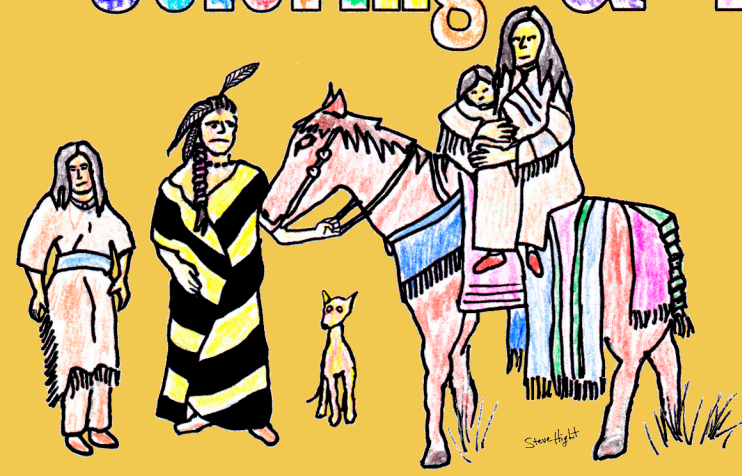




FRUITA HISTORY

Coloring & Activity Book



Fruita History Coloring and Activity Book

Art by Michelle Cools, Danielle Cooper, Brian Gregor,
Steve Hight, ReBecca Hunt-Foster & Vera Mulder.

Text by Steve & Denise Hight.

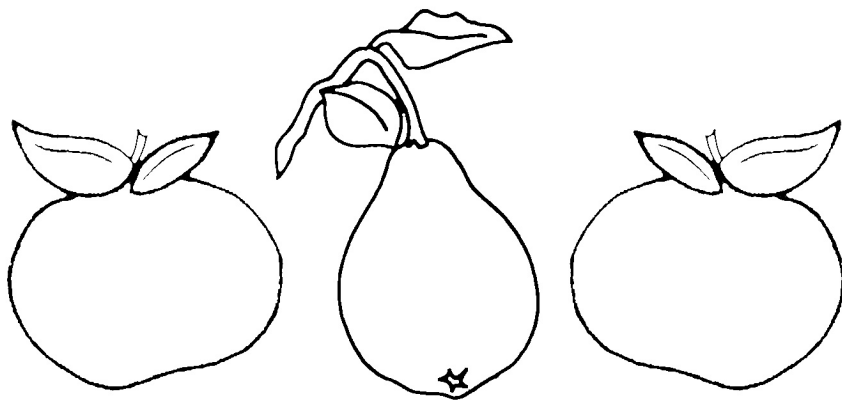
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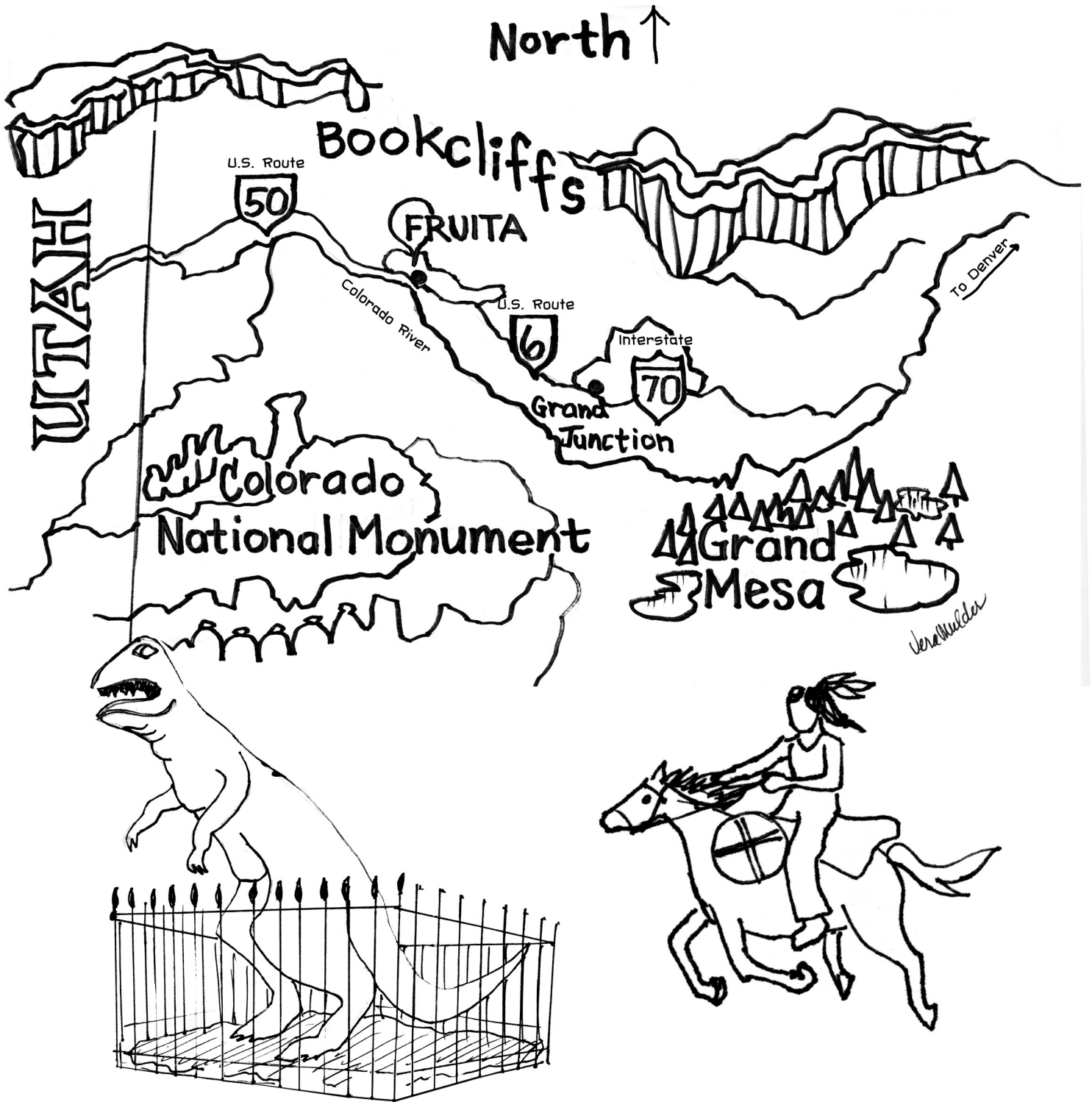
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City of Fruita, Debbie Coffing, and the People of Fruita.

