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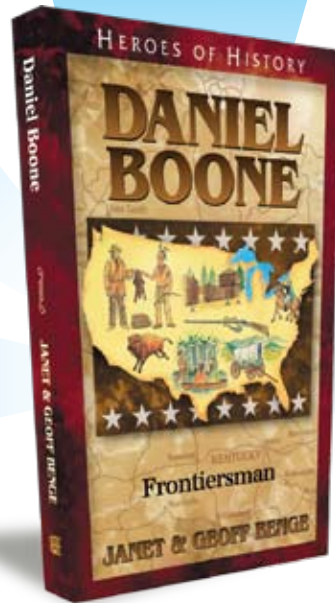
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Sample chapter from
Daniel Boone: Frontiersman
by Janet & Geoff Benge
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Chapter 9

There Is a Dark Cloud Over That Country

By May 1774 the western mountains and the plains beyond them were in an uproar. Pioneers, trappers, surveyors, and Indians were locked in an endless cycle of killing. Regrettably, this was exactly what Governor Dunmore of Virginia appeared to want. It suited his political purposes to stir up strife so that he could declare an all-out war on the Indians and drive them out of their homelands for good.

In June the same year, Daniel was asked to ride into Kentucky to warn the many Virginia surveyors who were already dividing the land that “Lord Dunmore’s War” had begun and that they needed to flee to safety. This was just the type of assignment Daniel loved. He chose a German man named Michael Stoner to be his companion. Daniel had only one day to get ready and say goodbye to his family, and then they were off.

The pair traveled eight hundred miles in sixty-one days, but despite Daniel’s best efforts, the mission was a failure. Daniel and

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—Deb W.

Michael found evidence that surveyors had been in the area but found no surveyors. It was not until they arrived back at Castle's Wood in the Clinch River Valley in late August that they learned that about one-third of the surveyors had been killed in various Indian attacks while the rest had straggled into the border settlements.

That was not the worst news that awaited Daniel. Shawnee warriors had attacked and killed a number of settlers north of Castle's Wood. This had caused general panic in all of the settlements in the Clinch River Valley, and several small forts had been built while Daniel was away. His own family stayed in Moore's Fort, located a few miles south of the cabin where the Boone family had stayed. But there were few men to man the forts. The governor had called for militiamen to fight the Indians farther north, where they were a bigger threat, promising them that they could keep the Indian horses they stole as a reward. All but a handful of men took up the challenge and galloped off, leaving the women and children with minimal protection. When Daniel returned, Rebecca told him an alarming yet amusing story that demonstrated just how minimal that protection was.

"The men and boys left behind are lazy," she said. "They hardly took our safety seriously. The first time we were fortified, they didn't even secure the gate before they went out to play ball. Some of them even lay in the afternoon sun outside the fort without their guns. I wish you had been here, but since you weren't, Susannah, Jemima, and I, along with two of the other women, decided to do something about it."

"What did you do?" Daniel asked.

"We loaded half a dozen guns—not too heavily—and we crept out of the back entrance to the fort, hid in the bushes, and fired into the air. Then we ran back into the fort and slammed the gates shut before the men knew what had happened. You should have seen them, Daniel," Rebecca said with shining eyes. "We climbed up on the parapet just in time to see the men dash for the gate. When they found it was bolted, they didn't know what to do. Some of them dived into bushes, while others jumped into the duck pond and hid themselves in the rushes. After ten minutes we shouted out what we had done and how it proved that they were not ready to defend the fort."

"What happened next?" Daniel asked. "I don't suppose the men were too impressed with your ruse."

Rebecca nodded. "They certainly weren't. When we let them back in, some of them threatened to whip us, and several fights broke out as others tried to stop them. In the end no one was hurt, and the men got a whole lot more serious about our safety."

*"Sometimes I wonder
if I will someday be like
the people I read about
in your stories"*

—Mary C., age 10

As it turned out, William Russell was also worried about the safety of the people living in the Clinch River Valley, and he assigned Daniel to lead a troop of fourteen rangers to patrol the forts in the valley and bring discipline and order to them. During the time that the Boone family had lived in Castle's Wood, they had earned a great deal of trust. Still, it was a surprise to Daniel when the settlers circulated a petition asking that he be given the rank of captain and put in charge of all of their safety.

Daniel Boone and his rangers were not at Fort Blackmore on September 23, 1774, when the first attack in the valley occurred. A Mingo Indian chief named John Logan commanded the attack. His mother was an Indian and his father a Frenchman who had been captured by the Oneida tribe years before and later adopted by them. It was John Logan's pregnant sister who had been mercilessly killed and scalped by the group of white men near the Ohio River ten months earlier.

The Indian raiders killed all of the livestock grazing outside Fort Blackmore and captured two black slaves. The following evening Chief Logan and his warriors surprised the Roberts family, who lived thirty miles south of Blackmore's Ford. John Roberts was a forester and had not "forted up" with the others. He, along with his wife and four of his children, was tomahawked to death. A ten-year-old boy managed to get away and was the only member of the family to survive the attack.

When help arrived, they found that Chief Logan had left a note on the body of one of his victims. A white hostage the chief was holding had written down the message, which read:

Why did you kill my people on Yellow Creek? The white people killed my kin in Conestoga, a great while ago, on Yellow Creek, and took my cousin prisoner. Then I thought I must kill too: And have been three times to war since. But the Indians are not angry, only myself.

Chief John Logan

A week later the chief and his band struck at Moore's Fort. As sunset approached, after checking that all was clear around the fort, three men left the fort to check a pigeon trap set about three hundred yards from the stockade. Before the men reached the trap, gunfire erupted from the surrounding bush. One of the men fell dead immediately, while the other two managed to dive for cover in nearby bushes. When the men in the fort heard the gunfire, they came rushing out, but by then the Indians had fled, taking with them the scalp of the man they had just shot.

