

Name: _____

Schools in the Past and Today

Meet Edgar! Edgar is a principal at an elementary school. Principals are leaders in a school. Principals make sure that students and teachers are happy and safe. They also make sure that students are learning! Who is the principal at your school?



Today, you will imagine that you are a principal who is learning about what schools were like 100 years ago! Look at the pictures below. Then, answer the questions.

Picture #1

Look at this photograph. It was taken 130 years ago in Kansas. In the photograph, there are children and adults in front of a school. It was a one-room schoolhouse. A one-room schoolhouse is a school that only has one room. Everyone went to school in the same room even if they were different ages. For example, students who were 10 went to school in the same room as students who were 6 and 15.



<https://www.kansasmemory.org/item/219152>

Picture #2

Look at this photograph. It was taken about 100 years ago in Washington. In the photograph, children are taking a horse and wagon to school! The horse's name was Old Paul. Every day, the children would ride over four miles to school. When they arrived at the school, they would feed Old Paul some hay and grain. Old Paul waited at school until the students were done learning. After school was over, Old Paul would take them back home.



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/2017/>

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Picture #3

Look at this photograph. It was taken over 100 years ago. The photograph was taken inside a one-room schoolhouse in New York. In the one-room schoolhouse, the teacher sat at a desk in front of the classroom, and the students sat at desks.



<https://www.northcountryatwork.org/archive-items/inside-the-one-room-schoolhouse-in-arietta/>

Answer the questions below.

1. How are schools from 100 years ago similar and different to school today? Fill in the sentences below.

One way my school is similar to school 100 years ago...

One way my school is different from schools 100 years ago...

2. If you met students who lived 100 years ago, what would you want to ask them about their schools?

3. Would you want to take Old Paul to school every day? Why or why not?
