

## As-you-read Activities

1. List what the family did each month. Fill in the chart after you have read the book. The book may be used to do this. Note: Some things took more than one month to do. (For example: the father split shingles all winter.)

<b>January</b>	<b>July</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>August</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>September</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>October</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>November</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>December</b>

*Ox-Cart Man*

2. Imagine you are a farmer. Keep a weather journal every day for a couple of weeks. Record what the weather is like and write one or two sentences describing what kind of farm work you would be able to do on such a day.

Examples:

Monday, April 12

Today was warm and sunny. I could have planted the corn today.

Tuesday, April 13

Today was rainy. I could not plant anything. I could have sheared the sheep in the barn today.

## Vocabulary

A *synonym* is a word with the same or almost the same meaning as another word. For example; walk = stride, string = yarn, cold = chilly, scarlet = red. Think of synonyms for these words:

1. sheared = \_\_\_\_\_

2. shawl = \_\_\_\_\_

3. linen = \_\_\_\_\_

4. carved = \_\_\_\_\_

5. coins = \_\_\_\_\_

6. squawked = \_\_\_\_\_

Look at the underlined word in each sentence and define it in your own words. Then look it up in a dictionary and compare the definitions.

1. He packed a shawl his wife wove on a loom.

Your definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition: \_\_\_\_\_

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2. . . . a wooden box of maple sugar from the maples they tapped in March.

Your definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition: \_\_\_\_\_

3. He bought an iron kettle to hang over the fire at home.

Your definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition: \_\_\_\_\_

4. . . . and for his daughter he bought an embroidery needle that came from a boat in the harbor that had sailed all the way from England.

Your definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition: \_\_\_\_\_

5. . . . and he carved a new yoke and sawed planks for a new cart.

Your definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition: \_\_\_\_\_

## Looking at the Story

1. Everyone in the family provided something for the ox-cart. Use the text and illustrations and list each of the items below after the person or persons who made or provided it. Wool and candles are done for you.

wool	mittens	linen
candles	shingles	birch brooms
a shawl	potatoes	apples
honey/honeycomb	turnips	cabbages
maple sugar	goose feathers	ox-cart
	ox	

Father: wool, candles

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Mother: candles

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Son: candles

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Daughter: candles

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