

A History Curriculum



JOHNNY
APPLESEED



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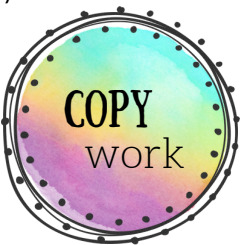
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Start by reading Johnny Appleseed by Steven Kellogg. Johnny Appleseed was a real person! He was born in Massachusetts on September 26, 1774 and was named John Chapman. He worked as an apprentice at an apple orchard. This led to his love for apples and inspired him to make his journey planting seeds. Around 1800, he started collected apple seeds from cider presses and then set off on his journey west. As he traveled, he acquired land and planted nurseries rather than just orchards. He would build a fence around his area to keep out the stray animals and livestock. Then he would travel to the next place and return each year to check on his nurseries. He would sell off the trees and other plants to settlers to make a profit. Interesting fact: The trees John planted were not good for eating. The settlers used them to make an alcoholic cider because the water wasn't always safe to drink.

John Chapman was also a missionary for The New Church. He preached the gospel as he traveled and converted many Native Americans. The Native Americans respected John because they believed he had been touched by the Great Spirit.

John Chapman died on March 18, 1845 from pneumonia. He was 70 years old and is buried near Fort Wayne, Indiana.



"Do not worry at being worried; but accept worry peacefully. Difficult but not impossible."

-Johnny Appleseed

"Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches." -Matthew 13:32

John Chapman planted many seeds in his lifetime. Not just planting seeds, but also as a missionary. God wants us to be like John Chapman and plant many seeds in our family and friends. How can you plant seeds for God?: talk about God, share your love for Him, help others, spread joy. What are other ways you can plant seeds?



We can't learn about Johnny Appleseed and not make an apple dessert! Let's make mini apple pies. Roll the pie crusts out to 1/8" thickness on a lightly floured surface. Cut out 12 circles using a 3.5-inch cookie cutter or cup. Save some crust for the tops. Place each circle of pie crust in each cavity of a muffin pan. Refrigerate the leftovers as you make the filling. Mix together the chopped apples, sugar, flour, ground cinnamon, vanilla extract, and ground nutmeg. Remove the muffin pan from the refrigerator and fill each pie with about 2-3 Tbsp of filling. Remove the extra pie dough from the refrigerator, cut out your designs for the tops of the pies, and place them on top. Bake at 425°F for 20-25 minutes or until the pie crust is lightly golden brown and the filling is bubbly. Let cool in the pan for 10-15 minutes.

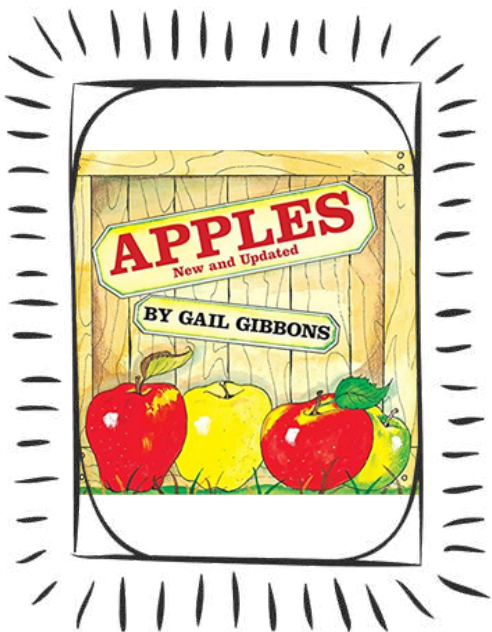
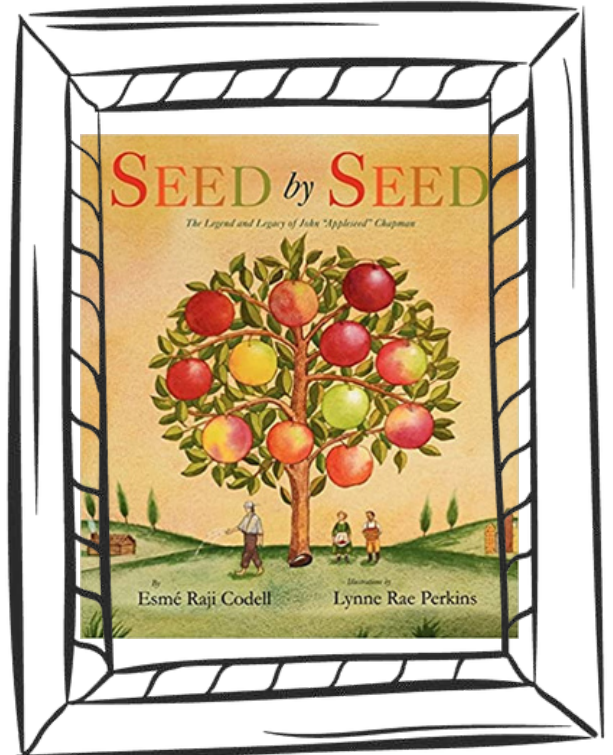
Supplies:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| -2 pie crusts | -2 T flour |
| -2 1/2 C chopped apples | -1 t ground cinnamon |
| -1/4 C sugar | -1 t vanilla |
| | -1/8 t ground nutmeg |



