

A Walk Through a Colonial Town

Week 24 • Tuesday • Shops, Jobs, and Busy Streets

Reading Time

Let's take a walk down the main street of a colonial town. Clip-clop! A horse pulls a wagon past the shops. Every shop has a special worker with a special job.

The **blacksmith** hammers hot iron into horseshoes and tools. The **cooper** makes wooden barrels. The **cobbler** makes and fixes shoes. The **printer** prints newspapers, and the **baker** fills the street with the smell of fresh bread.

In the middle of town stands the meetinghouse, where people gather for church and town meetings. There were no big factories back then — almost everything was made by hand, one piece at a time. These skilled workers were called **craftspeople**.

Reading Questions

1. What does a blacksmith make?

2. Who makes and fixes shoes?

3. What happened at the meetinghouse?

4. Why do you think craftspeople were so important to the town?

Vocabulary Grid

Write what each word means in your own words.

blacksmith

cooper

cobbler

printer

craftsperson

meetinghouse

Match the Worker to the Job

Write the name of the worker who does each job: blacksmith, cooper, cobbler, printer, or baker.

Job	Worker
Bakes fresh bread	
Hammers iron into horseshoes and tools	
Makes wooden barrels	
Prints newspapers	
Makes and fixes shoes	

True or False

Write T for true or F for false in each circle.

- ☐ A cooper makes wooden barrels.
- ☐ Colonial towns had big factories.
- ☐ The blacksmith worked with hot iron.
- ☐ People gathered at the meetinghouse.
- ☐ A cobbler prints newspapers.
- ☐ Most things were made by hand.

Think About It

1. Which colonial job would you want? Why?

2. Where do we get shoes, bread, and tools today? How is that different?

Fill in the Blanks

blacksmith barrels cobbler hand meetinghouse baker

1. The _____ hammers hot iron into tools.
2. The cooper makes wooden _____.
3. The _____ makes and fixes shoes.
4. The _____ fills the street with the smell of bread.
5. People gathered for meetings at the _____.
6. Almost everything was made by _____.

Draw It!

Draw a colonial main street with at least two shops. Add signs so we know what each shop sells!

Review

I learned...	Circle one
Jobs people did in colonial towns	YES / NOT YET
What craftspeople made by hand	YES / NOT YET
What the meetinghouse was for	YES / NOT YET