

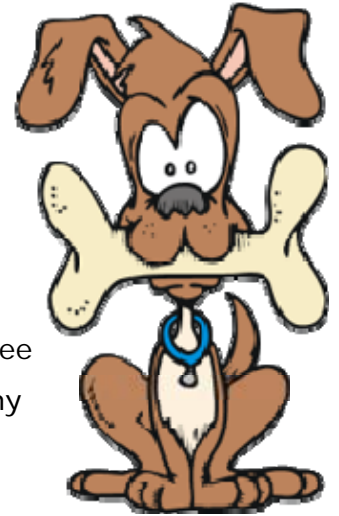
Name _____

Puppy Love

One afternoon seven year-old Jonathan shyly confided to his eleven year-old brother, "I love Miss Campbell."

"Oh, don't be silly Jonathan! In love with your teacher?" replied his brother Nathaniel.

It's 1876 and nineteen year-old Miss Campbell has been the teacher in the one-room schoolhouse in Pleasant Valley, Ohio for three years now. She is a lovely young lady with brown eyes and long shiny brown hair piled on top of her head. She always wears a long calico dress that is tucked in at the waist and a black velvet ribbon tied around her neck.



She organizes the school day so that she can teach different lessons based on age for her pupils who are 6 to 14 years old. She teaches the little ones the alphabet and how to read and the older kids learn to do sums. Everyone reads from McGuffey Eclectic Readers and learns verses from the Bible.

Miss Campbell is qualified to teach at the Pleasant Valley School because she completed her studies at a nearby elementary school and she passed the examination in arithmetic, history, geography and grammar composed by the Pleasant Valley school committee.

Miss Campbell is one of many young ladies in the teaching profession. Less educated young women become servants and teaching is one of the few other jobs open to single women. Women teachers are paid half the salary of men teachers because the norms of the day state that a single woman could live on half the salary of a man who had a wife and family to support.

"It's not silly! I'm going to marry Miss Campbell when I grow up," Jonathan said firmly.

"Don't you know that teachers can't get married? Married women can't teach school," said Nathaniel.

"Oh," replied Jonathan.

"Well, I used to like Miss Campbell a lot too when I was eight," Nathaniel continued. "But when you get bigger she keeps giving you harder lessons. I don't like her so much anymore. She makes me work too hard."

The boys finished their long walk home.



Name _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Multiple Choice Questions

Circle the correct answer.

1. Where does this story take place?
 - a. Indiana
 - b. Illinois
 - c. Virginia
 - d. Ohio
2. How old was Miss Campbell when she started teaching?
 - a. 16
 - b. 18
 - c. 19
 - d. 21
3. How old are the students at the Pleasant Valley School?
 - a. 5 to 12
 - b. 6 to 12
 - c. 6 to 14
 - d. 7 to 14
4. Why was Miss Campbell qualified to teach at Pleasant Valley School?
 - a. She completed elementary school
 - b. She passed the state teacher examination
 - c. Both a. and b. above
 - d. None of the above
5. In the 1800s women teachers were paid what fraction of the salary of men teachers?
 - a. One quarter
 - b. One third
 - c. One half
 - d. Two thirds
6. Students read from what books in the 1800s?
 - a. The encyclopedia
 - b. The history of the United States
 - c. McGuffey Eclectic Readers
 - d. Reader's Digest Condensed Books



Name _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Short Answer Questions

1. What is calico? If you don't know the answer, look it up.
2. Draw your own portrait of Miss Campbell.
3. Students at Pleasant Valley Schools read from McGuffey Eclectic Readers. What does the word eclectic mean? Explain how McGuffey Eclectic Readers were like a modern anthology. Look it up any vocabulary words you don't know.
4. Write a follow-up story about Jonathan and Nathaniel when Jonathan is eleven years old.
5. Do some research and find out the educational requirements teachers must meet in your state today.
6. Would you enjoy attending a one-room school with just 20 students in grades 1 to 6? Explain why or why not.
7. Would you like to teach in elementary school? Explain why or why not.



Name _____

Answer Key

Multiple Choice

1. d.
2. a.
3. c.
4. a.
5. c.
6. c.

Short Answer

1. Calico is a cotton cloth imprinted with small flowers that was used for dresses in the 1800s.
2. Individual response
3. Eclectic means made up of parts from various sources. An anthology is collection of different writers' works, a book that consists of essays, stories, or poems by different writers. So McGuffey Eclectic Readers were anthologies composed of stories and readings taken from many sources.
4. Individual response
5. Individual response
6. Individual response
7. Individual response

