History Hunt

Fifth and Sixth Grade
Town and Country

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www.DallasHeritageVillage.org
The railroad changed life on almost every level. People could travel more easily. Farmers could ship their crops to market and order goods cheaply. News could travel lightning fast across the telegraph lines. The country became much smaller.

What railroad company did this Depot serve? And which direction did the trains travel?

What might you be waiting for in the Depot waiting room?

What kinds of notices are posted in the Depot waiting room?

List two items in the Depot freight room.

What advantages would having a train station have for a town?

Why might there be two doors in the freight room?

What is the large green object in the freight room? Why would it be an important tool in that area of the Depot?
This hotel primarily served traveling salesman. They needed a place to stay near the railroad and near potential customers. Some salesmen were nicknamed “drummers” because they would literally walk through town, beating a drum to attract attention for their products.

What year was the **Worth Hotel** built? Why is it near the **Depot**?

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How many guests were served breakfast? What was for breakfast?

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The Worth Hotel was a residential hotel. Why would a town need this?

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Look at the stove in the parlor. What kind of fuel does it use? Why might it be convenient to use that kind of fuel?

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What services did the **Worth Hotel** provide?

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• Nip and Tuck, our Mammoth Jack Donkeys, may be providing carriage rides during your visit. Rides are 25¢ per rider and are available on a first-come, first-served basis.
• Help us keep the Village tidy. Please, no food, drinks, or trash inside our buildings.
• Admission stickers need to leave the Village with students—please do not stick them on signs or barriers.
• Some of our buildings are closed to the public for various reasons. They are clearly marked.
• Please do not allow students to tour buildings unattended.
• Though we certainly look like a park, please do not allow students to run through the grounds.
• Please help us preserve our buildings by not allowing touching artifacts behind barriers or hanging or jumping on our buildings.
General Store

You could find almost anything you imagined in the General Store. With the arrival of trains, shopkeepers could keep a wider variety of goods—and sell them more cheaply. There was something for every member of the family here—what would be on your wish list?

Is there anything you can’t buy in the General Store? Look around, what else would you need?

Many brand names have been in existence for over 100 years. What brand names can you find on the store’s shelves that you’re familiar with?

Examine the prices in the General Store. Are these prices actually lower than those today? Why or why not?

Stores like these were often more than just a store. What other activities are featured in this space?

Look at some of the labels and signs in the General Store. Where do these products come from? How do you think they got to Texas?
Main Street

Main Street was the center of a small town’s life. Most businesses were located in one central area. Notice the variety of businesses on this Main Street. Are you surprised by anything that’s here? Do you think anything is missing?

What other businesses might be on a Main Street? What would you include?

Is the Depot part of Main Street? How can you tell?

What would you need to start a bank in a small town? Could it be started by a single person? Why or why not?

Why does the Saloon have such a large counter?

What do you think the metal chair in the corner of the Saloon was used for?

Notice the machines behind the counter in Citizen’s Bank. What do you think they were used for? Are they still needed today? Why or why not?
What could this family have used to make money? How is it different than Main Street?

Frequently men left the farm to take outside jobs. Why might this be needed?

What items do you see that would have been purchased at a store not made by the family?

What animals live at the farm? How would each have been useful to pioneers?

The Farmstead was mostly self-sufficient. What did they provide for themselves?

What kinds of crops are growing in the Farmstead gardens?

What items do you see that would have been purchased at a store not made by the family?

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What could this family have used to make money? How is it different than Main Street?