

Create a Collection

The reasons to collect are numerous, but this lesson will focus on creating collections to learn more about a chosen topic. Students will choose from a list of possible collections to create a booklet, digital or physical collection, and how this collection relates to Ozark history.

Before students begin their collections let them know your expectations. Minimum number in the collection, possible ways of presenting, and how viewers will know the connection to the Ozarks.

Possible collections:

1. Ozark expressions or words and their meanings
2. Superstitions of early Ozark settlers
3. Folksongs of the Ozarks
4. Quilt patterns and designs used by early settlers and their meanings. What types of cloth or fibers were used.
5. Leaves and bark of native Ozark trees. Indicate trees that were prized for their fruit, nut, or wood. How were different types of woods used in the Ozarks?
6. Native wildlife. Include information about size, habitat, diet, etc. Indicate which were food sources for early settlers.
7. Native plants to the Ozarks. What was the purpose of these plants? Food, medicine, etc.? Students could also choose to do crops and garden plants.
8. Animals that early settlers might have raised on their farms. Explain how each animal was cared for and its use to settlers.
9. Native Ozark rocks and minerals. How did settlers use these rocks and what might have been advantages or disadvantages of these types of rocks and minerals to the settlers?
10. Pioneer recipes. Where did they get and preserve the ingredients? How did these foods meet a balanced diet?