

The Nation Expands Westward to the Pacific

RETEACHING ACTIVITY

Chapter 12, Section 2

Directions: Look at the map of the United States and read about the activities that helped expand the nation. Then complete the sentences at the bottom of the page. You will then understand how Americans expanded westward to the Pacific.

Oregon Territory

The accounts of fertile soil and abundant rainfall lured settlers to Oregon. People traveled west on the Oregon Trail, a route that linked Independence, Missouri, and Portland, Oregon. Some walked, while others rode in Conestoga wagons—covered wagons pulled by oxen.

1846: Britain and the United States extended the boundary along the forty-ninth parallel from the Rocky Mountains to Puget Sound.

California

1830's: Taken from Indians by Mexico.

Polk offered to buy California, but Mexico refused. By the 1840's, there were seven hundred United States settlers in California and more on the way.

Salt Lake City

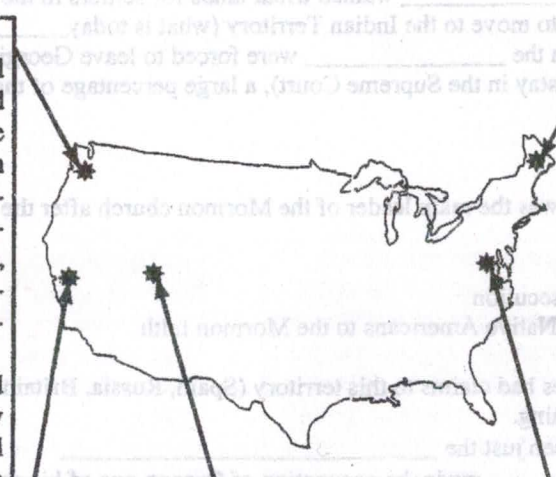
Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, a religious group today known as Mormons, went west to escape attacks by anti-Mormons. Their founder and leader, Joseph Smith, was murdered in Nauvoo, Illinois. A new leader, Brigham Young, founded the Mormon settlement of Salt Lake City in 1847 in what later became Utah. Young thought his people would be safe in an unpleasant land that no one else wanted.

Northeastern Border

The War of 1812 did not fully resolve the American-Canadian boundary. In 1839 a conflict between Canadian lumberjacks and Maine militiamen over land rights took place. Known as the Aroostook War, it ended with an agreement in 1842 negotiated by Daniel Webster of the United States and Lord Ashburton of Britain. The agreement divided the territory evenly.

Washington, D.C.

Westward expansion was the single campaign issue of 1844. Presidential hopefuls were James K. Polk, a Democratic dark-horse (little-known but unexpectedly well-supported) candidate, and Henry Clay, a Whig. A small third political party, the Liberty party, helped Polk win the election.



- The Aroostook War took place between _____ and Canadian lumberjacks.
- Some people rode to the Oregon Territory in _____.
- The Oregon Trail stretched between _____ and _____.
- The Mormons were founded by _____.
- Brigham Young moved the Mormons west to _____.
- The single campaign issue in the election of 1844 was _____.
- The small third political party that influenced the election of 1844 was the _____.
- _____ was elected President in 1844.

MANIFEST DESTINY/ EXPANSION NOTES

Manifest Destiny: The desire for America to control all territory from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Reasons for Expansion: Economic gain, more land, fresh land, escape persecution (religious or political), escape (law or debt).

Louisiana Purchase (1803): Bought by Jefferson from France for \$15 million

- Missouri Compromise (1820): Had to address the issue of slavery in the new territories
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- Indian Removal Act: _____ wanted tribal lands for settlers in the Western territories so he forced tribes to move to the Indian Territory (what is today _____)
 - Trail of Tears: When the _____ were forced to leave Georgia (even after winning the fight to stay in the Supreme Court), a large percentage of the population died on the way.

Utah: Settled by Mormons

- _____ was the main leader of the Mormon church after the founder, Joseph Smith, was murdered.
- Reasons for Expansion:
 - Escape religious persecution
 - A chance to convert Native Americans to the Mormon faith

Oregon: Originally 4 separate countries had claims to this territory (Spain, Russia, Britain and U.S.). This land was very fertile and good for farming.

- The dispute was finally between just the _____
- President _____ made the occupation of Oregon one of his campaign issues in 1844
- American's popularized the slogan "_____ " to show that they wanted all of the desired territory, not to split any land with Britain.

Texas: American settlers went to the area owned by Mexico because the land was very cheap and good for cash crops like cotton.

- Americans didn't want to follow Mexico's laws so they fought for independence
- _____ was a stand-off between the Texas' settlers and the Mexican Army, the Mexican Army slaughtered the Texans. "Remember the Alamo" became a rallying cry for future battles.
- The _____ won and claimed their independence. When they asked to be annexed (taken in) by America, many _____ protested because they did not want another slave state added to the Union.

Mexican War: A dispute over the _____ led to an open conflict between the United States and Mexico.

- American troops easily defeated the Mexican Army
- The United States paid _____ for the Mexican Cession (land taken from Mexico as a result of the war). America gained territory in California, Nevada, New Mexico, parts of Texas, etc. These were all part of the terms of the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo.

Gadsden Purchase (1853): A small portion of land in present day Arizona was purchased from Mexico to complete a transcontinental railroad. This completed the border of the continental United States.