

Help for the Farmer: The Women's Land Army in WWI

Activity	Notes	Answers (if any)
1 - What is the Woman's Land Army of America? Narrative	Reading activity about the Women's Land Army. This can be assigned in groups or individually. According to the pamphlet, what has the WLA accomplished so far? What makes this pamphlet a useful primary source?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The WLA has "provided thoroughly satisfactory labor to meet the shortage" and "has aided materially in food production". It is also "encouraging and assisting in the training of women for agricultural work in the future" 2. Primary source written by the WLA to inform the public in 1917 about the work they are doing. It explains how the WLA operates and why it is needed.
2 -- The Woman's Land Army- Helping the Farmer Slideshow	Discussion questions from the slides: What kinds of farm tasks are listed in the pamphlet? Why is this a useful primary source? What tasks are the same as the pamphlet? Which are different?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Answer can vary and may include: ploughing, planting, cultivating, weeding, fruit picking, fence making, milking, mowing, etc. 2. Written by the WLA to explain what kind of work the farmerettes would be doing. It gives examples of work and is advocating to farmers the ways hiring women would help their farm 3. Same: weeding, hoeing, picking produce Different: picking stones and hauling them away,
3 -- Helen Olansen-Farmerette in Morristown NJ Narrative	Discussion Questions – these can be group discussion questions to answer or assigned as short written responses to be done individually/in groups. 1. What do you learn about Woman's Land Army from Helen's letter? 2. Why is this primary source helpful for learning about the WLA? What don't we learn from this primary source?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Answers can vary and can include: what life was like living in Morristown, the farmerette schedule, what it felt like to do the farm work, or the weather 2. Helen writes in her own words a private letter to her cousin. She shares her personal first-hand experience being a farmerette. We don't learn anyone else's perspective, we don't learn Jay's response, we don't know how her summer ended, we don't learn about any of the people

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	<p>3. Do you think Helen was proud to be a farmerette? Why or why not?</p> <p>4. When Helen joined the WLA, she was supporting the country's war efforts overseas and home front in the country. In what ways can you support your community or country for the greater good?</p>	<p>she's working with, we don't learn much about Helen beyond what she's written, etc.</p> <p>3. Student answers may vary and are open to discussion</p> <p>4. Student answers may vary but can include: volunteering in your community, volunteering at your school, etc.</p>
<p>4 -- In The Woman's Land Army in Morristown, NJ</p> <p>Slideshow</p>	<p>Discussion questions from the slides:</p> <p>What types of information was the Woman's Land Army of America interested in learning from recruits?</p> <p>Why do you think women joined the WLA?</p> <p>Do you think you would have wanted to join the WLA? Why or why not?</p>	<p>1. Name, age, education, experience, locality preferred, etc.</p> <p>2. Answers may vary and can include: wanting to support the war efforts, wanting to help their families and communities, wanting to do something different, etc.</p> <p>3. Student responses will vary</p>
<p>5 -- Farmerettes in Morris County</p> <p>Hotspot</p>	<p>1. What is going on in this image?</p> <p>Do you think this photo was taken at the end of the day or the beginning of the day? Why or why not?</p> <p>Does it look like the farmerettes are friends? Why or why not?</p> <p>What do you think the work was like on the farm? Was it hard? Was it easy?</p>	<p>Answers will be based on students' observations of the photograph.</p>
<p>6 --After World War I</p> <p>Narrative</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>None</p>

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<p>7 –Discussion Questions</p> <p>Slideshow</p>	<p>Why was it crucial for women to join the WLA?</p> <p>What is our duty as citizens to join efforts like the WLA? Can you think of any organizations you can join in your community to help fill a need?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The country needed workers on the farms as the war created a work shortage. Women were capable works to fill the shortage2. Open to discussion and student’s opinions
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