The next incident occurred when Chief Logan targeted Fort Blackmore for a second time. This time, however, the settlers were

more ready for him, and the only person killed during the raid was a young guard who did not get back inside the gate of the fort fast enough. He was stranded outside the stockade and was shot.

Although there were no more attacks on the forts in the Clinch River Valley, Lord Dunmore's War went on until October 10, 1774, when, at Point Pleasant on the Ohio River, an army of one thousand Virginia soldiers surrounded a group of three hundred Shawnee and Delaware Indians and opened fire. In the fighting eighty soldiers were killed and another one hundred fifty were wounded. Despite their losses, the soldiers managed to march to and surround the Shawnee towns on the Scioto River. The Shawnee finally surrendered and agreed to sign treaties giving the colonial governments the rights to settle their lands. In what became known as the Treaty of Camp Charlotte, the Shawnee chiefs agreed to cede their hunting grounds in Kentucky for Lord Dunmore's promise that all settlers into the area would be kept south of the Ohio River.

Not long after the Treaty of Camp Charlotte was signed, a North Carolina lawyer, Richard Henderson, entered into negotiations of his own with the Cherokee tribe to purchase twenty million acres of their hunting grounds in Kentucky. The chief of the tribe tentatively agreed to the deal, in which Henderson would give them approximately fifty thousand dollars worth of goods. A large meeting of the tribe was scheduled for March 1775, when the agreement would finally be ratified.

In the meantime, Henderson asked Daniel if he would take on the monumental task of marking out the best passage for a road that would take settlers from Virginia through the Cumberland Gap and into Kentucky and then, selecting a good spot, found a town there. Daniel was delighted with the challenge and even more pleased with the reward for completing the task: his choice of two thousand acres of the land Henderson held title to in Kentucky.

Daniel could hardly wait to get to work. He was convinced that this emigration would be easier and more efficient than the attempt two years earlier that had ended in the death of his son James. For one thing, many Indian tribes had since entered into peaceful agreements with white settlers. And this time an armed troop of woodsmen would go ahead of the women and children to cut a wide swath through the wilderness so that the whole group would not have to walk single file along narrow and treacherous buffalo trails.

With these new conditions and the generous pay of ten pounds apiece, Daniel had no difficulty recruiting thirty relatives and neighbors to build the new road. One of these men was a



Daniel Boone: Frontiersman

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—C. Hill,
Public school
teacher

twenty-year-old Irishman named Bill Hays. Bill took a liking to fourteen-year-old Susannah Boone, and the two of them were married before the expedition set out. Susannah, the new bride, signed on to cook for the thirty men. A slave woman who belonged to one of the other men on the expedition served as her assistant.

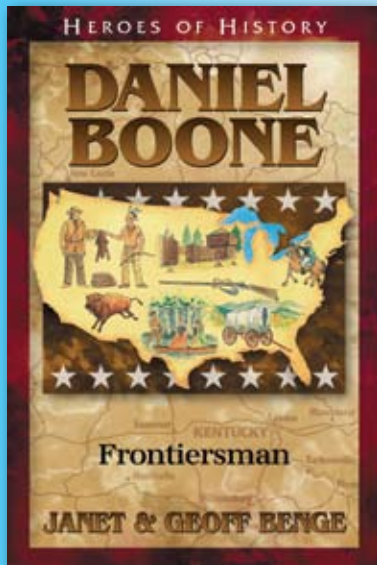
In early March 1775, Daniel watched as over a thousand Cherokee men, women, and children gathered at Sycamore Shoals on the south side of the Wataunga River, where they talked and debated among themselves the sale of their hunting grounds to Henderson. The members of the tribe expressed some opposition to the sale. Several men pointed out that this was land that not only they but also other tribes hunted on, and they doubted that the tribe could sell it. Eventually a consensus to sell the land was agreed upon among the tribe, and a deed was drawn up passing the land to Richard Henderson and the Transylvania Company he had founded to oversee the settlement of it.

During the proceedings, Dragging Canoe, a young Cherokee chief, looked west and remarked, "There is a dark cloud over that country." The Cherokee's caution was made even more ominous when the negotiations were finally completed. Chief Oconostota, one of the main Cherokee chiefs, turned to Daniel and took hold of his hand. "Brother," the chief said, "we have given you a fine land, but I believe you will have much trouble in settling it."



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Chapter 10

The Wilderness Road

The work crew who would build what was being called the Wilderness Road met on the Virginia-North Carolina border. Daniel arrived with his brother Squire, daughter Susannah, and her husband, Bill. The plan was to follow as much as possible the contours of the Warrior's Trail that led to Kentucky, widening the trail so that wagons could pass along it.

The first tree on the project was felled on March 10, 1775, and Daniel estimated it would take a month to complete the project. He planned to be back at Castle's Wood in Virginia in three months, in time for the birth of their ninth child. Daniel hoped the child's arrival would ease some of the pain Rebecca still felt over the death of James.

Life building the Wilderness Road soon fell into a pattern. Daniel was the first up in the morning. He helped Susannah rekindle the fire and ate some breakfast with her before riding out ahead of the workers to mark the trail. When he had done this, he would veer off into the woods, hunting for wild game to bring back for everyone's supper. In the meantime the men had set to work hacking at the uneven rock path with pickaxes, chopping down trees, and clearing brush. While the men worked, Susannah and her assistant packed up the camp and transported it to the new trailhead, where they began cooking dinner for the men.

The spring thaw was late that year, and the men were frequently caught in snowstorms or freezing rain. Still, they pressed on.

The exhausting work of clearing and widening the path came to a standstill when the team reached the pass at Cumberland Gap. Because the pass was flanked on both sides by high mountains of solid stone, it was impossible for the men to make the existing path wide enough for a wagon to pass through. All

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wagons would have to be off-loaded onto packhorses for the remainder of the journey.

Three backbreaking weeks after they started, the crew hacked their way into Kentucky. It was a triumphant moment as Daniel looked out over the land that he had fought so hard to make a way for others to enter. Susannah Boone Hays and her slave assistant were the first non-Indian women to enter Kentucky.

