



Topical Tidbits

January – March 2017

Volume 6 Issue 1

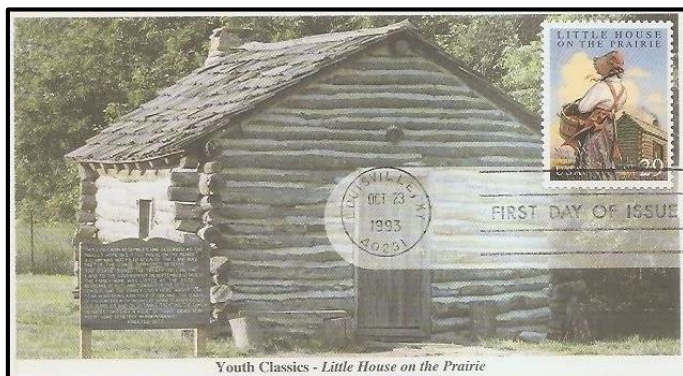
Editor/Creator: Aimée Devine

Laura Ingalls Wilder

2017 marks the 150th anniversary of the birth of Laura Ingalls Wilder. Laura wrote about her family's adventures in the "Little House" books which begin in the Big Woods of Wisconsin in the 1860s. Their love for each other and their indomitable pioneer spirit saw them through many trials and tribulations. Do you think you could have made it as a pioneer? If you haven't read the Laura's books yet, please do! Another fun way to enjoy her stories is to listen to the audio versions. There are also museums and monuments commemorating all the places she lived. Enjoy the activities in this issue of *Topical Tidbits*!

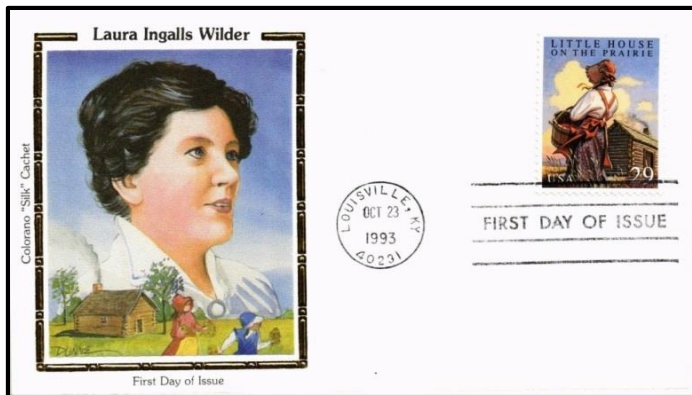


Your editor when she was 12, sitting on the steps of Rocky Ridge Farm in Missouri where Laura lived as an adult.



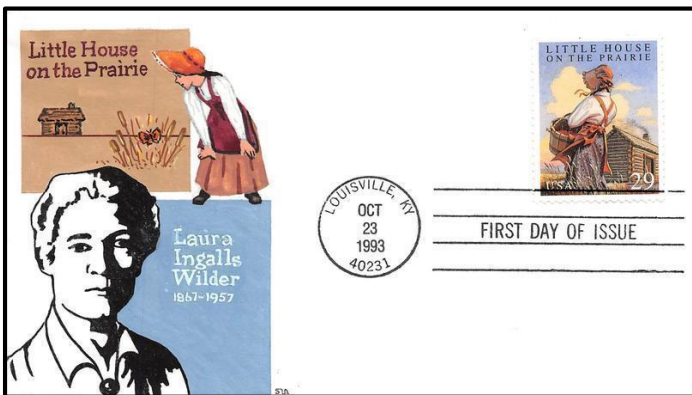
Youth Classics - Little House on the Prairie

The log cabin (above) resembles the Ingalls' home in *Little House on the Prairie*. It sits on the original site where the family lived from 1869 to 1870.