Where is Fruita?



Fruita is a small town in western Colorado. It sits on the Colorado River near the beautiful red rock walls and canyons of the Colorado National Monument. It is just a few miles west of Grand Junction, Colorado, and a few miles east of the State of Utah.

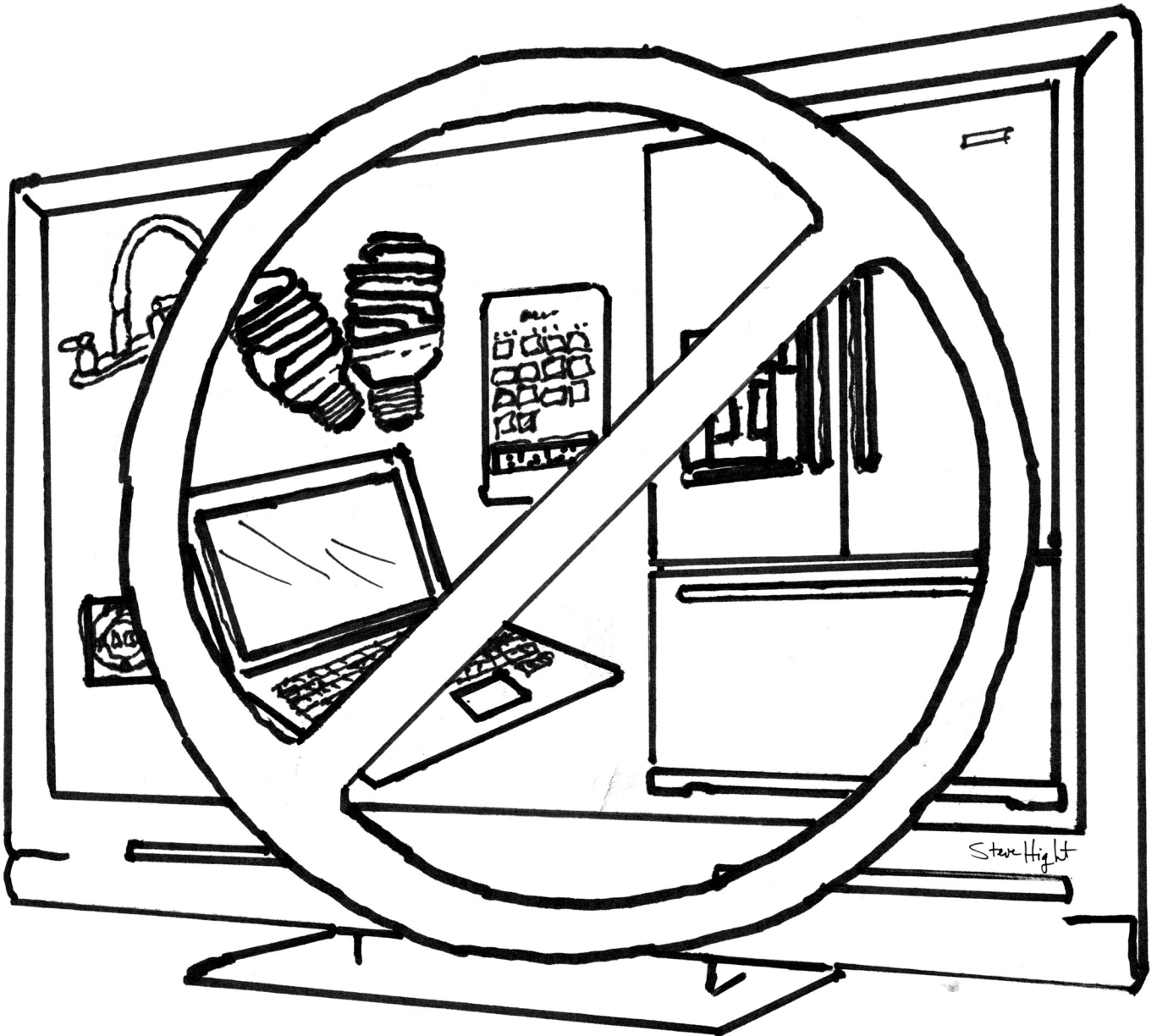
Why is it called Fruita?



Fruita was started as a town of fruit growers and their families. There were also farmers, ranchers, and shopkeepers. Delicious fruit – especially apples – was grown in Fruita, but in about 1910 an insect called the codling moth started destroying most of the apples. By 1920 most fruit growers had switched to farm crops like potatoes.

How old is Fruita?

1884



Fruita was started in 1884. That was more than 125 years ago. Your great-grandparents weren't even born yet. In those days, most towns in America had no electricity or running water, and most things we use every day, like TV sets, cars, and refrigerators, hadn't been invented yet.