The crew pitched camp beside a spring and slept soundly until half an hour before sunrise, when the sound of warriors running into camp woke everyone up in an instant of fear. Daniel reached for his gun and fired upon the invaders, as did several of the other men, but not before the invaders had killed one of the road builders named Twitty, his slave Sam, and Twitty's bulldog. Another man named Walker was seriously injured in the attack. Thankfully, the rest of the group were able to flee into the surrounding trees and survived. When the attack was over, several men packed up their belongings and headed back to civilization through the Cumberland Gap.

Daniel was concerned about the attack, too, but for a different reason. He feared that news of the Indian raid would discourage other pioneers from setting out for Kentucky. And he hoped that the group Richard Henderson was already leading along the newly cut Wilderness Road did not turn back. He wrote a letter to Henderson that he started off by outlining the tragic events of the Indian attack. Then he wrote:

My advice to you Sir, is to come or send as soon as possible. Your company is desired greatly, for the people are very uneasy but are willing to stay and venture their lives with you, and now is the time to flusterate the intentions of the Indians, and keep the country whilst we are in it. If we give way to them now, it will ever be the case. This day we start from the battle ground, for the mouth of Otter Creek, where we shall immediately erect a fort, which will be done before you can come or send—then we can send ten men to meet you, if you send for them.

Daniel signed and dispatched the letter, giving the messenger instructions to go as quickly as he could while watching out for Indians. The last thing they needed now was another bloody encounter.

On April 2, 1775, one of the woodsmen called Daniel over to where he was working. "Look at this," he said. "Any telling how old it is?"

Daniel peered into the hollow of a sycamore tree. A human skeleton was wedged inside. Daniel removed it one bone at a time.

*"We are truly grateful
for your material
and will use them
throughout our
children's lives and
education."*

—Mrs. Edmunds

Near the bottom of the pile lay a powder horn, on which were carved the initials "J.S." Daniel stared at the horn for a long time. It was his brother-in-law John Stuart's horn. Daniel recalled the day he had gone searching for John and how he had found an abandoned fire but no sign of him. Now Daniel guessed that John had been attacked by Indians and, wounded, sought refuge in the hollow of the tree, where he had bled to death.

That evening Daniel dug a grave, and together with the other men, held a short service before burying John's bones. At least, when he next saw his sister Hannah next, he would be able to tell her that her husband had had a proper burial.

On April 6 the road-cutting group reached their destination, a sloping flood plain on the south bank of the Kentucky River a short distance downstream from the mouth of Otter Creek. Across the fast-flowing river, the heavily wooded bank rose steeply, secluding and protecting the site. Two springs bubbled up nearby, one with fresh water, enough to supply the community they planned to establish there, and the other with brackish water that left the surrounding ground salt-laden. This salt lick attracted many animals, who came to drink and lick the salty ground. All this animal activity over the years had made the soil of the flood plain rich and fertile for growing crops.

Thoughts of Indian attack after they had arrived at the site spurred the men on to cut logs and construct a makeshift twelve-foot high stockade. The men named their shelter Fort Boone and posted a round-the-clock sentinel above the gate.

On April 20, Richard Henderson and his party of settlers arrived at Fort Boone. When Daniel spied them in the distance, he ordered his men to fire a welcoming volley. In such a hostile land, it was a great relief to get reinforcements, and Richard and Daniel gave each other a hearty handshake.

"Seeing that you are still here has dropped a load off my shoulders," Richard said. "It is only because of the confidence the men have in you that we have gotten this far. Let's hope we can go on together and build a strong settlement."

A few days later, Richard proposed that the settlement's name be changed from Fort Boone to Boonesborough. Once that was agreed upon, the eighty white men present drew lots for two-acre plots of land around the settlement where they could plant corn and other crops for the summer. The men were also granted much more land farther afield in the Kentucky wilderness.

Almost immediately the bickering started. Men were not pleased with their portions of land. Not only this, the other two hundred white men in Kentucky, most of them from the settlement of Harrodsburg, were disputing the Transylvania Company's right to the land around Boonesborough.

In an attempt to smooth over the situation, Richard Henderson called for a convention. Daniel and Squire Boone and two other men were elected to represent Boonesborough. When the delegates from Harrodsburg arrived, they all met together under a huge elm tree near where the men had begun to build a larger, stronger stockade.

The delegates discussed many issues of concern to the two communities and smoothed out many of their differences. They then passed a bill that created a court system that would punish criminals and order debt collection, and a bill for the establishment of a militia.

One of Daniel's main concerns was the preservation of the wildlife. He had seen that the men could not resist the urge to hunt and kill buffalo. Much to his dismay, many of them did so for sport, just so they could brag about how many buffalo they had shot. They would cut off the hump or the tongue of the animal and leave the rest of the carcass to rot where it had fallen. Not surprisingly, buffalo herds soon became scarce around Boonesborough. Within a month of their arrival, the men had to ride fifteen or twenty miles to find one. Daniel proposed that restrictions be put on hunting so that an animal's entire carcass had to be used by the man who killed the animal. He also wanted incentives for those men who bred horses, as Daniel was sure that an ample supply of horses was a key to a strong settlement.

Just as the convention was ending, a messenger arrived with startling news. The battles of Lexington and Concord had occurred on April 19. The colonists were rising up against their British rulers!

Daniel's mind was occupied with more immediate, practical matters. By June, Boonesborough had run out of salt, which was needed to jerk meat and preserve vegetables. Most of the salt that had been intended for the new settlement had been left on the other side of the Cumberland Gap when the wagons had unloaded there. Daniel headed back to the Clinch River Valley to bring back a new supply of salt after first going home to see whether Rebecca had given birth to their new baby.

