

## **Classroom Activity—What's for Lunch**

### **One Room Schoolhouses**

**Objective:** Students will compare and contrast the food they have for lunch today with the food that children in the 1800s ate.

**Materials:**

“What’s For Lunch” worksheet

Pen, pencil, or marker

**Backstory:**

Students would have carried their lunches to school in a basket, pail, cloth bundle, pockets, or later in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a tin lunch kettle. Foods that children brought to school needed no refrigeration and were not messy. A typical food might ha

**Activity:**

Have the students do the worksheet that is below. You can ask the students to compare and contrast what the students chose for their lunches and what other foods they thought were unavailable in the 1800s. Have the students research the food that was available to Wisconsin students in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## Activity - What's For Lunch

Students brought their own lunches to school in the 1800s and lunches contained whatever was in the house. Here is a list of food they would eat.

**Directions:** Circle foods you would use to make your own lunch and answer the questions!

<b>Cheese Sandwich</b>	<b>Molasses Sandwich</b>
<b>Lard &amp; Sugar Sandwich</b>	<b>Jelly Sandwich</b>
<b>Egg Sandwich</b>	<b>Sliced Meat Sandwich</b>
<b>Crackers</b>	<b>Hard-Boiled Eggs</b>
<b>Apples</b>	<b>Pears</b>
<b>Peaches</b>	<b>Grapes</b>
<b>Plums</b>	<b>Carrots</b>
<b>Tomatoes</b>	<b>Homemade Cookies</b>
<b>Water</b>	<b>Apple Cider</b>

How would students pack their lunch in the 1800s?

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How would students in the 1800s bring their drink to school?

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**Directions:** Here is a list of foods that were **NOT** available in the 1800s. Can you think of others? Write them down!

<b>Pizza</b>	<b>Peanut Butter</b> (late 1890s)	
<b>Oranges</b>	<b>Bananas</b>	
<b>Oreo Cookies</b>	<b>Potato Chips</b>	
<b>Candy Bars</b>	<b>Juice Boxes</b>	