



Presents

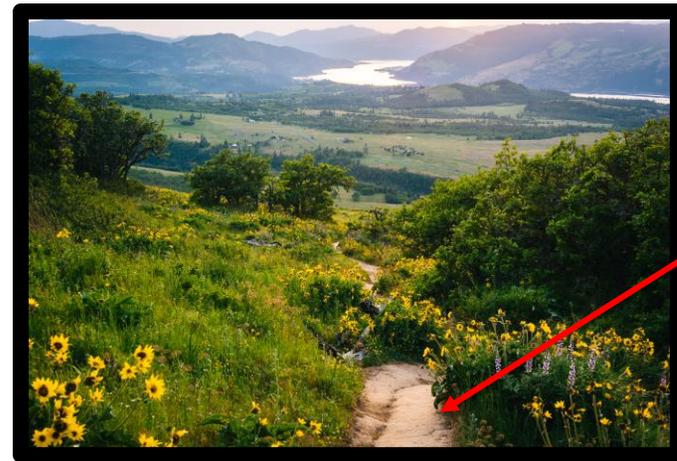
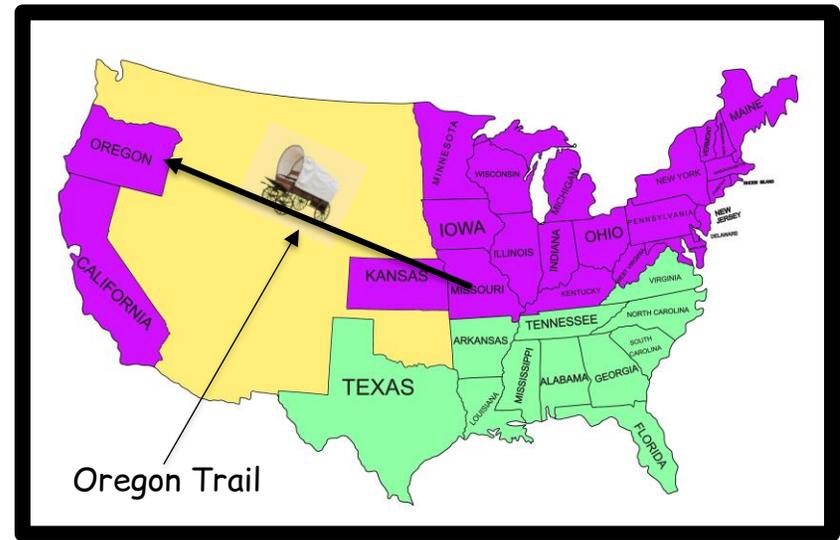
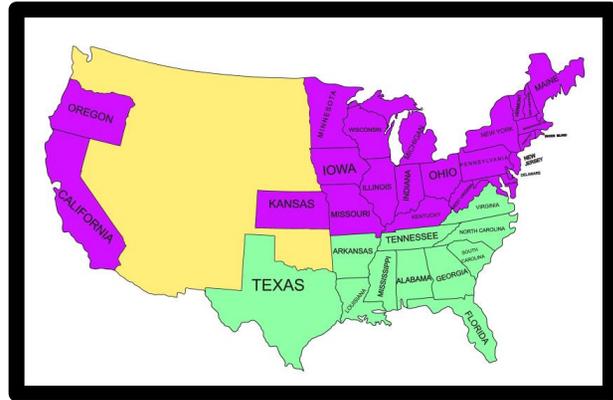
## Oregon Trail



By Janet Giel-Romo, Ed.D.