Sadly, Rebecca's pregnancy had been a difficult one, and within days of Daniel's return, Rebecca bore a small and sickly son, whom they named William. William lived only a few days. Instead of easing the sorrow at the loss of their firstborn son, this new baby's short life and sudden death only added to Rebecca and Daniel's heartache.

Daniel was still convinced that the best thing for his family would be to move to Kentucky. As soon as Rebecca was well enough, they set out. Daniel had also rounded up seventeen young men who were willing to go along, as well as three other families.

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—Alan T.,
Family Radio Network

All in all, fifty people loaded their goods onto packhorses and headed out of the valley in mid-August. Once they had passed through the Cumberland Gap, half of the group, including the other three families, took the left fork that led to Harrodsburg.

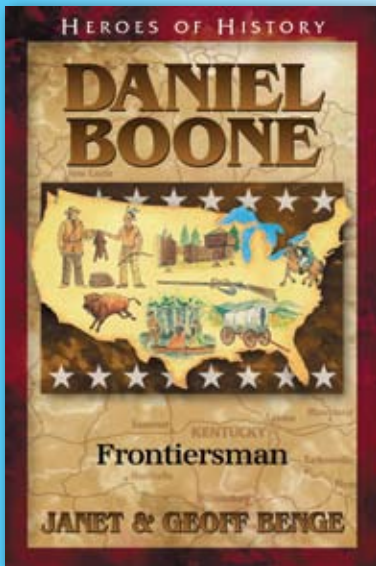
It was a joyous moment when the Boone family and the single young men reached Boonesborough. Daniel smiled as Rebecca and the children were reunited with Susannah, who was herself pregnant by now.

Life at the settlement had become even more uneasy. Many men felt that their job was finished once the Wilderness Road was complete. Despite the threat of Indian attack, many of the men refused to guard the main camp. It seemed that once they had obtained their own plot of land, they were reluctant to pitch in and help construct the two-story permanent stockade that Richard Henderson had planned on. The longer the stockade remained unfinished, the more vulnerable the settlement became to Indian invasion and attack.

The families of the settlement were also having financial problems. In September the directors of the Transylvania Company doubled what they charged settlers for land, yet they sold land very cheaply to big landholders back East. They also announced that the taxes on the land would double to two shillings per hundred acres. Many of the settlers had no money to pay the taxes, since they relied on farming and hunting for their sustenance.

At the same time, the company directors went to the first Continental Congress to ask that the congress recognize the Transylvania Company’s land as a separate western province. Daniel began to wonder whether he would ever get the title to the two thousand acres Richard Henderson had promised him.

The answer came quickly. The Continental Congress had already taken notice of the things the Transylvania Company was doing. Thomas Jefferson argued that the outfit was operating more like a kingdom than a company. To Henderson’s and the other directors’ dismay, instead of voting to recognize the company’s land as a separate province, the congress set things in motion to shut the company down. Daniel soon learned that the congress had invalidated all of the Transylvania Company’s land claims and, with them, Henderson’s grant of two thousand acres to him. Some of the settlers decided to sue Henderson. Although the blow was bitter, Daniel did not sue. He had come to understand that living on the frontier meant taking serious risks. The time was approaching, though, when Daniel would have to risk much more than just a land claim.



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Chapter 11

Kidnapped

It was Sunday afternoon July 14, 1776, and Daniel Boone was sound asleep, taking an afternoon nap in the log cabin he had built for his family. He was awakened from his sleep by the commotion going on in the village, and then he heard someone screaming, "The savages have taken the girls."

On hearing this, Daniel leaped out of bed, grabbed his rifle, and bolted from the cabin. He was still dressed in his woolen Sunday trousers, and his feet were bare.

Outside Daniel learned the grim news. A band of Indians had taken three Boonesborough girls captive—his fourteen-year-old daughter Jemima and the Callaway sisters, Betsy and Frances. The girls had apparently been canoeing on the river and ventured too close to the other side, where they were grabbed by the Indians. Nobody had actually seen the girls being captured. People in the vicinity had just heard their screams, and the canoe was now lying swamped on the far side of the river about a quarter of a mile downstream from Boonesborough. Immediately Daniel ran to the spot opposite the canoe.

Daniel reached the spot just as a group of men on horseback rode up behind him. The riders quickly agreed that they should gallop the mile downstream to the ford and cross the river there and then loop back to see if they could find the Indians' trail. In the meantime John Gass, one of the young boys of the community, dived into the river and swam to the other side. Daniel and several of the other men kept their rifles at the ready in case Indians attacked John as he bailed the water out of the canoe and paddled back across the river. As soon as John reached shore, Daniel and four of the men jumped into the canoe with John and paddled back to the other side. They clambered up the steep bluff that rose

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—Melanie F.

from the river and began looking for the Indians' trail. They had no sooner found it than the men on horseback rode up.

From the direction of the tracks, Daniel knew that the Indians would be heading north to the Indian communities in the Ohio country. He directed the horsemen to ride to the ford of the Licking River and try to head the Indians off. In the meantime he and the other men would follow the Indians' trail. Daniel was concerned that if the horses stayed with them, the Indians might kill the girls when they heard the sound of thundering horses' hooves behind them.

Daniel and the others stealthily followed tracks the Indians had left. Then, just as the last rays of the sun were disappearing, they heard a sound a short distance from the left side of the trail. Immediately the men fanned out and began to close in. But instead of finding Indians and the kidnapped girls, they came upon five men building a log cabin.

By now it was completely dark, and Daniel decided they should camp for the night beside the partially built cabin and renew their pursuit at first light. However, neither Daniel nor the men with him were equipped to continue the chase. Daniel was still in his bare feet and wearing his Sunday pants, and the other men had no food with them. Daniel sent twelve-year-old John Gass back to Boonesborough to fetch his deerskin leggings and moccasins and bring back a supply of deer jerky for them to eat.

Before dawn John arrived back in camp with all the supplies requested. Daniel clapped John on the back and commended him for the way he had been able to find his way to Boonesborough and back in the dark. He watched as a big smile of satisfaction settled across John's face.

