



Name _____

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The Story of Territorial Kansas

Worksheet 1: Home, Sweet Home!

An early Kansas settler described her cabin in this diary entry dated 1856. Can you sketch this cabin using the written description? What's missing from this house that you have today?

Our cabin is 16 feet square, and is eight logs high . . . with a window on the north, and doors on the east and west sides, with chimney on the south; it is built up on the outside of logs, and on account of the saw mill not getting into operation, we have had no floor as yet. The roof is covered with split clapboards which makes it tight against rain, but not of snow; the high winds which we continually have here, blows the snow through the smallest crevice. The logs, which are laid one upon the other, are chunked between, and over the chunking, plaster or mud is laid. Which we call daubing; upon the whole, I consider our cabin about as tight as the end of a wood pile.