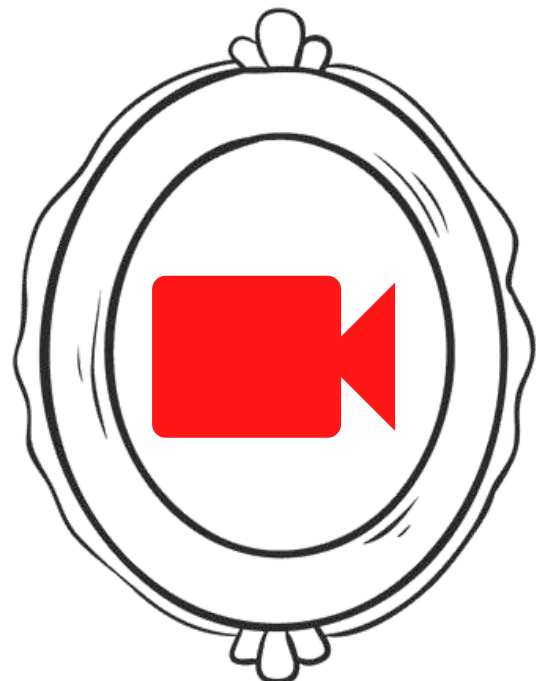


Let's learn more about Johnny Appleseed and apples! Start with Seed by Seed by Esme Raji Codell.

