

**Exploring Rural Kentucky Through Documentary Art:
Creelsboro Landing, 1890s - Documentary Art Interactive
Unit 1 - Lesson Set 2 - Fishing**

- For the Student -

BACKGROUND READING

When Mr. Reeder said, “The river gave a lot” in the video [Rural Economy](#), he might have been thinking of a scene just like this – two men on the riverbank with their catch of fish. Whether fishing for recreation or for sustenance, fishing has always been part of life along the Cumberland River. Today, many anglers are drawn to the Cumberland River.



The Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery was constructed in 1975 just below the Wolf Creek Dam (the dam that created Lake Cumberland). The station produces brown, brook, cutthroat, and rainbow trout. The trout are shipped to over 100 public fishing locations, including the Cumberland River downstream from the dam.

The fish population has changed, and so, too, have the boats used by fishermen. Although some anglers still use johnboats powered by oars, like the one in the painting, others have added motors to their boats. Some prefer canoes and kayaks.

Despite these changes, the satisfaction of a successful fishing trip remains!

*A detail from Creelsboro Landing, 1890s by
Dennis Thrasher (2018).*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

After reading the BACKGROUND READING, consider these questions:

1. Have you ever been fishing? Where and when? What kind of fish did you catch? What equipment did you use?
2. Have you been out in a boat? Where and when? What kind of boat was it?

After examining the vignette, consider these questions:

1. What do you think the two men might be talking about? What do you see that makes you think that?
2. What is the relationship between the two men? What do you see that makes you think that?
3. What might happen next?