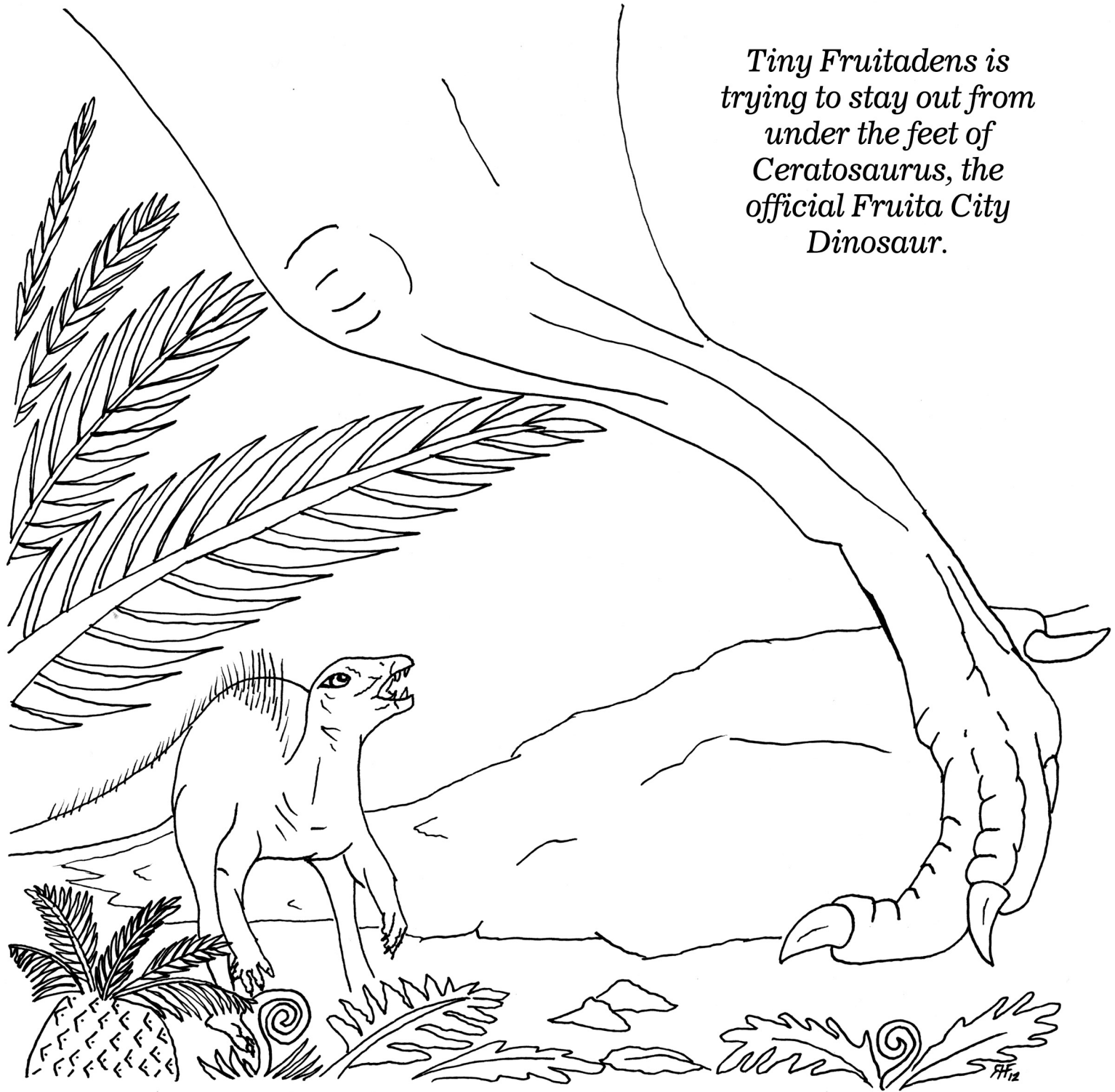
Who founded Fruita?



Fruita was started by several families, but the most important founder was William Edgar Pabor. Mr. Pabor helped start the Colorado cities of Greeley, Colorado Springs, and Fort Collins before starting Fruita.

What about dinosaurs?

Tiny Fruitadens is trying to stay out from under the feet of Ceratosaurus, the official Fruita City Dinosaur.



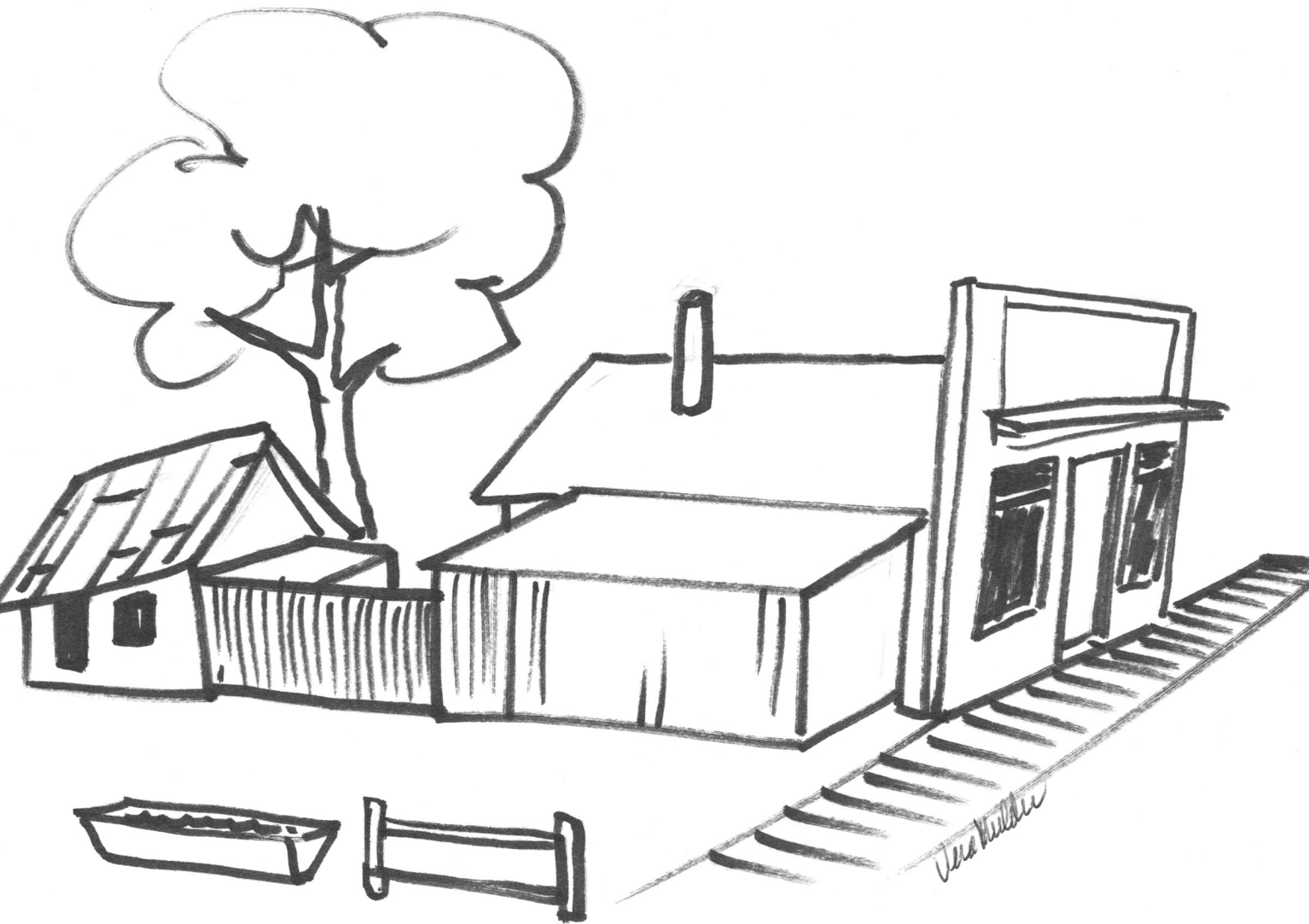
Millions of years ago, dinosaurs and other prehistoric animals lived in the Fruita area. Sometimes their fossil bones are still found here. The smallest dinosaur ever found in North America, called Fruitadens, was found in Fruita and is named after our town.

