

EXPLORE OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM. LEARN INSIDE OUR STATE.

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### **Pioneer Life**

#### **Royal Gorge Regional Museum and History Center, Rudd Cabin**

**Background:** Just behind the main museum building, sits Rudd Cabin built in 1860 by early pioneer Anson Rudd. Log cabins were a common building constructed when pioneers first arrived in a new area. The cabins, many times facing south for best light exposure and warmth, were built by cutting down straight trees. The builder would then notch the trees so he could put the logs together like a puzzle and add a roof. The cracks between the logs were filled with chinking or daubing with mud or clay.

Cabins often consisted of a fireplace for cooking and heat, as well as windows and a door. Sometimes a loft for sleeping was added. Simple furnishings of chairs, table and candlesticks would complete the cabin. Watch [this video](#) to see an 11-year-old build his own log cabin.

#### **Word Alert:**

**Chinking** - The process used to fill the spaces between logs in a log house; preparation step before daubing

**Daubing** - to cover or coat with soft adhesive matter such as mud or clay

**Notch** - a cut or indentation on an edge or surface.

**Activity:** Complete the word search by studying the **scrambled** letters and trying to **unscramble** or rearrange the letters to form a **word** using a word bank..

[Log Cabin Construction Word Scramble K-2nd](#)

[Log Cabin Construction Word Scramble K-2 answer key](#)

[Log Cabin Construction Word Scramble 3-5 grade](#)

[Log Cabin Construction Word Scramble 3-5 grade answer key](#)

**Additional Resources:** As you finish looking at the Rudd Cabin, you will notice a beautiful stone house close by. This was the Anson Rudd home. For additional information on the house and museum, including [additional educational activities](#) on the Anson Rudd home, [click here](#).