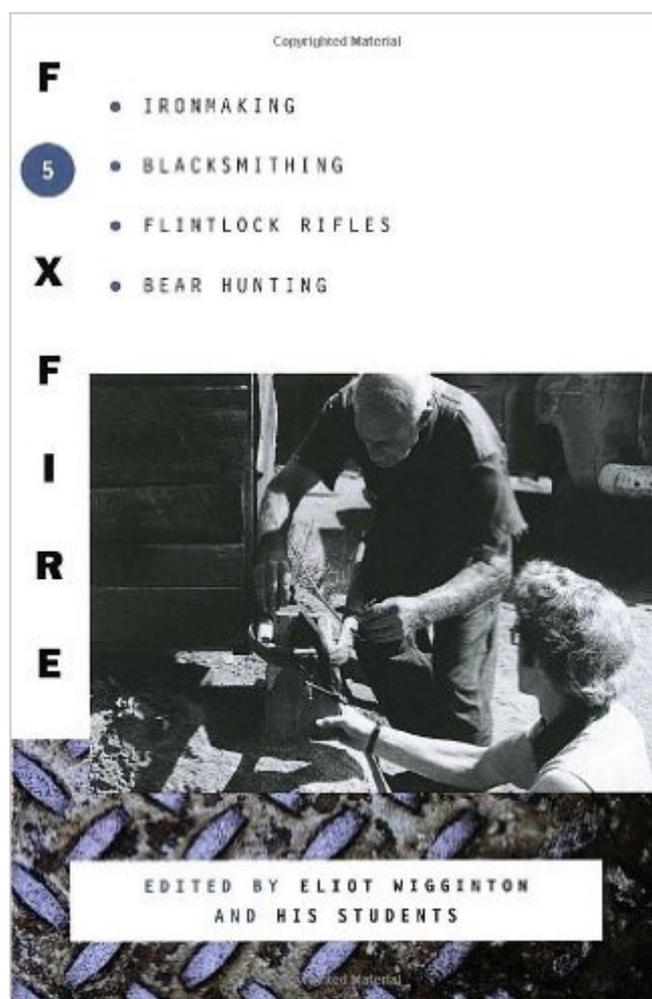


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# Foxfire 5: Ironmaking, Blacksmithing, Flintlock Rifles, Bear Hunting, And Other Affairs Of Plain Living (Foxfire (Paperback))



## Synopsis

The fifth Foxfire volume includes rain-making, blacksmithing, bear hunting, flintlock rifles, and more.

## Book Information

Series: Foxfire (Paperback)

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (74 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #63,388 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Metal Work](#) #31 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Sociology > Rural](#) #151 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Folklore & Mythology](#)

## Customer Reviews

There are some good pictures of gun smiths in this book, performing various techniques. Also a pretty good history of gun smiths, if that sort of thing interests you. The guns they show are flint lock. The black smithing, horse shoeing and iron making are pretty slim. How to make a horse shoe, cow bell, and stove poker are about it. They discuss how they rebuilt the iron furnace, but not how to use it. I would recommend this book only to black powder gunsmiths, or those interested in rifle history.

I was first introduced to these books by my father and I have a daughter who is fascinated with learning to survive off the grid. All of the foxfire series have wonderful tips and realistic advice with great photos. I believe these are truly a must have series for anybody who wants to learn the old ways.

One of our nation's treasures is being lost one person at a time, and because of Eliot Wigginton, at least some of the treasure is being documented. The people of Appalachia have been marginalized and treated as backwoods hicks and hillbillies, only because of their poverty. That is what makes the richness of their culture all the more amazing. These people live on what an average family

throws away every day. They're frugal, resourceful, and highly intelligent. This book only serves to prove it. If you haven't spent time with hill people, your life is incomplete.

All of the Firefox volumes are well worth owning, both for the informational content and the anecdotes and stories of the past they catalog. We bought this book primarily to continue trying to complete the series, but also because our housemate is (coincidentally) taking blacksmithing, welding, and machining courses. Like all Foxfire books, there are lots of stories about life back in the "old days", but the book also has basic information on making a few different items. As we are building a forge, and I am going to be learning to make small items myself, I expect that the informational content will be quite useful, though it is far from encyclopedic in its coverage of this art. That being said, there's not all that much in depth material out in the literary/textbook world that actually covers the vanishing art of the smith, so ANY accurate information is welcome--and this particular Firefox book does have accurate information presented in a clear, easy to understand format, though not nearly as much as I would like. The stories, however, are as I would expect from this series, and Eliot Wiggington--well-written and interesting slices of life with the occasional luminous phrase or highly evocative passage. For leisure reading with a side of good useful information, it's pretty tough to beat any of the original Foxfire books, so it's well worth the price.

As one reviewer has pointed out, there are more words in this one, and less pictures than previous works. This work, Volume V, is like the others. A wonderful history of how it was. In this day and age of having most needs met and something for everyone on the Wal-mart shelf, we tend to forget just what it was like in our not too distant past. These books, the Foxfire books, brings to light skills, attitudes and a way of life that is all but forgotten. This is a good thing. When a people lose their history, they lose part of their soul. As the title of this work states, from blacksmithing to rain making, this work addresses many of the old forgotten skills and there is so much more. The editors have done a wonderful job. They have made a very honest effort to replicate the dialect of those places and times and I feel that this is a big part of the charm of these books. I am old enough to have known many of the kinds of folks featured in these books, being only one generation past them, and have a great appreciation for what and how they did all the little things we take so for granted now. I might also suggest that you actually try some of the things mentioned in these volumes. It will give you even more of an appreciation for what they did, and hey, who knows, the skill you develop just might come in handy one of these days! Recommend this and the other Foxfire books highly.

Finally bought all the Foxfire books for myself, having seen them years ago but never owned them. They are fascinating to read, and I bet from time to time you will use something in them for your own. I Love It!

What can I say, the Foxfire books have been a favorite since they first came out. Cultural anthropology mixed with wonder mixed with nostalgia mixed with wonderful ideas for artists and craftsmen. Collect the whole set.

These books, the entire collection, are a wealth of information of how self-sufficient previous generations provided for their families, great interviews of farm and country people of days gone by. My son read everyone he could get his hands on when he was about 13 years old.... Good insight into the 'old ways' and great history of how things are made!

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