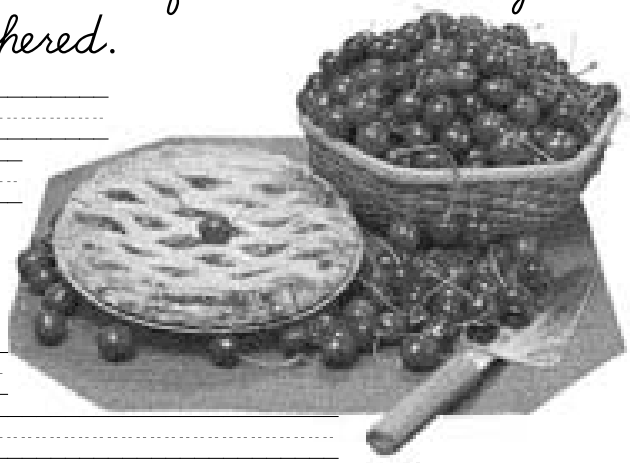
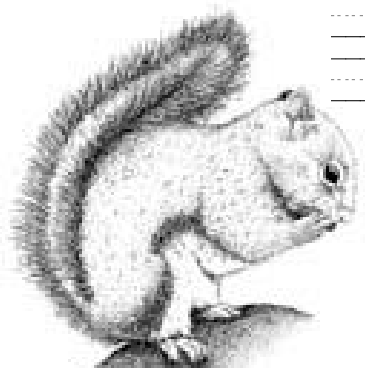
Name:_____ Date:_____

Gathering

Children used to have to do a lot of gathering, from wood to herbs to nuts, fruits, and berries in the woods. Most woods were still public property, and gathering was allowed then. Kids thought of gathering as just a part of everyday life. They would make it a game and see who could gather the most. Wild creatures in the woods made gathering more pleasant for them, and afterward, everyone enjoyed together what they had gathered.





Go gathering together. Find out where there is a woods or any kind of property where you are allowed to gather things that grow in the wild. We gathered fallen leaves at parks, and pepper berries on the curb, in a nearby neighborhood, which we used for crafting. When we saw people trimming pine trees with pine cones on them, we asked permission to harvest the pine cones they planned to just throw away. We also grew strawberries, vegetables, and herbs so that our children could experience first hand the way God has made the earth to bear fruit. Eat the fruit that you pick or bake it in pies. Use the vegetables you grow for salads or cooked dishes. Dry herbs to use in herb teas or cooking. Braid onions or garlics into kitchen garlands.

Family Life in Colonial Times by Joy Marie Dunlap

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