are based on your observations there are no right or wrong answers for this activity.



## Relationship Status



Activity on page 8

### Cattle & Screwworm Larvae

A screwworm (a type of fly) lands on a cow and lays eggs in an open wound on the cow. The screwworm's larvae (pictured) eat the cow's skin and muscle.

**Relationship: Parasitism**

### Cracker Cattle & Egrets

When cattle move across the field they stir up insects from the earth. As a result, foraging for food is easier for egrets (a type of bird).

**Relationship: Commensalism**

(There is some debate among scientists that this relationship is an example of **mutualism**—the egret might rest on the cow's back and eat parasites that would otherwise harm the cow. In this case the egret benefits by getting food and the cow benefits by being free of harmful bugs.)

### Saw Palmetto & Toads

A toad moves under the saw palmetto and eats a cricket. If the cricket hadn't been eaten by the toad it would have damaged the leaves of the saw palmetto.

**Relationship: Commensalism**

### Saw Palmetto & Gopher Tortoise

The saw palmetto produces fruit that the gopher tortoise eats. As the gopher tortoise travels around the ecosystem, plant seeds pass through the tortoise, and more saw palmetto grows.

**Relationship: Mutualism**

### Gopher Tortoise & Toads

The gopher tortoise digs holes that later get used by toads and other animals like opossums and snakes.

**Relationship: Commensalism**

# Scientific Inquiry:

## *Be A Science Detective*

The activity on pages 10 and 11 asked you to observe the world around you and develop a hypothesis based on your observations.

Answers will vary.

## Cow Hunter Crossword

Activity on page 12

### Down

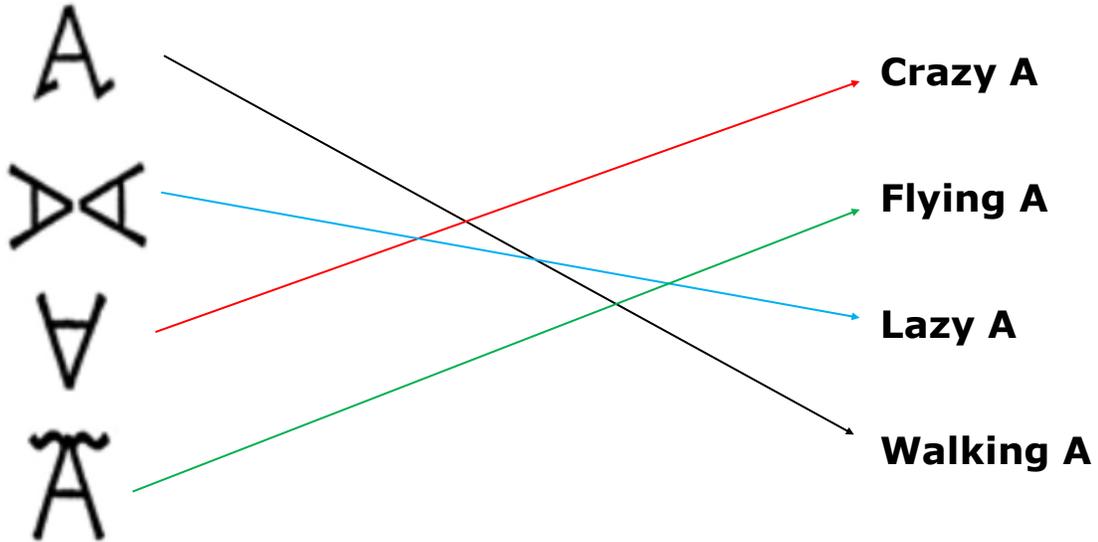
1. **commensalism:** a type of symbiotic relationship where only one living thing benefits
2. **mutualism:** a type of symbiotic relationship where both living things benefit
3. **eradicate:** a term that means to eliminate
4. **cattle ranching:** the practice of raising and herding cows
7. **branding iron:** a piece of iron with the brand symbol on one end
8. **cattle rustlers:** another term for cattle thieves
10. **herd:** a large group of one type of animal
11. **running iron:** a tool used by cattle rustlers to alter someone else's brand

### Across

5. **parasitism:** a type of symbiotic relationship where only one living thing benefits and the other living thing is harmed
6. **export:** to send goods to another place
9. **cow hunter:** another term for a cracker cowboy
12. **herding:** to keep or move animals together
13. **cattle brands:** unique symbols that show ownership
14. **iconic:** a term that means well-established
15. **sterile:** unable to reproduce
16. **symbiosis:** the close relationship between living things

# Can you read these brands?

Activity on page 13



## Use Your Imagination!

The activity on page 14 asked you to create your own brand symbol. There is no right or wrong answer for this activity.

The activity on page 15 asked you to alter a brand symbol. There is no right or wrong answer for this activity.