

Log of Reading Materials and Summary of Work in Required Subjects For Sally Smith, 2005-2006

"At the elementary school level, the following courses shall be taught: English, to include spelling, reading and writing; arithmetic; science; geography; history of the United States and Pennsylvania; civics; safety education, including regular and continuous instruction in the dangers and prevention of fires; health and physiology; physical education; music; and art." --PA Home Education Law

MATHEMATICS (Arithmetic)

- ✂✂ Daily math work at the third grade level. I included addition and subtraction of whole numbers, multiplication facts, multiplication of whole numbers, division facts, fraction notation and meaning, equivalent fractions, introduction to measurement, place value, etc.
- ✂✂ Attended bi-monthly Board Game Days at the [library]. Games included Apples to Apples, Mille Bourne, Stratego, Cadoo, the Princess Game, Mastermind, Bubble Monkey, Wig Out, etc.
- ✂✂ Informal work on logic problems, SuDoku, etc.

ENGLISH: Spelling, Reading, Writing

- ✂✂ Read the following books and attended book group discussions about them:
 - ✂ ✂ **The Birchbark House**, by Louise Erdrich (during our Houses and Homes study)
 - ✂ ✂ **Mr. Popper's Penguins**, by Richard and Florence Atwater (during our Antarctica study)
 - ✂ ✂ **Antarctic Scoop**, by Lucy Jane Bledsoe (during our Antarctica study)
 - ✂ ✂ **Ben and Me**, by Robert Lawson (during our study of electricity)
 - ✂ ✂ **The Sword in the Stone**, by T.H. White
 - ✂ ✂ **Time Garden**, by Edward Eager
 - ✂ ✂ **Knight's Castle**, by Edward Eager
 - ✂ ✂ **Magic City**, by E. Nesbit, etc.
- ✂✂ Weekly work in spelling, phonics, and editing. Additional work in other English topics such as alphabetizing.
- ✂✂ Wrote and gave several speeches and presentations, on France, Antarctic Birds, Survival in Antarctica, Lenape Hunting, Houses in Japan, etc.
- ✂✂ Weekly visits to [a local library], a well-stocked library. Attended a library class on the Dewey Decimal System. Sally is very comfortable in this big library, and asks the librarians for help in finding books when needed.
- ✂✂ Read silently and aloud from a variety of works – fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. Books not listed elsewhere in this log include:
 - ✂ ✂ Daisy 1,2,3, by Peter Catalanato
 - ✂ ✂ Kitten Red, Yellow, Blue, by Peter Catalanato
 - ✂ ✂ New Kid in School, by Jasmine Jones (Lizzie McGuire)
 - ✂ ✂ The Lizzie McGuire Movie, by Bobbi J. G. Weiss (novelization)
 - ✂ ✂ What You See is What You Get, by Alice Alfonsi (That's So Raven)
 - ✂ ✂ Step Up, by Alice Alfonsi (That's So Raven)
 - ✂ ✂ In Raven We Trust, by Alice Alfonsi (That's So Raven)
 - ✂ ✂ Showtime!, by Alice Alfonsi (That's So Raven)

Audio Books

- ✂ ✂The Railway Children, by E. Nesbit (audio)
- ✂ ✂Theater Shoes, by Noel Streatfeild (audio)
- ✂ ✂"B" is for Betsy, by Carolyn Haywood (audio)

Baby Sitter's Club books by Ann M. Martin

- ✂ ✂Claudia Gets Her Guy
- ✂ ✂Claudia and the Friendship Feud
- ✂ ✂Stacey and the Boyfriend Trap
- ✂ ✂Mary Anne's Big Breakup
- ✂ ✂Graduation Day
- ✂ ✂Karen's Black Cat (BSC Little Sisters)
- ✂ ✂Karen's Show and Share (BSC Little Sisters)

ABC Mysteries, by Ron Roy

- ✂ ✂The Absent Author
- ✂ ✂The Canary Caper
- ✂ ✂The Falcon's Feathers
- ✂ ✂The Haunted Hotel
- ✂ ✂The Invisible Island
- ✂ ✂The Jaguar's Jewel
- ✂ ✂The Lucky Lottery
- ✂ ✂The Missing Mummy
- ✂ ✂The Orange Outlaw
- ✂ ✂The Quicksand Question
- ✂ ✂The School Skeleton
- ✂ ✂The White Wolf

SOCIAL STUDIES: US & PA HISTORY / GEOGRAPHY / CIVICS

✂ ✂ Civics and Geography were integrated into other Social Studies work. See also several multi-cultural field trips under The Arts.