After eating some jerky and putting on the clothes that John brought back from Boonesborough, the men were ready to begin the chase again. Three of the men building the cabin joined them.

Daniel led the way. Sometimes the tracks went in several directions, as the Indians had split up and then come back together farther ahead. Sometimes the tracks disappeared into a stream, where the Indians walked for several miles in the streambed. The men knew they were on the right trail because along the way they found broken twigs and branches.

"It has to be the girls. They're alive and leaving us a trail to follow," Daniel said with both relief and pride. This knowledge spurred the men on.

Despite the girls' best efforts to mark the way, the Indians' tricks were slowing the men down in their pursuit. Daniel began to grow frustrated as the day wore on.

"This will never do," he finally declared. "The Indians are making tracks faster than we are. From the direction of these

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—D. & I. Ford

tracks, they can be headed for only one place, the crossing of the Licking River where the Upper Blue Lick spring joins it. I know the way there. Follow me!"

With that Daniel veered off the trail and set out through the woods directly for the Licking River crossing. The men followed silently in single file. Now they were making faster time, and after several hours of trotting, they came upon a trail where Daniel once again spotted the Indians' tracks. Soon the men began to notice more broken twigs and even small pieces of ripped fabric that must have come from the girls' dresses.

The men followed the trail until darkness engulfed them, and they made camp for the night. After eating jerky and taking a long drink from a nearby spring, Daniel lay down on the hard earth and went to sleep, his rifle close by at the ready.

The following morning at first light, the men were on the trail once again. Daniel set a cracking pace as he raced after his daughter. He knew they must be starting to catch up with the Indians, and this was confirmed when they came to a stream. The water there was still muddy from the Indians crossing it, and a little farther on, they found a snake one of the Indians had killed. Then, farther along they came upon a butchered buffalo calf. The animal's hump had been cut off, and warm blood still oozed from it.

"We are close," Daniel said. "They obviously think we are a long way behind or have given up the pursuit, and they will stop soon and cook the buffalo meat they have taken with them."

The men had gone only a short distance when Daniel noticed smoke rising. He signaled for the men to stop, and they quickly hatched a rescue plan. Daniel would creep up on the Indians while the others stayed hidden among the trees. No one was to fire a shot until Daniel gave the signal.

The men crept quietly up a small rise and at the top looked down into a dell where the Indians had stopped to cook the buffalo meat. One warrior sat beside the fire slowly turning the meat on a stick over the flames. Another Indian was lighting his pipe in the fire, and still another was lying on his back in the grass. Daniel recognized him as a Cherokee chief named Hanging Maw, whom he'd had dealings with back in North Carolina. Two other Indians were busily gathering wood for the fire. Daniel spotted the girls on the far side of the dell, sitting under an oak tree. The two younger ones sat resting their heads on sixteen-year-old Betsy's lap.

Daniel dropped to the ground and began to crawl on his belly down the rise toward the Indian camp. He was nearly to the bottom when the weight of his hand snapped a twig. Immediately the Indians beside the fire looked up. Daniel pulled himself down as low as he could. When they seemed convinced that the sound had come from a bird or some small animal, the Indians diverted their

attention back to what they were doing. Jemima Boone, however, kept scouring the woods. When Daniel finally raised his head again, his eyes met Jemima's. Quickly he raised his hand to his mouth to signal her to be quiet. Just then a shot rang out. One of the men had fired before Daniel gave the signal.

The gunshot hit the Indian tending the meat roasting over the fire, and he fell forward into the flames. He screamed in pain and jumped up, grabbed his belly, and fled into the woods. At the same time more shots rang out. One shot hit Hanging Maw in the hand, and the chief dropped his rifle and fled. The other Indians fled, too, but not before one of them hurled his tomahawk at the girls, narrowly missing Betsy's head. "It's my father; they've come," Jemima shouted as the three girls dived to the ground for cover.

By now the men were charging down the rise and into the camp. Betsy stood up to run toward her rescuers. Because of her dark, disheveled hair, around which was tied an Indian bandana, one of the men mistook her for a Indian woman running to attack and raised the stock of his rifle to club her. Daniel raced to him and grabbed the man's arm just as he was about to pound the rifle into Betsy's head. "For goodness sake, man, don't kill her when we've traveled so far to save her."

At the sight of her father, Jemima jumped up and ran to meet him. Tears of relief and joy replaced the tears of fear streaming down her face.

Quickly the men and the girls took cover in case the Indians fired at them from the trees. But as Daniel looked around the camp, he realized that they would not fight back. The Indians had fled, leaving their guns and tomahawks, and two of them had even left their moccasins behind. When Daniel pointed this out, everyone breathed a sigh of relief and gathered around the fire. All of the men were overcome by the joy of seeing the girls alive, and soon there was not a dry eye among the entire group.

Finally, after they had all regained their composure, Jemima told her father that Hanging Maw had told her that a raiding party of Indians was holed up at the crossing of the Licking River ready to sweep down and raid white farms and communities in Kentucky. Armed with this information, Daniel decided they should set out for Boonesborough as quickly as possible. He knew he had taken a huge risk leaving just a few men to defend the place while the others hunted for the captured girls. Still, before they set out, they feasted on the buffalo meat roasting over the fire.

As they ate, the details of the girls' capture came spilling out. Jemima explained that she'd had a sore foot from a stab from a cane frond, and on the Sunday afternoon of the capture, she had thought that dipping it in the cool water of the Kentucky River would help it heal. She had invited Frances and Betsy Callaway to

go on a short canoe ride with her. Jemima went on to tell how she was dangling her foot in the water over the side of the canoe while Betsy and Frances paddled when they got caught in the swift current that sent them into an eddy. The eddy eventually spat them out when they were just a few feet from the far side of the river.

"I'm sorry, Father," Jemima said as the story unfolded. "I know you warned us never to cross the river, but we couldn't help it. No matter how hard we tried, we just couldn't battle the current."