Who were the first people here?



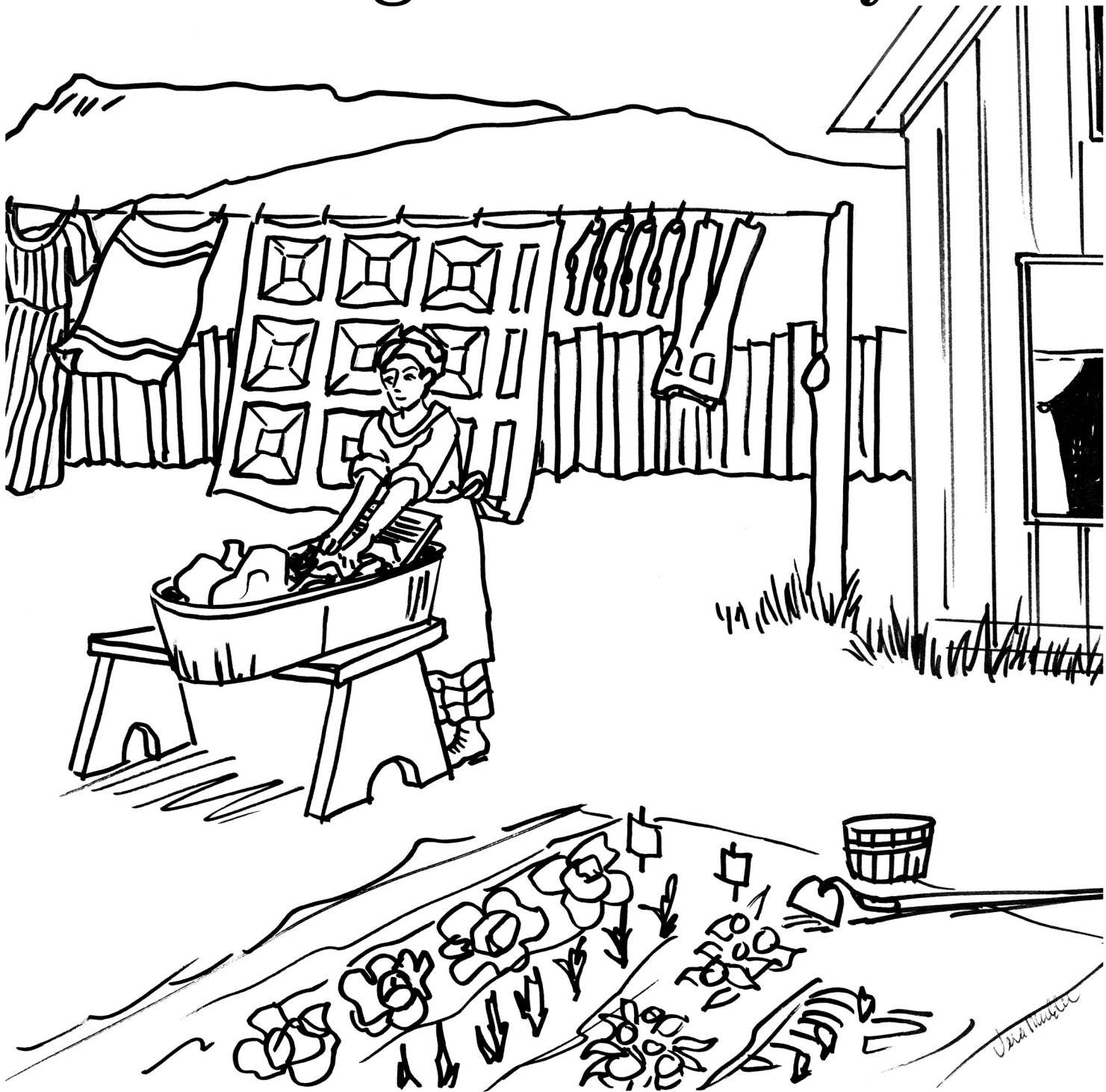
American Indians called Utes lived in Western Colorado before they were forced to move by the U.S. government in 1881. They were hunters who moved from place to place to find the best water, food, and weather.

What was Fruita like in the old days?