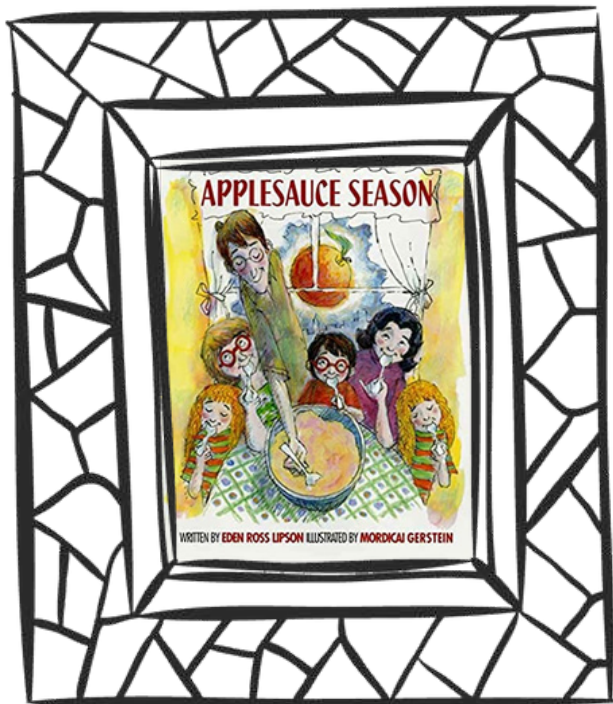


Apples
by Gail Gibbons

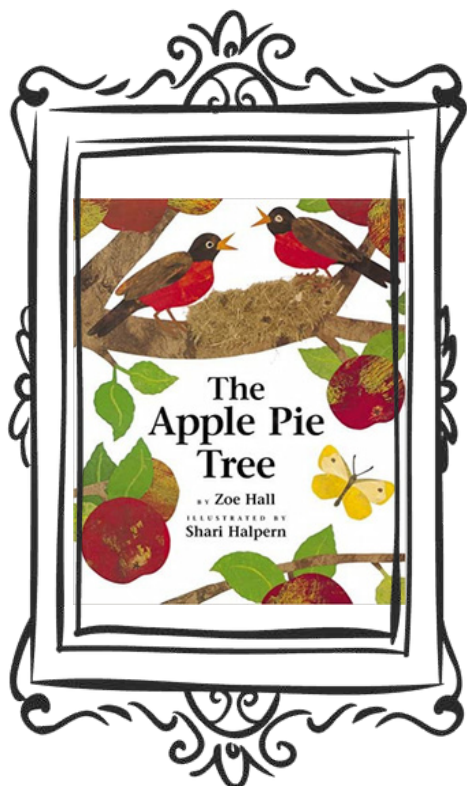
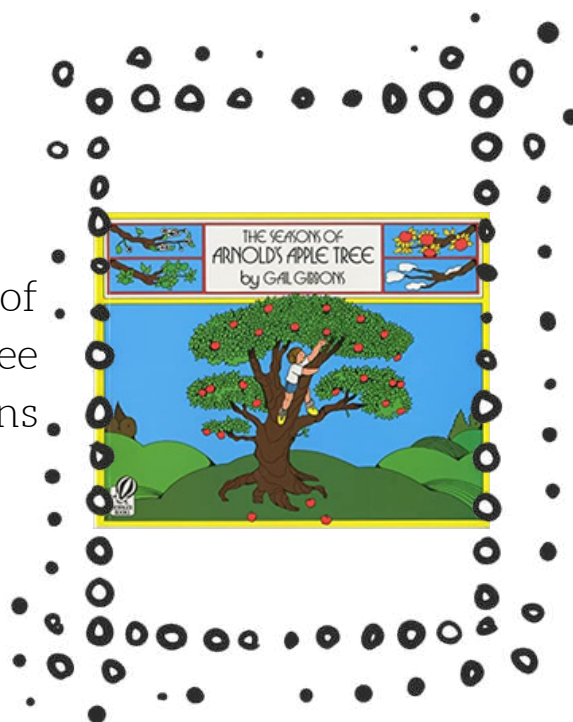
Head on over to Homeschool Arcade's YouTube channel and watch History of Apples in the United States and Johnny Appleseed.



Applesauce Season
by Eden Ross Lipson



The Seasons of
Arnold's Apple Tree
by Gail Gibbons



The Apple Pie Tree
by Zoe Hall



- Read the poem Johnny Appleseed by Stephen Vincent and Rosemary Carr Benét.
- Do an art study on William Gropper. His drawing of Johnny Appleseed is in the Smithsonian American Museum. William Gropper was a cartoonist, painter, lithographer, and muralist. Make a cartoon about Johnny Appleseed's adventures.
- Let's feed the birds with homemade bird feeders. Mix birdseed with some gelatin or safe nut butter. Slice an apple in half and hollow out the center. Add the birdseed mixture and hang outside for the birds!
- Tired of your apples turning brown after cutting them? Let's do an experiment to learn what will stop apple oxidation. Use apples slices and a variety of liquids, such as water, salt water, lemonade, apple juice, lemon juice, orange juice, etc. Let the apple slices sit in the liquid for three minutes before removing and making observations. Record your observations at three minutes and six minutes after removing. Which liquid(s) stopped the apple oxidation?
- There are many stories written about Johnny Appleseed. These stories are called tall tales. Tall tales are fictional stories that have some exaggerated facts to make them more exciting. Learn more about tall tales. Take the time to research some of the 'facts' about Johnny Appleseed to see which are true and which are exaggerated.