

# PURDY SCHOOL

## SAMPLE LESSON PLAN

### 9:30 Class arrives

- The volunteer teacher meets class at the door (usually ringing the school bell or a hand bell, which is also used at recesses and lunch).
- The volunteer teacher has students line up in two single-file lines with girls in one line and boys in the other from shortest to tallest. She explains that from this point on they are portraying students in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- She may even ask how many students milked a cow that morning or who collected chicken eggs to set the tone.
- Upon entering the school, students place their lunches, jackets, etc. in the cloak rooms (one for girls, one for boys).
- Students sit at a desk with smaller students sitting at the front of the room.

### 9:30 – 10:30 Lessons

- Students recite the Pledge of Allegiance and sing "America."
- The class discusses the one-room school and its history and the teacher explains the rules for teachers in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- The teacher will have activities already written on the board for students to do when they are at their seats while other students are at the recitation bench working with the teacher. These are completed throughout the day:
  - List how your school is different from Purdy School.
  - First – third graders are assigned math exercises (helping one another is encouraged).
  - Fourth – sixth graders are assigned a synonym exercise (helping one another is encouraged).
  - Poetry memorization. If there's time at the end of the day, students will recite their poems.
  - Reading assignments from McGuffey Readers
- One volunteer teacher brings her table top loom and prepares a weaving exercise using yarn in the visiting school's colors. The visiting class's teacher aids students

in making a few passes in the weaving during their seat time. The class takes the finished weaving back to school.

**10:30 – 10:45 Recess**

**10:45 – 11:45 Lessons**

- Roman Numerals – Students learn the basic symbols. The teacher puts historically significant years on the board. Students decipher the years and discuss their historical significance.
- Fifth and sixth graders read the William Tell play and draw names of parts they will play to act out the last scene before the rest of the class.

**11:45 – 12:15 Lunch**

**12:15 – 1:15 Lessons**

- Other lessons include local geography (counties in southern Illinois), handwriting using the Palmer Method, and spelling.
- Other activities include a spelling bee, making a paper quilt (each student makes a quilt block relating to Purdy School and the class puts the “quilt” together when they return to their school), and writing with a quill pen and ink (students write their name on an index card guided by their classroom teacher).

**1:15 – 1:30 Recess**

**1:30 – 2:00 Dismissal (depending on how far school buses drive)**