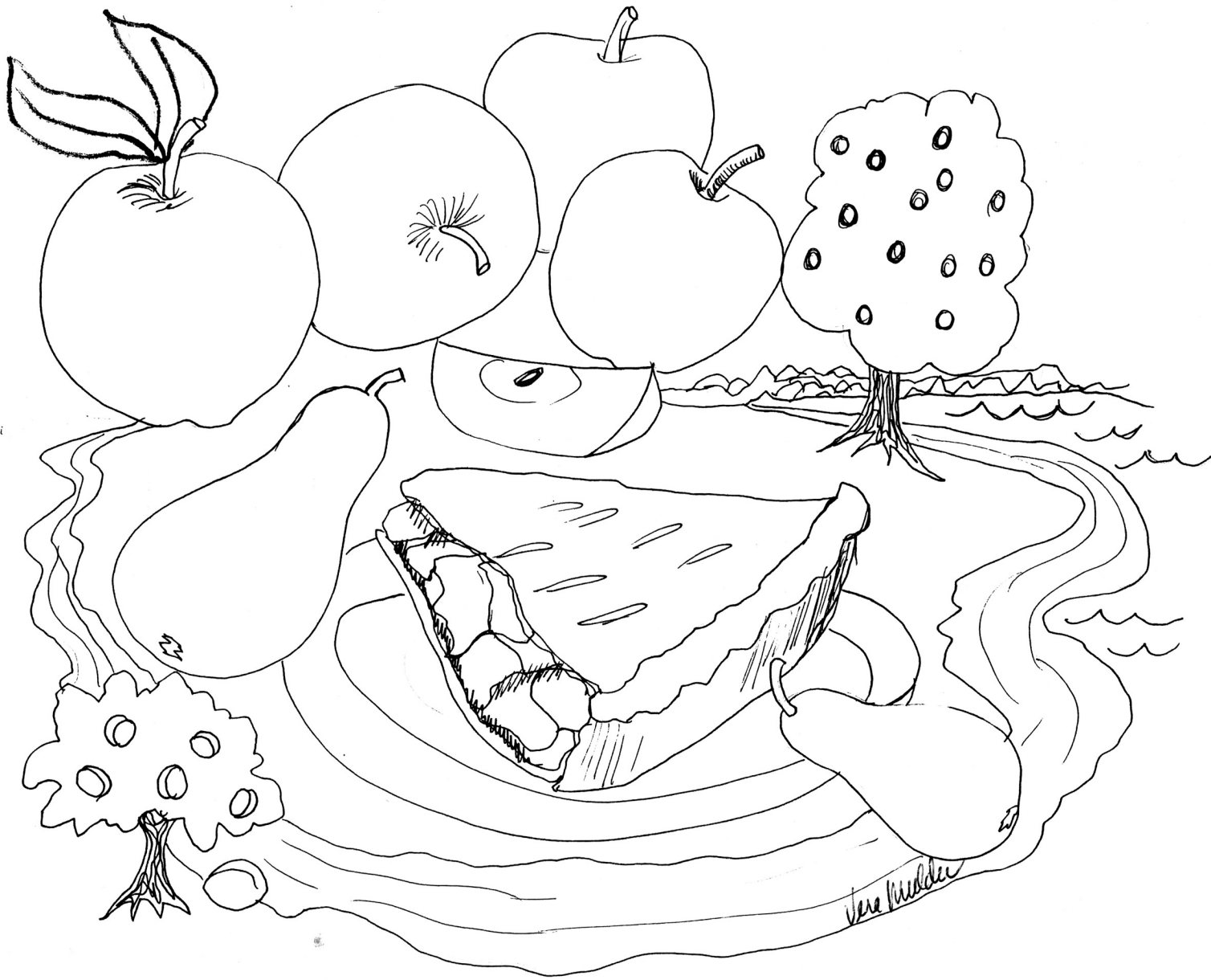
Fruita was a much smaller town. Most houses were much smaller, too. The streets were made of dirt, and the earliest sidewalks were made of wood. Most of the people living here also worked and shopped in Fruita.

What was it like working in the old days?



There weren't as many machines to do work for people, so the people had to work very hard. People had to do most of their work by hand. They also made many of the things they used by hand.

Why were orchards, farms, and ranches important?



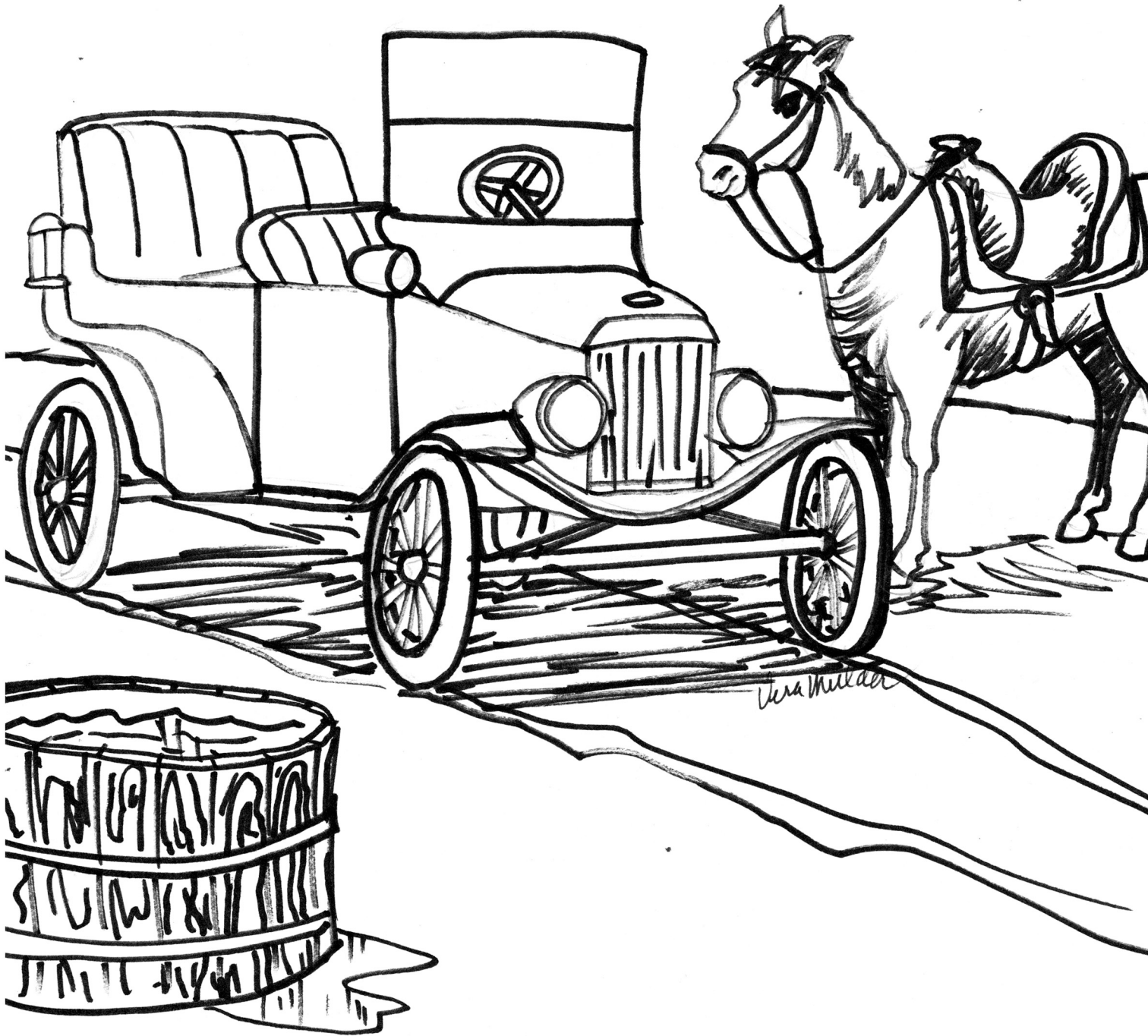
People had to grow or raise most of their own fruit, vegetables, and meat. Fruit was grown in orchards. Vegetables and grain were grown on farms. Animals, like cattle, were raised on ranches. There were no supermarkets or refrigerators then.

What was school like in the old days?