Houses and Homes

- ✂ ✂ Study of Houses and Homes Around the World and Through History. Reading, research, map work, several presentations. Walking "Architecture Scavenger Hunt" in [a local town]. Presentation on Frank Lloyd Wright by a local architect.
- ✂ ✂ Under Every Roof: A Kid's Style and Field Guide to the Architecture of American Houses, by Patricia Brown Glenn
- ✂ ✂ Let's Go Home: The Wonderful Things About a House, by Cynthia Rylant
- ✂ ✂ Shelter, by Kids Discover
- ✂ ✂ Sod Houses on the Great Plains, by Glen Rounds
- ✂ ✂ Building an Igloo, by Ulli Steltzer
- ✂ ✂ Eskimo Architecture: Dwelling and Structure in the Early Historic Period, by Molly Lee (as a reference)
- ✂ ✂ The House I Live In: At Home in America, by Isadore Seltzer
- ✂ ✂ Imagine a House: A Journey to Fascinating Houses Around the World, by Angela Gustafson
- ✂ ✂ This Place is Crowded: Japan, by Vicki Cobb
- ✂ ✂ I Live in Tokyo, by Mari Takabayashi
- ✂ ✂ Several other books on houses and homes around the world.

Antarctica

- ✂✂ Study of Antarctica, including wildlife, scientists, explorers. Reading, research, map work, presentations.
- ✂ ✂Take a Trip to Antarctica, by Keith Lye
- ✂ ✂Antarctica, by Allan Fowler
- ✂ ✂Summer Ice: Life Along the Antarctic Peninsula, by Bruce McMillian
- ✂ ✂A Penguin Year, by Susan Bonners
- ✂ ✂Antarctica: Go With the Floe, by Kids Discover
- ✂ ✂The Emperor Penguins, by Kazue Mizumura
- ✂ ✂Penguins!, by Gail Gibbons
- ✂ ✂Antarctic Encounter: Destination South Georgia, by Sally Poncet
- ✂ ✂Braving the Frozen Frontier: Women Working in Antarctica, by Rebecca L. Johnson
- ✂ ✂Escape from the Ice: Shackleton and the Endurance, by Connie Roop
- ✂ ✂Antarctic Journal: Four Months at the Bottom of the World, by Jennifer Dewey

Native Americans

- ✂✂ Series of classes at the [a local nature center] focusing on the Lenape, including gardening, hunting, fishing, family life, etc.
- ✂✂ Attended a "mini pow-wow" with the Girl Scouts, featuring Native American culture.

Sweden and Swedish-Americans

- ✂✂ Guided tour of the [a local museum], featuring Swedish settlers to this area, Swedish culture (clothes, dances, holidays), and Sweden today.
- ✂✂ Read several books in the American Girl Kirsten series, by Janet Beeler Shaw. These books feature Kirsten, an immigrant from Sweden, in 1854.
 - ✂ ✂Meet Kirsten, an American Girl
 - ✂ ✂Kirsten Learns A Lesson: A School Story
 - ✂ ✂Kirsten's Surprise: A Christmas Story
 - ✂ ✂Changes for Kirsten: A Winter Story
 - ✂ ✂Kirsten Saves the Day: A Summer Story
 - ✂ ✂Happy Birthday Kirsten! A Springtime Story
 - ✂ ✂Kirsten and the Chippewa
 - ✂ ✂Kirsten Snowbound!
 - ✂ ✂Kirsten's Promise

Misc. US History

- ✂✂ Field trip to [a local festival], featuring Early American crafts, Civil War encampment, display of antique farm engines, folk music.

France and the French Language

- ✂✂ Weekly French classes. Looking up word meanings, copying sentences, vocabulary study, etc.
 - ✂ ✂Usborne First Hundred Words in French, by Heather Amery and Stephen Cartwright
 - ✂ ✂Harry Learns French, by Sue Finnie
 - ✂ ✂Larousse Children's Dictionary - French
- ✂✂ Study of France, including research, poster, diorama, and speech.
 - ✂ ✂Several books about France

SCIENCE

- ✂✂ Month-long, hands-on, discovery-based study of electricity. Included experiments using the scientific method, and learning to draw circuit diagrams. Also included a study of Ben Franklin.
- ✂✂ Participated in [a local school's] Olympiad.
- ✂✂ Participated in the Kid Inventor Challenge.
- ✂✂ Schlessinger Science Library videos – viewed the video and discussed the material. Experimented with celery, carnations, and food coloring to trace the path of water through a plant.:
 - ☞ ☞ All About Plant Structure and Growth
 - ☞ ☞ All About Plant Pollination: Fruit, Flowers, and Seeds

