

PERSEVERING PIONEERS SKIT

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The skit features a narrator recounting the harsh life of the pioneers who settled the American frontier on the prairie. Throughout the skit, Scouts act out various actions cued by the narrator, such as simulating a thundering herd of buffalo with a large group of Scouts and having three Scouts act as "volunteers." Before the skit begins, the narrator selects and pre-cues three volunteers from the audience to come forward and lay down on their stomachs next to each other.

I would like to share with you a story about the harsh life on the frontier. But, we won't just talk about it, we will act it out with some volunteers. Can I have three brave volunteers from the audience? (Ask for the preselected volunteers to come forward and lie down next to each other on their stomachs.)

Let's begin. Life on the prairie was tough. The wind would whip across the open land. (A Scout comes out with a broom and gently sweeps the backs of the volunteers while making wind noises.)

The sun was blazing hot. (Another Scout shines a flashlight on the heads and backs of the volunteers.) And then came the rain. (Another Cub Scout sprinkles water on the volunteers.)

But, despite all of these challenges, the pioneers persevered. Sometimes when they planted their crops, the sun would scorch the earth without any rain, and the crops would fail. (Scouts run out and shine their flashlights on the volunteers.)

But, the pioneers didn't give up. They worked together and planted more crops. Other times, if the rain came too much and flooded their fields, they would just replant. (A Cub Scout runs out and sprinkles water on the volunteers.)

If the wind blew down their barns, they would rebuild with the help of their neighbors. (A Cub Scout comes out with a broom and gently sweeps the volunteers while making wind noises.)

However, the most terrifying challenge of all was the threat of a buffalo stampede. (On that cue, a large group of Scouts charges across the stage toward the volunteers, who get up and run offstage making exaggerated yelling noises.)

Despite these hardships, the pioneers persevered, and that's what we can learn from them. We too can persevere through the challenges we face. Thank you, volunteers, for helping us tell this story.