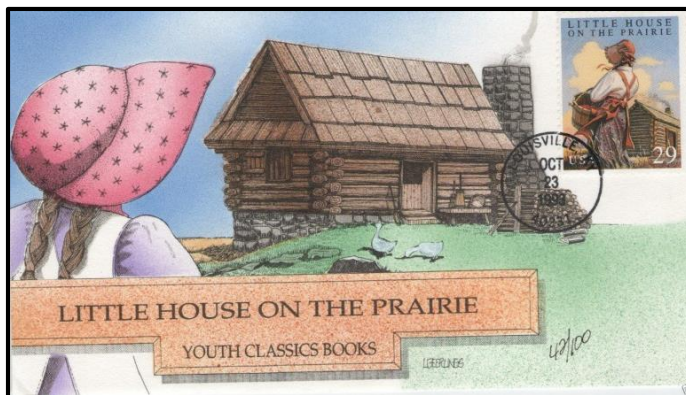


First Day of Issue

This cachet (above) shows Laura as an adult. She was 65 when she wrote the first book and 76 when she finished the last one in the series.



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE



The cachet above is hand-painted by Linda Geerlings and the one on the left is by Seymour Nussenbaum.

Moving Around

Laura lived in six states, which are mentioned in the books except for one. Read the clues below and match each description to the correct state. Then color in the map. Start with picking two different colors and fill in the boxes on the map key. Use the stamps below to color in Laura's states. If you and Laura have both lived in the same state, you can color it with alternating stripes of colors. Answers are at the bottom of the page.



- A. B. C. D. E. F.

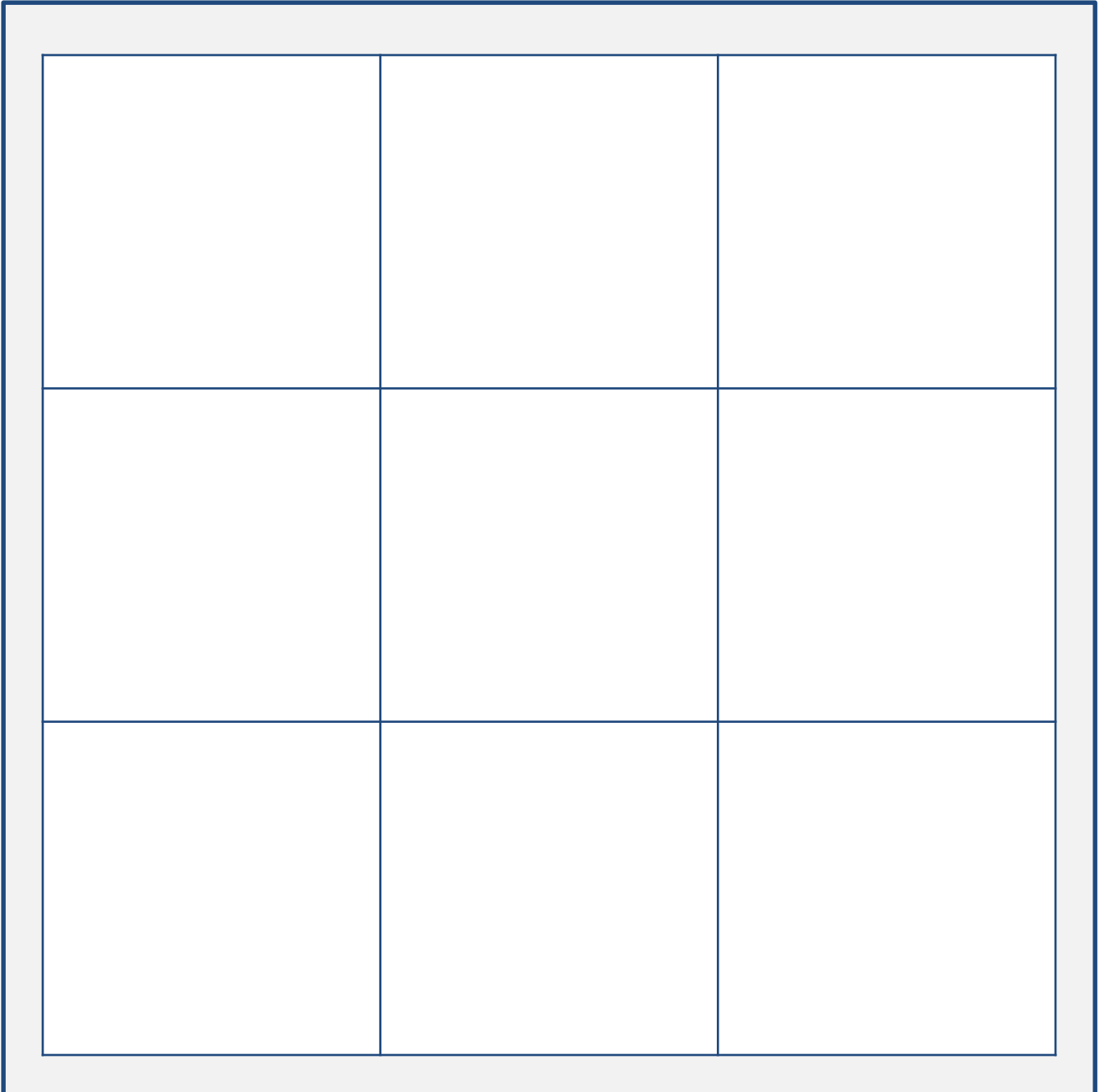
1. *Little House in the Big Woods* was set here. Mary and Laura were both born in this state.
2. *Little House on the Prairie* was set here. Carrie was born in this state. The Ingalls unknowingly built their house on Indian land and had to move.
3. *On the Banks of Plum Creek* was set in this state. At first the Ingalls lived in a sod house and then Pa built a nice house from wood. It was here that swarms of grasshoppers ate up all the crops, eventually prompting the Ingalls to leave.
4. This is the only state where the Ingalls lived that Laura does not mention in her books, maybe because they only lived here for one year. Grace was born here.
5. Four of the "Little House" books take place here- *By the Shores of Silver Lake*, *The Long Winter*, *Little Town on the Prairie*, and *These Happy Golden Years*. This was the final stopping place for the Ingalls family and was Laura's home for 15 years. This is also where Laura met Almanzo.
6. This is the state where Laura moved with her husband and where she started writing the "Little House" books. It is also where Rose was born.



