

Teacher's guide for the Historic Character Cards

Terms in School

The school year was organized into these 3 month periods

Occupations

The occupations on the cards approximately reflect the historic distribution of skilled versus unskilled agricultural versus industrial workers in the Iowa City/Coralville area during the 1870's. They do not reflect the 1870's distribution for Johnson County as a whole that would be much heavier in agricultural occupations.

Based in the 1870 Iowa census, the occupation "Keeping house" was used to refer to women who worked within their own home. The term "housekeeper" referred to someone who worked in a home other than her own and was paid for her labor.

Background

General information about the historic character allowing for students to develop their histories more fully.

Other family members

In most cases, a detail is given about a family member so that each student will have the opportunity to research two occupations. There are siblings among the historic character roles. Encourage students to explore whether they have siblings.