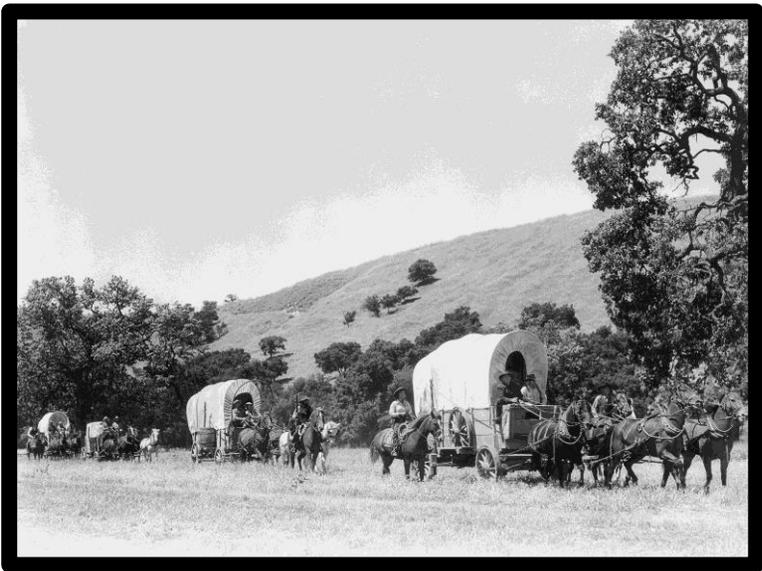
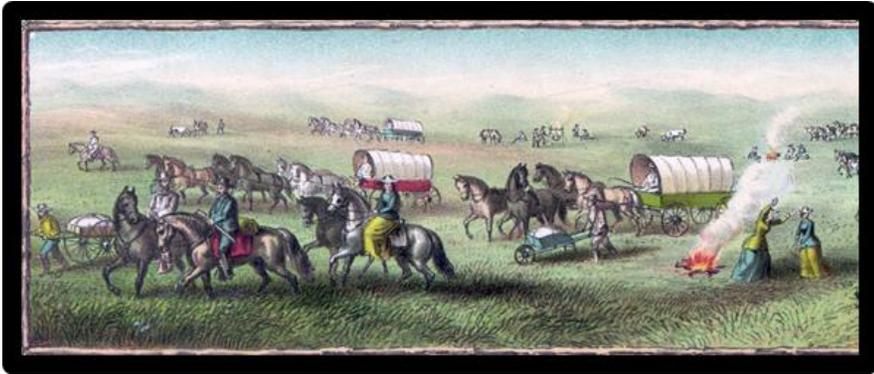


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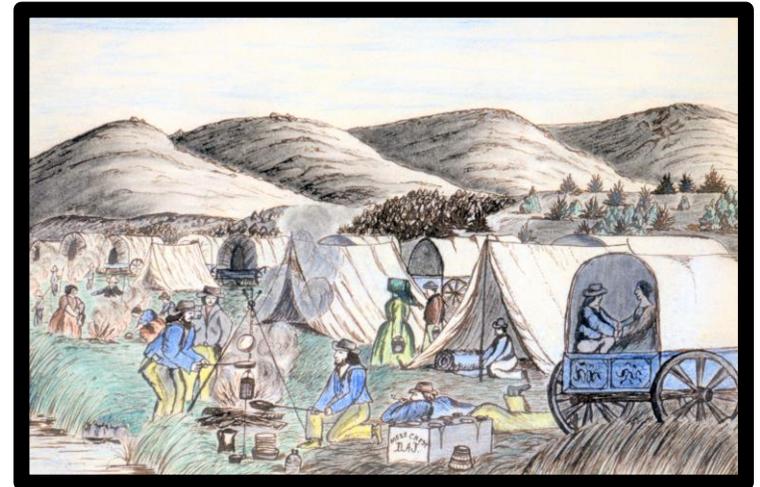


Pioneers were people who wanted to move out west. They wanted to farm or find gold. Back then, not many people had moved out west yet.

In 1841 a group of pioneers left Missouri to go to Oregon. The pioneers followed a dirt road called the Oregon Trail.