Jemima continued to explain that as the girls tried to get control of the canoe, an Indian had leaped out from the riverbank, grabbed the buffalo-hide tug used to tie up the vessel, and pulled the canoe ashore, where the other Indians grabbed the girls.

"We screamed and screamed," Betsy said, "but they threatened us with their tomahawks if we did not stop. We were frightened as they dragged us up the bank and then headed north. We tried to slow them down. We kept deliberately falling over, and every so often we would break a twig or a branch in the hope you would find our trail."

"We did indeed," Daniel said. "That was a very smart thing to do."

"More than once Hanging Maw threatened to kill us when he discovered us doing it, but we kept doing it anyway," Frances interjected.

"But after three days we were starting to lose hope. We were soon going to cross the Licking and head into the Ohio country, where you might not ever find us. And then I looked up and there you were," Jemima said. "I knew you would come. I just knew it." She reached out and hugged her father again.

Soon the group was back on the trail headed to Boonesborough. By the second day the girls were tired; they had slept and eaten little while with the Indians. When a scrawny horse, probably escaped from some hunting party, appeared beside the trail, one of the men caught it. The girls laughed out loud when they saw it.

"It's the same horse the Indians caught," Jemima said. "They tried to make us ride it so they could travel faster, but we pretended we didn't know how to ride and kept falling off. And sometimes we kicked it in the side, and it would rear up and bite at us and throw us to the ground. Finally the Indians got so frustrated they let the animal go, and we kept walking, as slowly as we could, of course, and we kept falling down."

This time, though, the exhausted girls gladly took turns riding on the horse's back, which helped the group make good time on their return to Boonesborough. Daniel was afraid that the departure of the rescue party had left the settlement too vulnerable. He wanted to get home before anything violent happened—if it hadn't already.

Unit Study

Curriculum Guides

Sample selections from

Heroes of History
Unit Study
Curriculum Guides

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Introduction

Each unit study guide is designed to accompany one book in the Heroes of History series by Janet and Geoff Benge. The guides provide the schoolteacher and homeschooling parent with ways to use the book as a vehicle for teaching or reinforcing various curriculum areas, including the following:

- ◆ History
- ◆ Geography
- ◆ Essay writing
- ◆ Creative writing
- ◆ Reading comprehension
- ◆ Public speaking
- ◆ Drama
- ◆ Art

As there are more ideas than could possibly be used in one unit, it is the parent/teacher's job to sift through the ideas and select those that best fit the needs of the students.

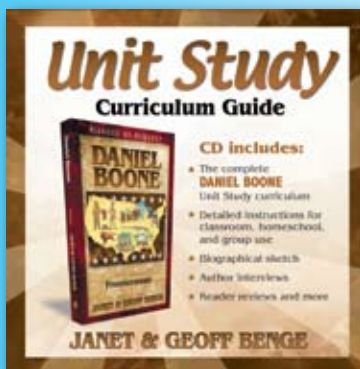
The activities recommended in each unit study guide are reflective of a wide range of learning styles, designed for both group and individual study, and suitable for a range of grade levels and abilities.

Below you will find excerpts from the Daniel Boone and other unit studies. Taken together, these excerpts give a brief example of the parts that make up one unit study guide.

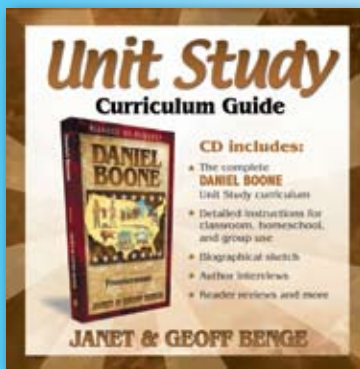


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1

Key Quotes

The authors have selected seven quotes that can be used alongside or as part of this unity study. (Three are listed here.)

"I had heard my father say that he never knew a piece of land [to] run away or break."

—John Adams

"The secret of being a bore is to tell everything."

—Voltaire

"There is a passion for hunting something deeply implanted in the human breast."

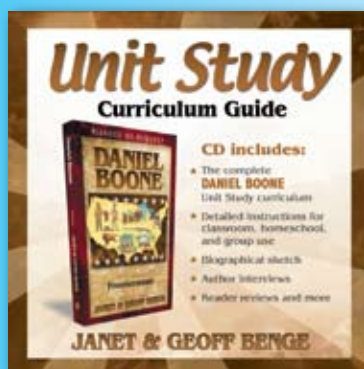
—Charles Dickens

2

Display Corner

Many students will enjoy collecting and displaying objects related to the times and places in which Daniel Boone lived. It is motivational to designate a corner of the room, including a table or desk and wall space, that can be used for this purpose. Following is a list of things students (or you) might like to display.

- ◆ Large maps of areas where Daniel Boone lived
- ◆ Photographs, books, and other information about the state of Kentucky, past and present
- ◆ Implements of frontier life (e.g., a butter churn, a replica of a muzzle-loading rifle, an anvil and hand billows)



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3

Chapter Questions

There are six questions related to each chapter of *Daniel Boone: Frontiersman*:

- ◆ A vocabulary question drawn from the text and referenced to a page in the book
- ◆ A factual question arising from the text
- ◆ Two questions to gauge the level of a student's comprehension
- ◆ Two open-ended question seeking an opinion or interpretation

The first three questions are geared toward younger students, while the last three questions are more difficult.

