

Colonial Cooking: Problems and Solutions

Before Reading

colonial	solution	problem
cellar	springhouse	fortunately
method	harvest	preserve
solve	effort	employed

Which word means *to gather fruits and vegetables*?

Which word is a synonym for *basement*?

Which word means *hired*?

In this article, you will read about some problems that cooks faced in colonial times. What do you think are some problems that you would have cooking in a colonial kitchen?

Multiple Meaning Words

In this article, you'll encounter several multiple meaning words. These are words that have different meanings, depended on how they are used in the sentence.

Directions: Read the definitions. Then, select the definition used in each sentence. Bolded sentences are from the text.

solution

1. An answer to a problem
2. A mixture of two or more substances

___ In science class, we made a salt and water solution.

___ Andrea found the solution to her problem—a pulley!

___ The students worked to find solutions to the bullying issue.

___ Pickles are made with a solution of salt, water, and vinegar.

___ **Colonial cooks had to come up with solutions to problems.**

___ **One way to preserve vegetables is to pickle them, or soak them in a solution of vinegar and water.**

spring

1. (verb) to move upwards quickly
2. (noun) a place where water comes to the surface
3. (noun) the season between winter and summer

___ The stream was fed with spring water, so it was very cold.

___ The weeds were springing up all over the garden.

___ The hikers were thrilled to find a spring along the trail.

___ The cherry blossoms bloom in the spring.

___ **Spring water is usually very cold.**

last

1. (verb) to go on or continue
2. (adjective) the final one
3. (adjective) the most recent

_____ We weren't sure how long our money would last.

_____ Josh hated being last in the lunch line.

_____ The concert lasted for three hours.

_____ Last spring, we took a trip to Washington.

_____ **How could they save the summer's harvest to last all year?**

Draw a picture to show the meanings of the words in the boxes.

spring , meaning #2	last , meaning #2	solution , meaning #1

Write a sentence to show one of the meanings of *last*.

Colonial Cooking: Problems and Solutions

This article was organized to explain problems and solutions. Use the graphic organizer below to help you think about the problems and solutions in the text.

<p>Problem:</p> <p>Cooks had to keep food cold</p>	<p>Solution:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>Problem:</p> <p>It's hard to cook over an open fire!</p>	<p>Solution #1:</p> <hr/> <p>Solution #2:</p> <hr/>
<p>Problem:</p> <p>Getting fruits and vegetables over the winter was difficult</p>	<p>Solution:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

Questions for “Colonial Cooking: Problems and Solutions”

1. What is the main idea of the article?
 - A. Cooking today is much easier than cooking in the past.
 - B. People in colonial times were better cooks than people today.
 - C. A springhouse was a place to keep food cold.
 - D. People in colonial times found solutions to cooking problems.
2. According to the text, which best describes a springhouse?
 - A. A deep hole in the ground
 - B. A place where water comes up from the ground
 - C. A building built over a spring
 - D. A place to store ice
3. Suppose that the author wanted to add information about how colonial people dried and smoked meat. Under which heading would this fit?
 - A. Colonial Cooking: Problems and Solutions
 - B. Keeping things cold
 - C. Cooking over an open fire
 - D. Preserving food

4. Read the sentence from the text.

Wealthier households often employed a cook and servants to prepare the food.

Which definition best shows the meaning of employed as it is used in the sentence?

- A. requested
 - B. served
 - C. hired
 - D. ensured
5. Why does the author talk about roasting marshmallows in the section “Cooking over an open fire”?
 - A. The author wants readers to understand that colonial people often roasted marshmallows.
 - B. The author is using a familiar idea to help the reader understand an unfamiliar idea.
 - C. The author is explaining the causes of cooking over an open fire.
 - D. The author wants to persuade readers to roast marshmallows to learn about colonial times.

Answers

1. D
2. C
3. D
4. C
5. B