Map Key	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Places Laura lived
<input type="checkbox"/>	Places I've lived

Nine-Patch Quilt Squares

When Mary was six and Laura four, they began working on their own nine-patch quilts in the Big Woods of Wisconsin. Whenever they had extra time, they would sew squares which each had nine blocks. Several of these would be put together to make the quilt. They didn't have a sewing machine so all the sewing had to be done by hand. Pretend you are making a quilt. Use the pattern below to lay out your design. You can use crayons or markers.



Little House Timeline

The cards on the next page have important events in history written in blue. Important events in the Ingalls family's life are written in red. Cut out each card and then mix them up. See if you can put them in chronological (time) order. Use the dates (written in black) below if you need help.

1860: Abraham Lincoln is elected president.

Ma and Pa are married in Concord, Wisconsin.

1863: Lincoln delivers the Gettysburg Address.

The Ingalls move to the Big Woods.

1865: Gen Robert E. Lee surrenders to General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox.

Mary is born in Pepin, Wisconsin.

1867: U.S. buys Alaska from Russia for \$7,200,000.

Laura is born in Pepin, Wisconsin.

1870: Maxfield Parrish, a famous illustrator, is born.

Carrie is born in Montgomery County, Kansas.

1877: Thomas Edison invents the phonograph.

Grace is born in Burr Oak, Iowa.

1881: Clara Barton founds the American National Red Cross.

Mary enrolls in the blind school in Iowa.

1882: Circus owner PT Barnum buys his world famous elephant Jumbo.

Laura receives her teaching certificate and begins teaching.

1884: Huckleberry Finn, by Mark Twain, is published.

Laura and Almanzo become engaged.

1885: The Washington Monument is dedicated in Washington, D.C.

Laura and Almanzo are married.

1886: The Statue of Liberty is unveiled in New York Harbor.