Chapter Nine

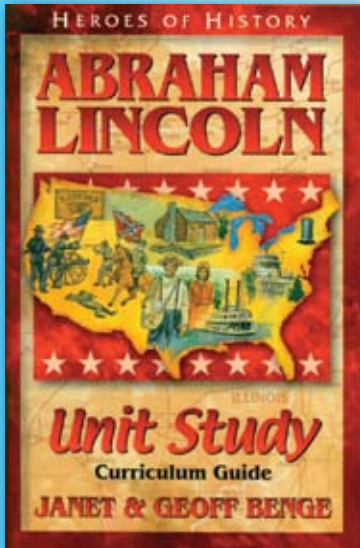
1. What does *ominous* mean (page 94)? Use this word in a sentence.
2. In June of 1774, what was Daniel asked to do?
3. What trick did Rebecca and the other women at Moore's Fort play on the men who were guarding the fort? Why?
4. Why did the Shawnee give colonists the right to settle in their hunting grounds in Kentucky?
5. Chief John Logan left a note on a slain settler saying, "The Indians are not angry, only myself" (page 91). What do you think he meant by that? Explain your answer.
6. Could the colonists have done anything differently in settling the land that would have led to less conflict with the Native Americans?

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Student Explorations



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Student explorations are a variety of activities that are appropriate for a wide range of learning styles. These activities consist of the following: Essay Questions, Creative Writing, Hands-On Projects, Audio/Visual Projects, Arts and Crafts.

Essay Questions

- ◆ Research the background of the Gettysburg Address, including the Battle of Gettysburg. Explain why you think this speech has become so important in the history of the United States.

Creative Writing

- ◆ Imagine you are the first reporter on the scene after the Battle of Gettysburg. Write an article describing what you saw. Follow it up with a second article on Abe's address.

Hands-On Projects

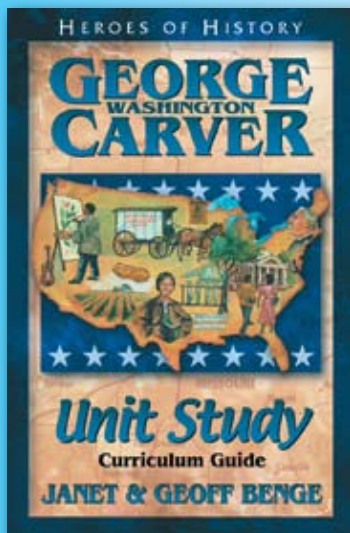
- ◆ Create a poster advertising one of the "Great Debates" between Stephen Douglas and Abraham Lincoln or a campaign poster for Lincoln.

Audio/Visual Projects

- ◆ Imagine you are a talk-show host with Abraham Lincoln appearing as a guest on your show. Create a list of questions, and have Abe answer them as you believe he would. Make an audiotape or videotape of the show and play it for the class.

Arts and Crafts

- ◆ There are many memorials to Abraham Lincoln, including the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. Create a sculpture for a memorial of Lincoln that depicts some character trait he possessed.



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*George Washington Carver:
A Unit Study
Curriculum Guide*
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5

Community Links

Many communities have rich resources of people and places to which students can be exposed to help them learn about and appreciate other time periods and the experiences of other people. It is well worth the effort to find out what your community has to offer with regard to the unit you are studying.

If you are unable to take a field trip to visit some of these people and places, it is often possible to have visitors come to the classroom.

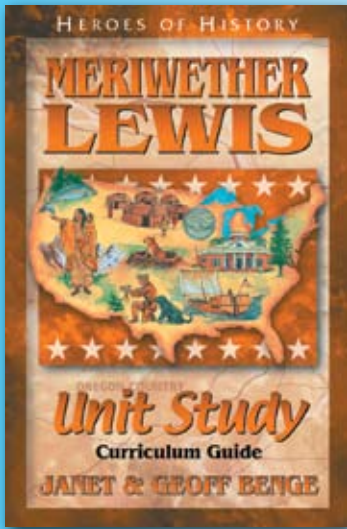
Suggested Community Links

- ◆ **Farm.** If you live in or near a rural community, you can visit a farm. Find out what crops are grown, how these crops are chosen, what the per acre yield is, and where these crops are marketed. Also find out what challenges farmers face in your region today. If a visit is not possible, invite a farmer to visit your classroom. (Ask him or her to bring some crop samples.)
- ◆ **Human Rights Advocate.** George Washington Carver took part in protests after other people's human rights were trampled. Find a member of a human rights advocacy group, and invite him or her to speak to your class on how the group tries to help others enjoy their rights.
- ◆ **Botanical Artist or Photographer.** You may have an artist or photographer in your community who specializes in botanical subjects. If so, either arrange a visit to the studio or have him or her come to the classroom to explain the art process and the motivation for using plants as subjects.

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Social Studies



Sample taken from
Meriwether Lewis: A Unit Study Curriculum Guide
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The social studies section is divided into six categories, each with suggestions on how to use the material given.

- ◆ **Places.** This section covers significant places related to the story and named in the text of the book *Meriwether Lewis: Off the Edge of the Map*.
- ◆ **Journey.** This section covers the journey taken by Meriwether and the Corps of Discovery.
- ◆ **Terms/Vocabulary.** This section gives ideas for studying some of the terms used in the book.
- ◆ **Geographical Characteristics.** This section contains suggestions for mapping some of the physical characteristics of places where Meriwether lived and traveled.
- ◆ **Timeline.** This section allows students to research the time period in which Meriwether lived by plotting historical events.
- ◆ **Conceptual Questions.** This section provides the teacher with conceptual social studies questions related to the book.

Places

- ◆ Explore how some of the place names have changed since the time of the story, and give reasons for such changes.

Journey

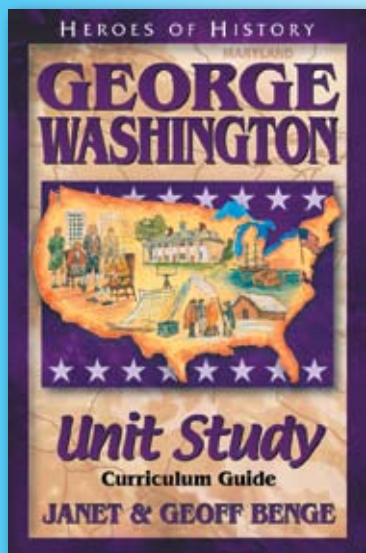
- ◆ Locate the borders of the Louisiana Purchase and mark them on the Journey of Lewis and Clark map.

