# Answer Key and Card Descriptions

**Food Preservation:**




- Food would spoil really easily before refrigerators became a thing. To keep our food from spoiling quickly we would freeze it in ice in cold climates or dried our foods in the sun in warmer climates. This image illustrates the Arapaho tribe drying buffalo meat near Fort Dodge, Kansas.
- This is a spring house. Small buildings, usually a single room, were constructed over springs. These buildings would keep the spring water clean from animals and dead materials like leaves. These spring houses maintained cool temperatures inside throughout the year that they were sed to preserve food from spoiling. Icehouses were also built in areas where ice or snow was available.
- Ice boxes, non-mechanical refrigerators, were used to preserve food up to the 1930s. Large blocks of ice were placed in these ice boxes to keep food cold. Individuals were employed to collect and deliver blocks of ice! Depending on outside temperatures, the large ice blocks could last 5 to 7 days. Ice boxes were identified as refrigerators before modern day electric refrigerators were invented. These were invented around 1802.
- Artificial refrigeration began in the mid- 1750s but were only used for commercial purposes. Refrigerators did not come into the homes until 1915. Not that long ago! There was a time when refrigerators used Freon-12 (R-12) which are known to damage the ozone layer. We have engineered refrigerators to make them more energy efficient with extra features like ice makers and even TVs!

**Transporting Water:**




- Before sinks, we used to drink water straight from rivers and from beneath the ground. Tribes and other groups determined which locations to inhabit based on water availability. We still do this to this day. That's why many cities are located near a body of water. If rivers or lakes were not available, groundwater was used instead. Drinking untreated water can lead to illnesses because of the parasites, bacteria and pollution found in bodies of water
- Drinking water was also hauled from bodies of water. This is a physically intensive job. This is still done in other areas of the world where women carry 40 lbs. of water sometimes for 30 minutes and other times for hours.
- The earliest aqueducts were used as early as 2000 BC. Aqueducts are artificial channels used to transport water often for miles. The Romans and Aztecs mastered this technology, and only a few world empires have done so. Aqueducts were made out of concrete, rock, bronze, silver, wood or lead. This technology was used up to 1500 A.D.
- Now, we have advanced plumbing that transports clean water to our homes. With one turn of a handle, or a tap on the faucet, there's water! Not only do we have quick access to our water, but we are also fortunate to have the option to choose between cold and hot water. Archaeologists have discovered copper water pipes in ruins of India dating back to 3,000 B.C.

**Bathing:**




- Bathing wasn't always a common practice because it wasn't always available. Hygiene is an important practice because it removes germs and disease. All it took was a quick swim in the lake, river or springs.
- Louterions, a bowl on a pedestal, and public bathhouses were used for bathing. Bathhouses were also used as a place to socialize while getting clean. These spaces were shared so individuals would bathe at the same time. Unfortunately, not everyone had access to bathhouses. In the Middle Ages, individuals were charged to use the bathhouses, so it was more affordable to bath out of a bowl. Some individuals, like Aztec Emperors would bathe twice a day. In terms of hygiene, Aztecs were more advance than Europeans.
- The modern bathtub was invented in 1883. Bucket bathing, the use of buckets, was also common when indoor plumbing wasn't available. In the early 19th century, individuals would fill small portable tubs with water bucket by bucket too. There were times where the oldest male of the household would bathe first and the youngest family member would bathe last in that same water.
- Modern shower was first invented in 1767, but hot modern showers were not available until 1810. In the U.S., showers were only available for the wealthy until 1920.

**Fire Fighting:**




re Bucket Brigade by Monroe Historical Society


- Fire at one point was not containable because we didn't have the technology to pump enough water for large fires. So the only thing we could do was let the fire be.
- First attempts for firefighting can be traced back to the 2nd century when an Egyptian built a hand pump that could squirt a jet of water. Organized firefighting began in ancient Rome between 27 B.C and 14 B.C. by the Roman Empire. This brigade consisted of 500 men. At this point in time, some emperors would take advantage of the fires and require owners to sell their property before their fires were put out. Bucket brigade was the common method for putting out fires. This consisted of a human chain that passed buckets full of water down the line to put a fire out. Of course, we were still limited at this time and couldn't quite fight large fires.
- Steam-powered fire engines were used around the 1840s. These apparatus drastically improved response time to fires. The aerial latter came into play almost three decades alter. These firetrucks played an essential role for transporting water to the scene of the fire. These fire trucks were water pumps on wheels. The fire engines we use today came about around 1960.
- Fire hydrants were first used in the 18th century. Earlier fire hydrants often times had wooden cases. Cast iron hydrants weren't used until the 1800s. Fire hydrants supplied fire fighters with ample of water to fight large fires.