

STORY MAP GRAPHIC ORGANIZER

America's Westward Journey

Instructional Time Goal - 45 - 60 minutes

Story Map Link: <https://arcg.is/aKW9X>

STORY MAP DIRECTIONS	GUIDING QUESTIONS with sample student answers
<p>America's Journey Westward</p> <p>Look at the map of the United States and observe the different sections outlined on the map?</p>	<p>What does the map show (physical characteristics, human patterns)?</p> <p>1783 United States territory, rivers, areas of high elevation, etc...</p> <p>What else did you observe about the map?</p> <p>Mississippi River serves as western boundary of the United States</p> <p>What questions do you have about this map?</p> <p>I would like to see the state boundaries shown</p> <p>What other information do you need to make sense of this map?</p> <p>State labels and boundaries</p>
<p>The Louisiana Purchase</p> <p>Read the text and select the large center portion of the map to learn about the Louisiana Purchase?</p>	<p>How was Thomas Jefferson able to double the size of the United States in 1803?</p> <p>By purchasing the Louisiana Purchase</p> <p>What role did Lewis and Clark play in American exploration?</p> <p>Gathering huge amounts of data from the unknown region of the Louisiana Purchase</p> <p>Why is this map significant or important?</p> <p>shows the size of the Louisiana Purchase is contrast to the US prior to its purchase</p> <p>About what does this map leave you curious?</p> <p>Why did France sell so much territory so cheap?</p>
<p>The Spanish Cession of Florida</p> <p>Read the text and select the area of Florida on the map to learn about the purchase of Florida from Spain.</p>	<p>When and how did the United States purchase Florida from Spain?</p> <p>1819, the US assumed \$5 million in claims by American citizens against Spain</p> <p>What was the name of the treaty?</p> <p>Adams-Onis Treaty</p> <p>Did this treaty affect disputes in Oregon as well? How so?</p> <p>Yes, it ended Spanish claims to the Oregon Territory</p> <p>Why do you think this map was used with this lesson?</p> <p>To show the acquisition of Florida Territory by the US</p>

	<p>What else could be included in this map? Landmarks, cities, dates, geographical features</p>
<p>The Oregon Treaty</p> <p>Read the text and select the area of the Oregon Territory on the map to learn about the addition of the Oregon Territory to the United States. Click on the link in the Map Note to learn more about the creation of the Oregon Territory.</p>	<p>Who jointly occupied Oregon along with the United States from 1818 until 1846? The US and Spain</p> <p>Where was Oregon divided when The Oregon treaty settled that dispute? At the Canadian border</p> <p>From the Map Note link to the Library of Congress site: On what date was the Oregon Territory created by Congress? August 14, 1848</p> <p>What states would be made out of the Oregon territory? Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana</p> <p>Look at the picture shown and describe the landscape of the Oregon Territory? Mountainous, beautiful</p>
<p>Manifest Destiny</p> <p>Read the text about the belief of Manifest Destiny and select the Map Note located on Washington DC. Follow the link on the Map Note to see primary source artwork inspired by the belief in Manifest Destiny.</p>	<p>How did expansionist justify the territorial growth of the United States? The belief of Manifest Destiny</p> <p>What is the belief of Manifest Destiny? The belief that it was God's will for America to control all of North America.</p> <p>From the linked picture: What place or region does the image show? The Western frontier</p> <p>What was the likely motivation of the creator of this image? Inspire Westward expansion</p> <p>Why is this image significant? Represents the expansionist mindset of Americans in this era</p> <p>What groups of people are represented in this image? Settlers, Native Americans, cowboys</p>

