

It was early spring. The settler family had a hard time all winter. They had brought food with them. But it was mostly gone. They had hunted. But they were not good hunters. They knew how to farm. They did not know how to follow animal tracks. So they never got any rabbits when they hunted. Still, they had set traps and caught some rabbits. They had some potatoes they had gotten at the trading post. But they were tired of potatoes.

It was March. The weather was cool. The snow had melted. So they left to look for food. They looked for animal tracks. They saw rabbit tracks in the mud. It was slippery, but they rushed after them. But they did not find any rabbits. They just got muddy.

Then they saw a Native American family. They had bows and arrows. They had big sticks. The family was worried. What would they say? What would they do?

The two families did not talk the same language. They could not talk with each other. But they waved. They smiled. They were not so worried. "They are using the bow and arrow to hunt," said the mother. "They are looking for food, just like us."

The Native American family pointed. The settler family looked where they had pointed. There were green plants. There might be something to eat.

"It's food!" the mother shouted. They rushed to where it was. It was onions. They were growing wild.

The family picked the onions. They brushed off the dirt. They ate them. It was great to have fresh food.

"Let's go home and look for my seeds," the mother said. "It is going to be time to plant soon. We will have food. It is going to be a good spring. We should give some of our seeds to our new friends."

## Locate and classify information – Fiction

Questions developed by Center for Urban Education for use by Chicago Public Schools 2008-2009

*Choose the best answer for each question.*

1. What are two kinds of food the settlers had in winter?

- a. vegetables and rabbits
- b. potatoes and rabbits
- c. corn and meat
- d. onions and potatoes

3. What is one way both families got food?

- a. picking onions
- b. hunting rabbits
- c. trapping rabbits
- d. planting vegetables

2. How did the Native Americans use the bow and arrow?

- a. as a tool for hunting
- b. for fun as a game
- c. to trap rabbits
- d. to scare people

4. What does it mean that the family has seeds?

- a. They are hunters.
- b. They have potatoes.
- c. They eat onions.
- d. They are farmers.

5. *Write your own answer to this question. What is one way the two families are alike?*

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### **TEACHER NOTES: Develop Students' Skills: Exercise Thinking**

These questions have not been validated, so decisions about student's achievement should not be made based on their responses. They are intended to exercise skills. Recommended activities include: students work in pairs to choose the best response; give students the questions without the responses so they generate their own answers; students make up additional questions; students make up questions like these for another passage.

**Answers:** *You can remove this answer key and then give it to students and ask them to figure out the basis for the correct response.*

Item	1	2	3	4
Answer	b	a	a	d

Question 5 is open-ended. Here is a suggested response.  
They are both hungry; they both hunt for rabbits; they both eat onions.