

Traveling West

Learn about people on the move by completing one of the following activities or projects.

Reading and Writing:

1. Write a book report on a novel, biography, or work of nonfiction from this time period. Examples are *Little House on the Prairie*, *Rachel's Journal*, *the Ballad of Lucy Whipple*. Nonfiction selections involving the Oregon Trail, The Pony Express, The Donner Party, etc.
2. Write an original story, narrative poem or diary that takes place during the 1840's to 1850's.
3. Create a scrapbook, similar to *Rachel's Journal* that would include illustrations and souvenirs that an early pioneer would have had.
4. Write a short research report about life on the Oregon Trail.

Illustrating:

1. Draw pictures of a day in the life of a pioneer along the trail starting from the morning until going to bed at night. Write captions for each one.
2. Illustrate a supply list that shows all the provisions a family would need to take on their journey to their new home.
3. Make a collage of photos, internet pictures and illustrations of the Oregon Trail. Include a map showing the trails across they took west. Include captions.

Build a Model:

1. Make a model of a covered wagon.
2. Making a diorama of life along the trail.

Cooking and Crafts:

1. Copy down the recipe and prepare a food from that time period such as learning how to churn butter or something that would be cooked over a campfire. Bring it in to share with the class.
2. Stitch a small sampler.
3. Sew a small quilt or quilt block.
4. Make a rag doll.
5. Make a pioneer girl bonnet.

Presentation:

1. Make a single concept video or skit showing something that would have happened to the early pioneers (no longer than a few minutes).