

Homesteading in Western Kansas: Where are the Trees?

Many settlers who came to western Kansas faced challenges. Often there were few trees and little wood to use for building homes, making fires, or building fences. What did people use instead of wood? Describe what materials settlers might have used for each of the tasks below. Where would settlers find these materials? How did they adapt those materials to use in place of wood?

1. How did settlers adapt to the environment when trees were not available to build shelter?
2. How did settlers adapt to the environment when trees were not available to use as fuel to make fires?
3. How did settlers adapt to the environment when trees were not available to make fences?