In Fruita's early years, children of all ages went to the same school. Later on there were different schools for elementary, junior high, and high school students. The schools were very similar to the schools you go to today, but much smaller.

How did people travel?



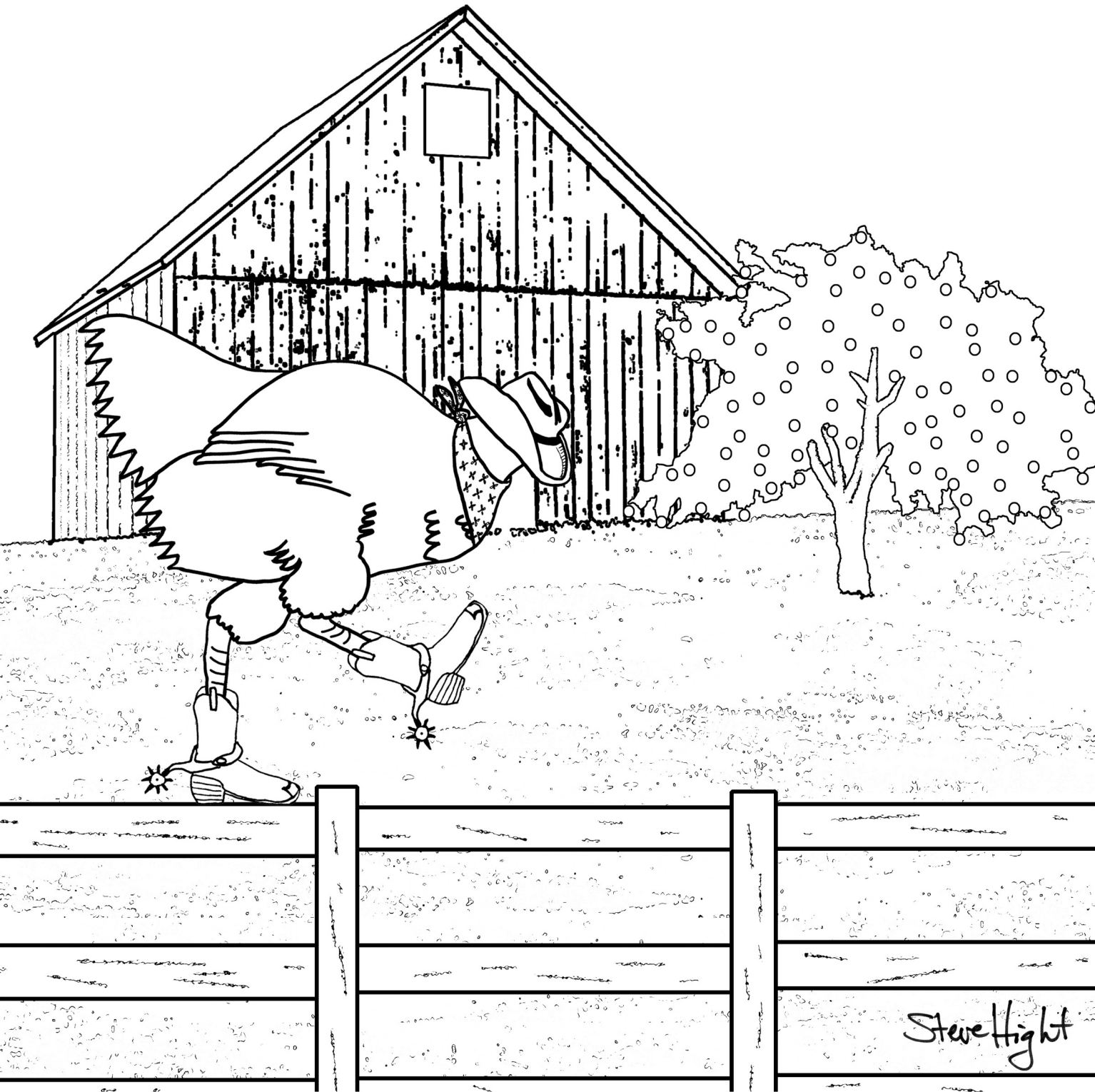
People walked, or they rode horses, bicycles, and wagons pulled by horses. They sometimes rode on the electric railway called the Interurban when they went to Grand Junction. If they traveled farther they took the train. Later, they traveled by car.

How did people have fun?



People joined clubs and went to picnics and dances. There were many festivals in Circle Park. Baseball, basketball, football, and rodeos were all popular. Bicycling, hiking, and horseback riding were also very popular, especially with young people.

Who was “Miracle Mike”?