Conceptual Questions

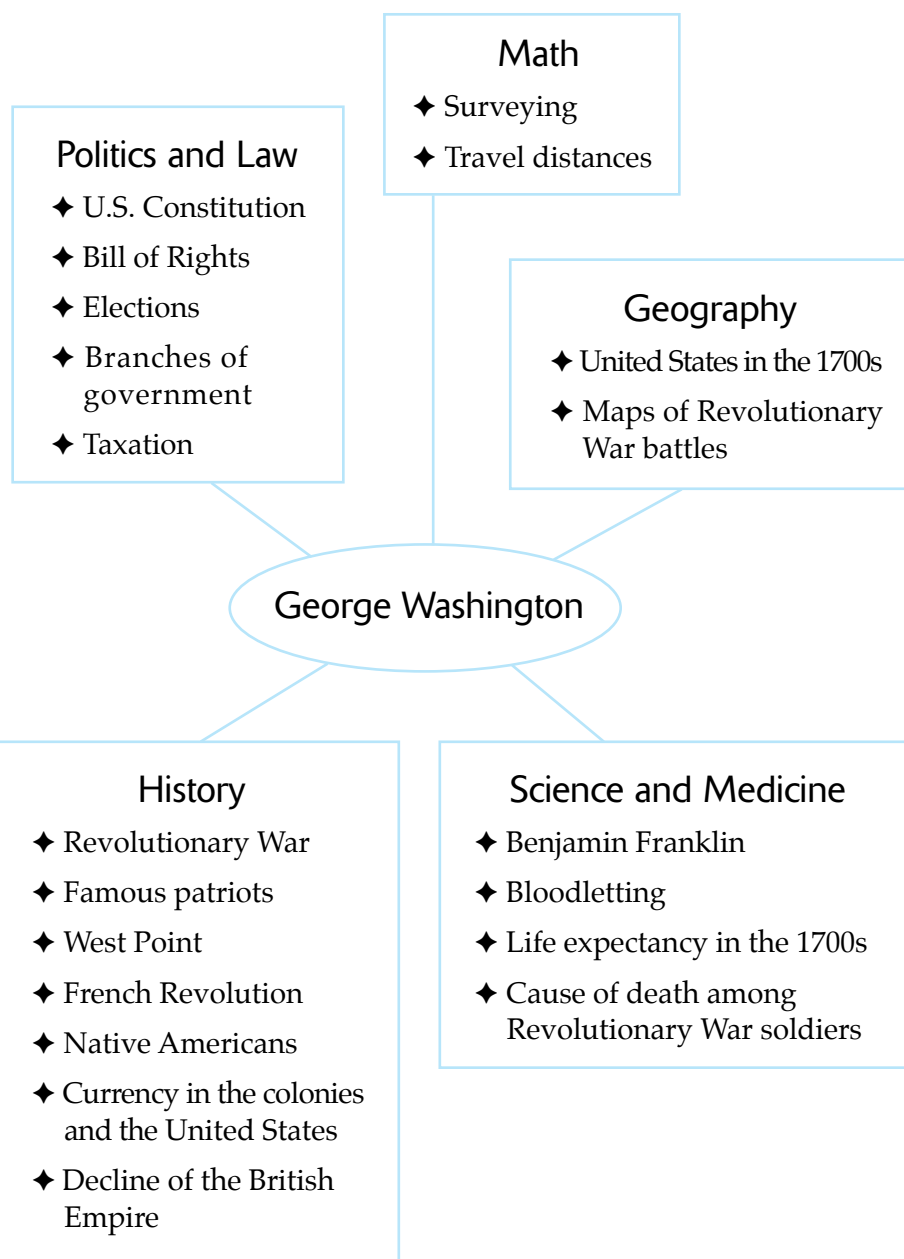
- ◆ Find three Native American tribes listed in *Meriwether Lewis: Off the Edge of the Map*. Do these tribes still exist? If so, where do they live today? How does the population of the tribe today compare to that of the tribe in 1804? Why?

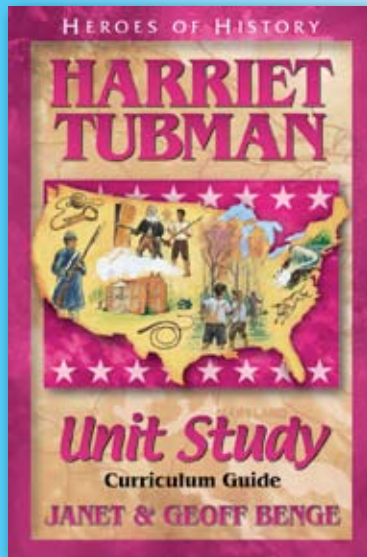
Related Themes to Explore

Any unit study has natural links to many other topics that can also be explored. The spoke diagram on the next page shows some related topics that students might find interesting to study in conjunction with George Washington.



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8

Culminating Event

As the name implies, the culminating event marks the end of the unit study and gives a sense of closure to the topic. It also serves to put the students' new knowledge into a larger context that can be shared with others.

Idea Sparks

- ◆ **Emancipation Party.** One of the happiest events in Harriet Tubman's life was hearing the Emancipation Proclamation read (page 166). You could use this event as a focal point of celebration.
- ◆ **Food.** Eat traditional Southern food, including black-eyed peas, collards or other green, leafy plants, hominy, pork or fried chicken.
- ◆ **Music.** Have some students form a brass band, or play band music at the beginning of the celebration.
- ◆ **Oral Presentations.** Students can present poems, essays, reports, speeches, reviews, and journals that they have written during the course of the unit study.
- ◆ **Displays.** Display other work, including artwork, map work, models, newspapers, and video interviews. Also display banners and posters that the students have made.
- ◆ **Clothing.** Students can dress in period clothing for the event. For example, they might choose to dress up as runaway slaves or Union soldiers.

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