

The Prairie

Vocabulary:

Adaptation- make changes to better function in your environment

Bison- large mammal with shaggy brown hair, like a buffalo

Climate- average weather in a specific area

Ecosystem- the plants and animals that live together in a specific environment

Fertile- good soil for growing crops

Grassland- an area such as a meadow or a prairie covered in grasses

Habitat- the natural environment in which an animal lives

Restoration- to bring back something that was destroyed

Self-cleaning Steel plow- plow invented by John Deere to clear prairie grasses

Writing Topic:

How did humans affect the prairie before 1900?

How can you get involved to help restore the Illinois Prairie?

Reading:

Little House on the Prairie by Laura Ingalls Wilder

Specific Standards:

3-LS2-1: Construct an argument that some animals form groups that help members survive.

3-LS4-3: Construct an argument with evidence that in a particular habitat some organisms can survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all

3-LS4-4: Make a claim about the merit of a solution to a problem caused when the environment changes and the types of plants and animals that live there may change:

SS.G.2.3: Compare how people modify and adapt to the environment and culture in our community to other places.

SS.H.2.3: Describe how significant people, events, and developments have shaped their own community and region