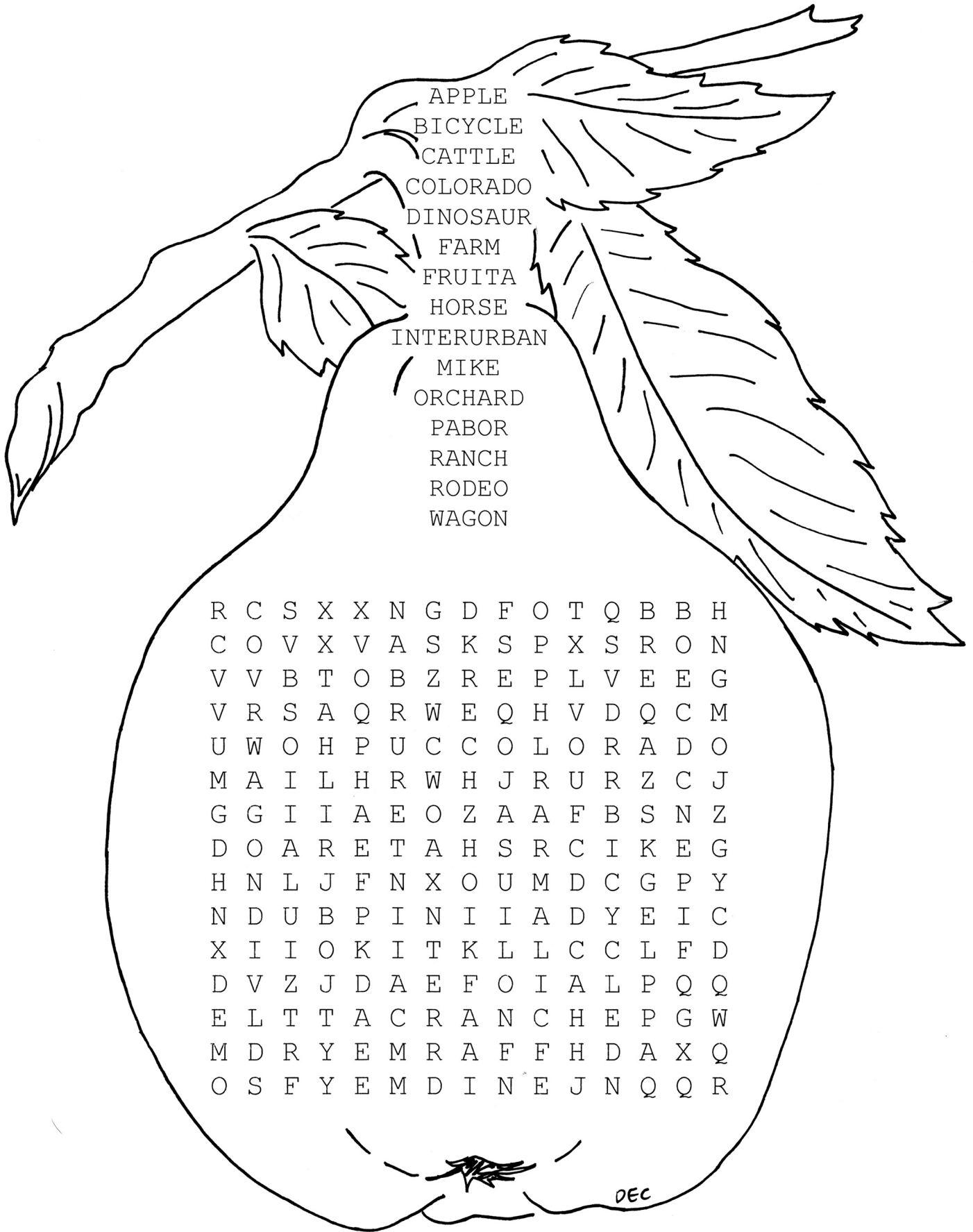
One day in 1945, Lloyd Olsen’s family decided they wanted chicken for dinner. Lloyd chopped off a rooster’s head with an axe, but the bird survived without his head for over a year and became famous! Today we honor the rooster’s spirit with the “Mike the Headless Chicken Festival.”

What is Fruita like now?



Today Fruita is famous for mountain biking, festivals, and Colorado National Monument. It is a very nice town filled with very nice people – very nice people like you!