THE ARTS: ART / MUSIC / THEATER / DANCE

- ✂✂ Attended [a local ballet company's] Dress Rehearsals:
 - 🎭🎭 Western Symphony
 - 🎭🎭 Firebird
 - 🎭🎭 11:11
 - 🎭🎭 Midsummer Night's Dream
- ✂✂ Attended [a local dance series]:
 - 🎭🎭 **Anytown: Stories of America.** Music by Bruce Springsteen, Patti Scialfa and Soozie Tyrell. Choreography by Shapiro and Smith Dance.
 - 🎭🎭 Parsons Dance Company. Included **Caught, Sleep Dance,** and **The Envelope.**
 - 🎭🎭 Hubbard Street Dance Chicago. **Dance Informance.**
 - 🎭🎭 Bodyvox. Excerpts from **A Thousand Little Cities.**
 - 🎭🎭 Koresch Dance Company. **The Music That Made Us Dance: From Lindy to Hip-Hop.** Choerography by Roni Koresch, Brian Sanders and Myra Bazell.
 - 🎭🎭 Pilobolus. Includes **Walklyndon.**
- ✂✂ Attended [a local] Shakespeare Festival:
 - 🎭🎭 Much Ado About Nothing
 - 🎭🎭 Tempest
 - 🎭🎭 Complete Works of William Shakespeare, Abridged
- ✂✂ Attended **Seussical, the Musical,** at [a local school].
- ✂✂ Attended a “mini pow-wow” with the Girl Scouts, featuring Native American dance. Won a “washboard dance” competition. Dressed in authentic clothing.
- ✂✂ Attended [an international festival].
 - 🎭🎭 Saw a performance by Samite, a Ugandan musician, featuring authentic instruments including kalimba (finger piano), litungu (string instrument), flutes, and marimba.
 - 🎭🎭 Saw a performance by Shizumi Shigeto Manale, a Japanese choreographer, dancer and theater artist. Included traditional dances, demonstration of traditional clothing for men and women, martial arts, traditional theater, Japanese writing, counting, and sign language.
- ✂✂ Took weekly dance classes:
 - 🎭🎭 Ballet
 - 🎭🎭 Jazz Dance
 - 🎭🎭 Tap Dance
- ✂✂ Performed two dances (tap and jazz) in the annual Recital.
- ✂✂ Performed the part of a Bon-Bon in **The Nutcracker** (ballet).

Crafts:

- ✂✂ Attended several craft workshops at [a local library], including mapmaking and cross-stitch.
- ✂✂ Attended a "craft club". Projects included basic sewing skills, weaving, working with felt, pipe-cleaner dolls, etc.
 - ☞ ☞ Rainy Day Crafts, Scissors, Paper and Glue, by Frank Harlan (video)
- ✂✂ Wrote a puppet show. Created puppets, props, and backdrops. Performed the show in front of an audience.

Fashion Design:

- ✂✂ Designed and sketched several outfits. Oversaw mom's construction of one of her designs.
- ✂✂ Sewed several outfits for her dolls.
- ✂✂ Designed, fitted, draped, cut out, and, with help from mom, hand-sewed a top for herself.
- ✂✂ Created a Swedish Santa Lucia costume, including construction-paper wreath of candles.
- ✂✂ Watched many episodes of Project Runway, a fashion design television show.
 - ✂ ✂ Barbie: A Visual Guide to the Ultimate Fashion Doll (DK)
 - ✂ ✂ Generation T: 128 Ways to Transform a T-Shirt, by Megan Nicolay
 - ✂ ✂ A Day in the Life of a Fashion Designer

FIRE SAFETY / SAFETY / HEALTH / PHYSIOLOGY

- ✂✂ Discussed fire safety with parents.
- ✂✂ Age-appropriate discussion of illegal drugs and misuse of prescription drugs.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- ✂✂ Emphasis on lifetime fitness activities.
- ✂✂ Three dance classes per week - ballet, tap dance, and jazz dance. (See The Arts.)
- ✂✂ Weekly gymnastics class.
- ✂✂ Two week long summer dance camp.
- ✂✂ Swimming, skiing, roller-skating, and hiking with the family.
- ✂✂ Camping with the Girl Scouts.
- ✂✂ Active play, at home and at local playgrounds.