

Skillbuilder: Make a Decision

Many young people who lived in towns and cities became apprentices. An apprentice is someone who studies with a master to learn a skill or business. As a child, an apprentice often lived in the master's house. Apprentices usually worked with their masters for four to seven years. Boy apprentices learned shoemaking, printing, bookmaking, and other skills. Girl apprentices learned how to spin thread and weave cloth. By watching and helping, apprentices gained the skills they needed to enter the business as adults.

Practice

1. From reading the passage, what is an apprentice? _____

2. If a boy or girl decides to become an apprentice, what are the possible costs of this decision? _____

3. What are possible benefits of this decision? _____

Apply

Read about William Penn in "Pennsylvania and Delaware" in Lesson 1. Penn made many important decisions when he founded Pennsylvania. Choose one of his decisions and write the benefits and costs of it. What might have happened if Penn had made a different decision? Write a paragraph explaining how Penn might have acted differently.