Word Find

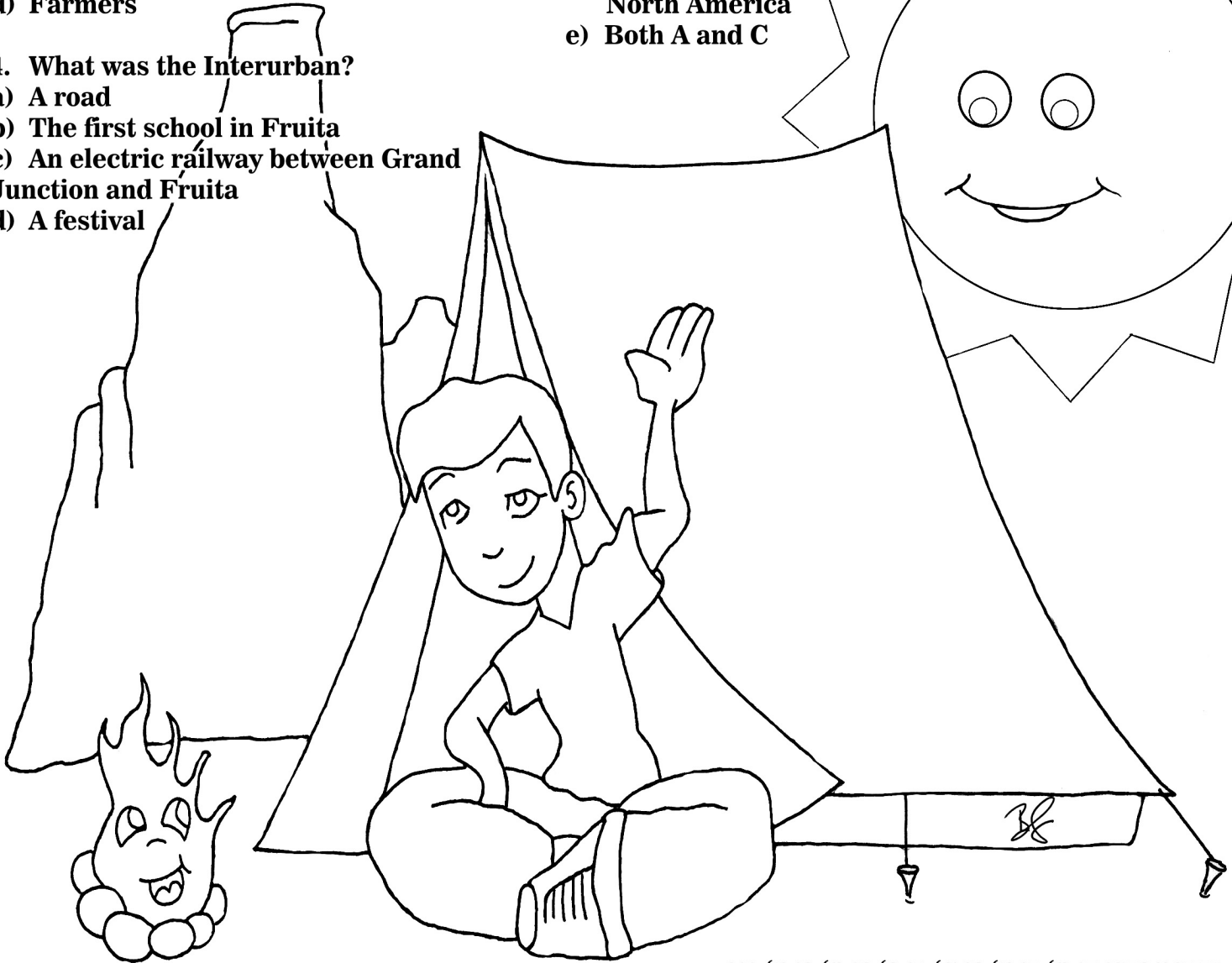


APPLE
BICYCLE
CATTLE
COLORADO
DINOSAUR
FARM
FRUITA
HORSE
INTERURBAN
MIKE
ORCHARD
PABOR
RANCH
RODEO
WAGON

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

Multiple Choice

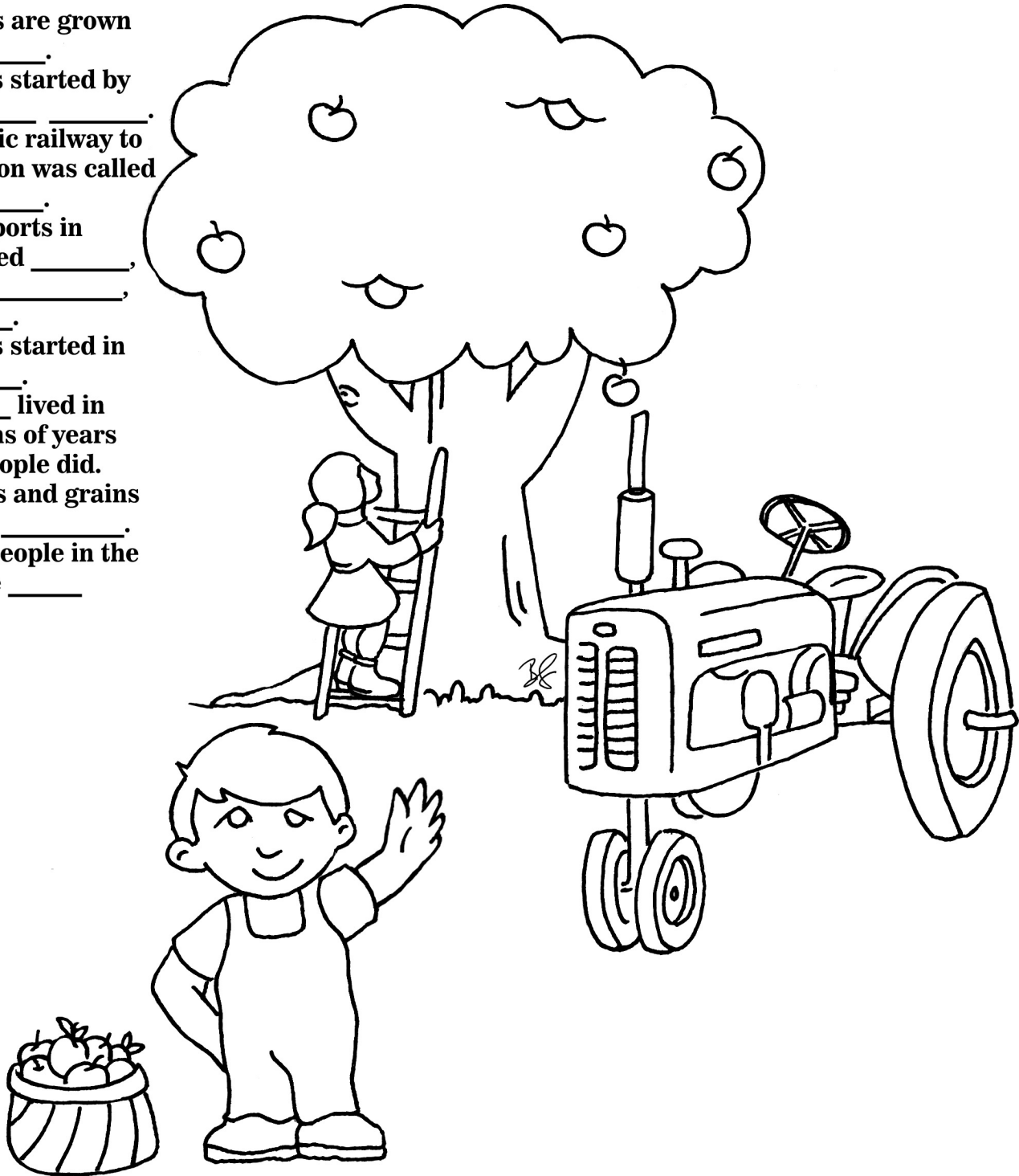
1. Fruita was founded by?
 - a) Mr. Williams
 - b) Mike the Headless Chicken
 - c) William Edgar
 - d) William Edgar Pabor
2. Fruita was named after?
 - a) Fruit
 - b) Vegetables
 - c) A river
 - d) Mr. Pabor's dog
3. Who lived in the Fruita area first?
 - a) Mike the Headless Chicken
 - b) Ute Indians
 - c) Cavemen
 - d) Farmers
4. What was the Interurban?
 - a) A road
 - b) The first school in Fruita
 - c) An electric railway between Grand Junction and Fruita
 - d) A festival
5. What is an orchard?
 - a) A vegetable garden
 - b) A festival held in Circle Park
 - c) A place where cattle are raised
 - d) A place where fruit trees are grown
6. Where is Fruita?
 - a) Colorado
 - b) Wyoming
 - c) Arizona
 - d) Montana
7. What is Fruitadens?
 - a) A dinosaur named after Fruita
 - b) A storage place for apples and other fruit
 - c) The smallest dinosaur ever discovered in North America
 - e) Both A and C



Answers: 1. d; 2. a; 3. b; 4. c; 5. d; 6. a; 7. e

Fill In the Blanks

1. Fruit trees are grown on an _____.
2. Fruita was started by _____.
3. The electric railway to Grand Junction was called the _____.
4. Popular sports in Fruita included _____, _____, _____, and _____.
5. Fruita was started in the year _____.
6. _____ lived in Fruita millions of years before any people did.
7. Vegetables and grains are grown on _____.
8. The first people in the area were the _____.



Answers: 1. orchard; 2. William Edgar Pabor; 3. Interurban; 4. Choose any 4: football, baseball, rodeo, basketball, bicycling, hiking, horseback riding; 5. 1884; 6. dinosaurs; 7. farms; 8. Ute Indians

Glossary

Cattle – A group of cows.

Colorado National Monument – The large group of rocks and canyons just south of Fruita. It is run by the National Park Service.

Interurban – The name of the electric railway that ran between Fruita and Grand Junction. It was used to carry both people and fruit. The name means “between cities.”

Orchard – A type of farm where fruit trees are grown.

Prehistoric – This word refers to the times before humans wrote down history.

Ranch – A type of farm where cattle are raised for food, and horses are raised for riding and other work.

Rodeo – A fun event that gives ranchers and cowboys a chance to show off their skills with horses and cattle.

Shopkeeper – A person who owns and runs a small store.

