# **Mystery Tools**

# Grade Level: 4-8

#### **Lesson Overview**

When you see something you are unfamiliar with, what skills can be used to figure it out? As students explore a variety of tools, they will hypothesize what it is, who may use it, where and when it may be needed, and how it works.

## **Student Objectives**

- 1. Observe pictures of tools and hypothesize their use.
- 2. Explain why some tools are not used in today's society.

#### **Materials**

- ✓ pictures of the mystery tools found in this lesson
- ✓ Mystery Tools Worksheet

## Procedure

- 1. Pass out the Mystery Tools Worksheet to students.
- 2. Individually or in groups have students study the mystery tool photos. (The penny in some pictures gives the student an idea of the size of the tool.)
- 3. Have the students answer questions 1-3.
- 4. Have students report their findings and ideas to the rest of the class.
- 5. At the end of each report tell each student what their mystery tool actually is. Refer to the Mystery Tool Photos Answer Key.
- 6. Instruct students to complete question 4 on their own about their or their group's mystery tool.

# **Extension Activities**

1. Read more about tools and their many uses at your local library or on the Internet.

#### Standard

#### Illinois Social Science Standard

SS.H.3.5: Explain probable causes and effects of events and developments in U.S. history.

The **M**ultidisciplinary **AG**ricultural Integrated **C**urriculum (mAGic) was created in 2004 under the leadership of the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and the Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education Project (FCAE). Funding was made available through the FCAE grant budget from the agricultural education line item of the ISBE budget. This revision, as printed, was developed in September 2021.



These mAGic lessons are designed to bring agriculture to life in your classroom. They address the Illinois Learning Standards in math, science, English language arts and social studies.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

# **Mystery Tools Worksheet**

1. Type of tool (Describe the material that the tool is made from: bone, pottery, metal, wood, stone, leather, glass, paper, cardboard, cotton, plastic, or other material).

2. Special qualities of the tool (Describe how it looks: shape, color, texture, size, weight, movable parts, anything printed, stamped or written on it. List any simple machines it contains.):

- 3. Uses of the tool:
  - a. What might it have been used for?
  - b. Who might have used it?
  - c. Where might it have been used?

d. When might it have been used?

- 4. What does the tool tell us?
  - a. What does it tell us about technology of the time in which it was made and used?

b. What does it tell us about the life and times of the people who made and used it?

c. Can you name a similar item today?

# Mystery Tools ANSWER KEY

# Name of Tool

- 1. Nail Puller
- 2. Battery Handle
- 3. Ice Block Handle
- 4. Pipe Cutter
- 5. Leather Hole Punch
- 6. Sharpening Wheel
- 7. Post Driver
- 8. Grease Gun
- 9. Backpack Sprayer
- 10. Post Hole Digger
- 11. Sod Scraper
- 12. Hand Drill
- 13. 12-volt Test Light
- 14. Air Powered Chisel
- 15. Bottle Jack
- 16. Bench Vice
- 17. Push Mower
- 18. Weed Hook
- 19. Field Measuring Wheel
- 20. Floor Jack with Jack Stand
- 21. Overhead Hay Hook
- 22. Soil Testing Probe
- 23. Air Powered Impact Gun
- 24. Creeper
- 25. Hedge Trimmer
- 26. Tap and Die Set
- 27. Cow Horn Cutter
- 28. "Handyman" Jack
- 29. Torque Wrench with Socket
- 30. Snap Ring Pliers Set





















