<p>The Annexation of Texas</p> <p>Read the text and select the area of Texas on the map to learn about the annexation of Texas.</p>	<p>When did Texas become independent from Mexico? 1835</p> <p>Who did the Texans elect as their President? Sam Houston</p> <p>When did Houston request that Texas be annexed by the United States? 1835</p> <p>Why did it take nearly 10 years before the annexation? The slavery issue and concern over adding another slave state to the Union</p> <p>What else do you observe about the map? The Texas territory includes most of modern day Oklahoma</p> <p>What questions do you have about the map? Answers may vary</p> <p>What seems to be missing from the map? Landmarks, geographical features, etc.</p>
<p>The Mexican Cession</p> <p>Read the text and select the area of the Southwest Territory to learn about the Mexican Cession. Follow the link on the Map Note to see a primary source excerpt from the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.</p>	<p>What event led to the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo? Victory of the US over Mexico in the Mexican-American War</p> <p>When was the treaty signed? 1848</p> <p>How much land was gained from Mexico? 1.2 million square miles</p> <p>What river was established as the southern border of Texas? Rio Grande</p> <p>From the link to the document: Why is this document significant? Details the terms of the acquisition of the Mexican Territory</p> <p>When was this document written? 1848</p> <p>Is this the entire document or just a selection from a larger document? It is only a selection from a larger document</p>
<p>The California Gold Rush</p> <p>Read the text about the California gold rush and look at the map to see the distance that needed to be covered to go to California in search of gold?</p>	<p>When was gold discovered in California? 1848</p> <p>What were miners who rushed to California in search of gold called? Forty-niners</p> <p>How much did the population of California grow as a result of the gold rush? rapidly</p> <p>What granted California statehood?</p>

	<p>The Compromise of 1850</p> <p>Why was this compromise a source of conflict in the nation?</p> <p>Entered as a free state changing the balance of slave states in Congress</p>
<p>The Gadsden Purchase</p> <p>Read the text and select the small area below the southwest territory of the Mexican Cession to learn about the Gadsden Purchase? Select the Map Note located on Mexico City and follow the link to the Library of Congress to learn additional information.</p>	<p>When was the Gadsden Purchase made? 1853</p> <p>Why was the Gadsden Purchase made? Railroads</p> <p>How much land was purchased? 29,000</p> <p>From the link: How much did the United States pay for the Gadsden Purchase? 10 million</p> <p>Who was James Gadsden? The US Minister to Mexico</p> <p>What other dispute did it settle? The exact location of the Mexican American border</p> <p>Look at the image of Mexico City provided in the link: what does the picture tell you about Mexico City? It looks like an advanced modern city of the time period.</p>
<p>Railroads Across the West</p> <p>Read the text about the building of the transcontinental railroad and use the GIS map of the railroad to analyze how this railroad would have affected the lives of the people living there.</p>	<p>When was the transcontinental railroad begun? 1863</p> <p>When was it completed? Where? 1869 Promontory Utah</p> <p>What geographic features seen on the map would have created a challenge for the railroad? Rocky Mountains</p> <p>What modern day states does it travel through? Nebraska, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada</p> <p>Looking at the railroads in the east compared to the west consider how much more connected the population of the east was in contrast to the population in the west. How does this change the lives of the people living there? The people of the East had access to easy travel, supplies, and communication. A link to civilization.</p>

The Journey West

In closing read the text of the last section and look at the map considering the human element of expansion and the role it played in the lives of both Native Americans as well as settlers.

How did wars play a role in American expansion?

The acquisition of territories in war led to large land increases

How did the belief of Manifest Destiny play a role in American expansion? Without the Manifest Destiny would the fate of the American Indians have been different?

The idea of Manifest Destiny allowed people to morally justify the taking of Native American land. Yes, without this idea the fate of the Native American would most certainly have been different.

How often was land purchased as opposed to obtained by treaty following armed conflict?

With the exception of the Mexican territory land was often gained from other countries by purchase however it was taken from its Native American residents repeatedly by force as well as treaty.

Where did you notice the conflict between slave vs. free states interfere with expansion?

This issue arose repeatedly with the entrance of each new state into the Union most notably in the cases of Texas, California, Kansas, and Nebraska.

CLOSURE: How did the rapid expansion of the United States in the 1800's shape the United States today? Answers will vary but will often include mention of current cities, highways, and state boundaries. Answers are not limited to these topics.