Rose Wilder is born.

1889: The Coca-Cola Company, then known as the Pemberton Medicine Company, is incorporated in Atlanta, Georgia.

Mary graduates from the School for the Blind.

1894: The International Olympic Committee is founded.

The Wilders move to Missouri and purchase Rocky Ridge farm.

1902: President Theodore Roosevelt is the 1st president to ride in a car.

Charles Ingalls (Pa) dies.

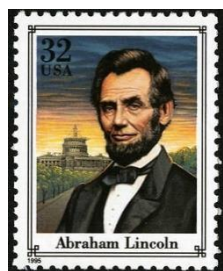
1924: *Happy Birthday To You* was published.

Carline Ingalls (Ma) dies.

1932: Amelia Earhart is the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.

Little House in the Big Woods is published.

Abraham Lincoln is elected president.
Ma and Pa are married in Concord, Wisconsin.



Lincoln delivers the Gettysburg Address.
The Ingalls move to the Big Woods.



General Robert E. Lee surrenders to General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox.
Mary is born in Pepin, Wisconsin.



U.S. buys Alaska from Russia for \$7,200,000.
Laura is born in Pepin, Wisconsin.



Maxfield Parrish, a famous illustrator, is born.
Carrie is born in Kansas.



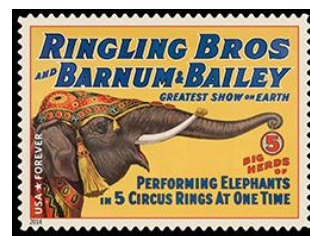
Thomas Edison invents the phonograph.
Grace is born in Burr Oak, Iowa.



Clara Barton founds the American Red Cross.
Mary enrolls in the blind school in Iowa.



Circus owner P.T. Barnum buys his world famous elephant Jumbo.
Laura receives her teaching certificate and begins teaching.



Huckleberry Finn, by Mark Twain, is published.
Laura and Almanzo become engaged.



The Washington Monument is dedicated in Washington, D.C.
Laura and Almanzo are married.



The Statue of Liberty is unveiled in New York Harbor.
Rose Wilder is born.



The Coca-Cola Company, then known as the Pemberton Medicine Company, is incorporated in Atlanta, Georgia.
Mary graduates from the School for the Blind.



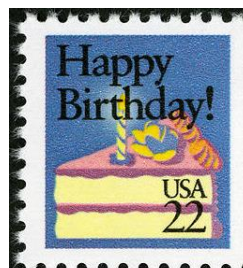
The International Olympic Committee is founded at the initiative of Baron Pierre de Coubertin.
The Wilders move to Missouri and purchase Rocky Ridge farm.



President Theodore Roosevelt is the 1st president to ride in a car.
Charles Ingalls (Pa) dies.



Happy Birthday To You was published.
Caroline Ingalls (Ma) dies.



Amelia Earhart is the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.
Little House in the Big Woods is published.



Little House Fun



The "Little House on the Prairie" stamp was issued in 1993 by the USPS as part of the four-stamp set called *Youth Classics*. Can you color the stamp on the left to match the one above?

D A E R B N R O C S H T O E D
 Z Y S E K A C N A P Q A D I O
 B A K E D B E A N S T U E P U
 M A E R C E C I S M M H G N G
 Q Y B W A P P L E P I E A E H
 T U R N I P S A L G G W S K N
 E S E E H C L I P Z Q E U C U
 S N O I N O N S E L P P A I T
 B R E A D G P I C K L E S H S
 H E R U S U C C O T A S H C U

In *Farmer Boy*, Almanzo's mother prepares some delicious meals. Below are just a few of the foods mentioned in the story. Find and circle each.

Sausage
 Doughnuts
 Turnips
 Dumplings
 Cheese
 Oatmeal
 Pancakes
 Pickles

Bread
 Turkey
 Ice-cream
 Succotash
 Cornbread
 Apple pie
 Chicken pie
 Baked beans

Apples 'n onions

Laura Ingalls Wilder

