

Primary Source Comprehension: Colonial Manners

Primary SOLs: K.1 a, c, h. K.4 c. K.7 b, d. 1.1 a, b, e. 1.4 a. 1.7 a-c. 1.9 c. 2.1 a, e, g, h. 2.5 a. 2.6 d. 2.8 f, g.

Document Context: Built in 1747, Rippon Lodge was the home of the Blackburn Family until 1811. Richard Blackburn owned vast amounts of land and grew several types of crops, including wheat, corn, and tobacco. One of his sons, Thomas, was involved in government and was in the Revolutionary War. The home was visited by many important guests, including George Washington.

Document Text: The Blackburn's knew many important families, such as the Washington's. Having good manners was important to people of the 17th century as they are today. Manners are how one person treats or behaves with others, and they can be good or bad. There were books for good manners, such as *The School of Manners or Rules for Childrens Behavior*, published in London in 1701. The handbook reminds a child on how they should behave in school, at home, with visitors, at the dining room table, and on vacation! The Blackburn's would have taught their children good manner and to be good citizens. The children's teachers would also help them learn how to behave in class and with other students.

Chapter 7 has twelve rules for how to behave in school. Here are a few:

- 1. Loiter not, but immediately take thine own seat; and move not from one place to another, till School time be over.
- 2. At no time talk or quarrel in the School; but be quiet, peaceable, and silent....
- 3. If a stranger speaks to thee in school, stand up and answer with respect....
- 4. Bawl not aloud in making complaints.

Exercise:

- 1. 1. The way these are written might sound funny. Did any of them sound familiar to rules in class today?
- 2. Why are manners important at school?
- 3. What behavior do you find distracting at school?
- 4. What is one behavior that you should do at home and at school?
- 5. What makes you a good citizen at school?

NAME: _____

Read and Match. Cut and paste each picture to match each word.

Manners	Book	School
Wheat	Home	Time
Visitor	Table	Farm