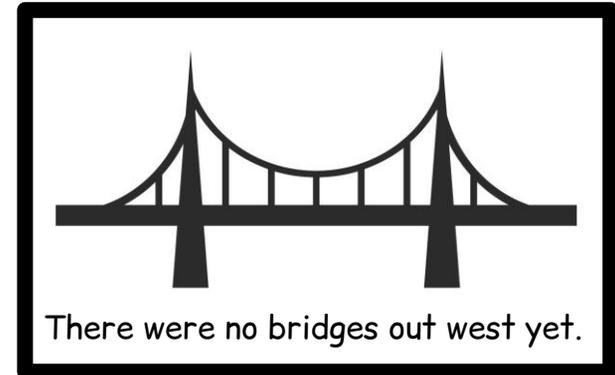
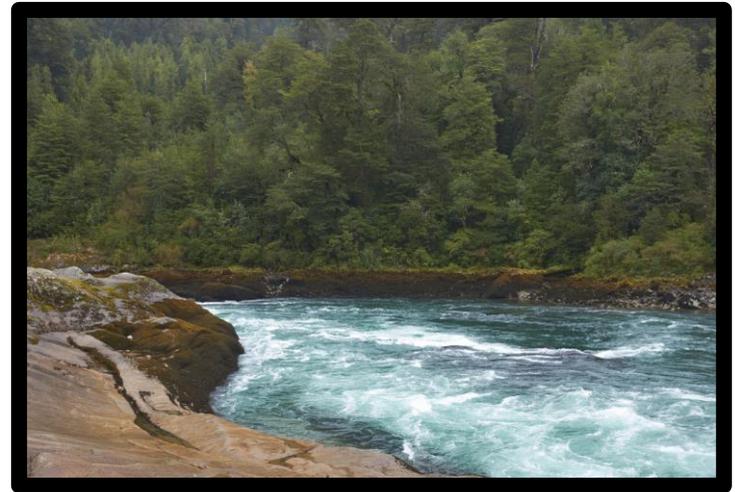
The pioneers traveled together. They helped each other. They walked about 15 miles per day. Their group was called a **wagon train**.



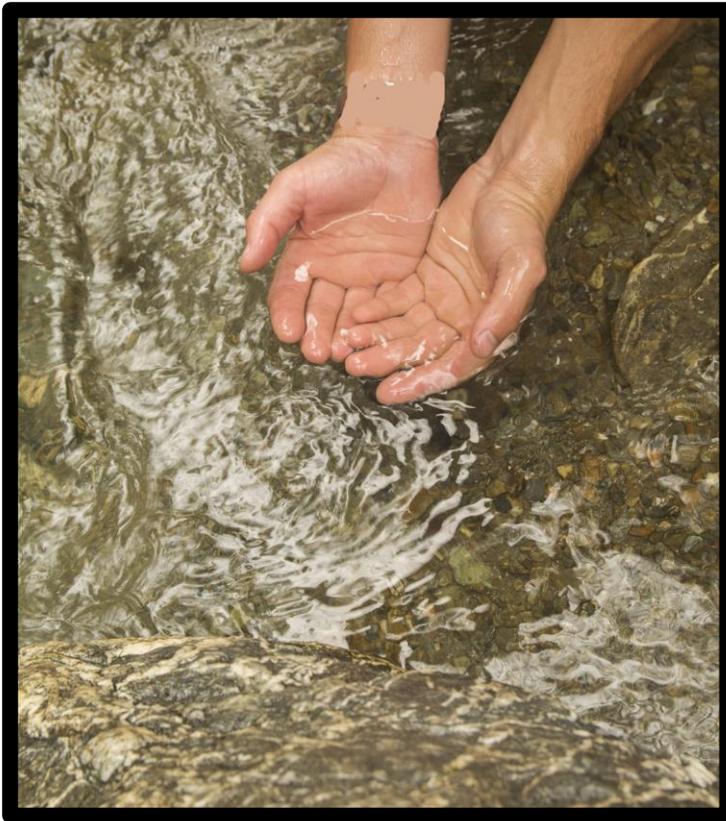
Each night they set up camp. They stopped to eat and rest.



The Oregon trail went through the **Rocky Mountains**. It was difficult. Sometimes wagons fell off the side of the mountain.



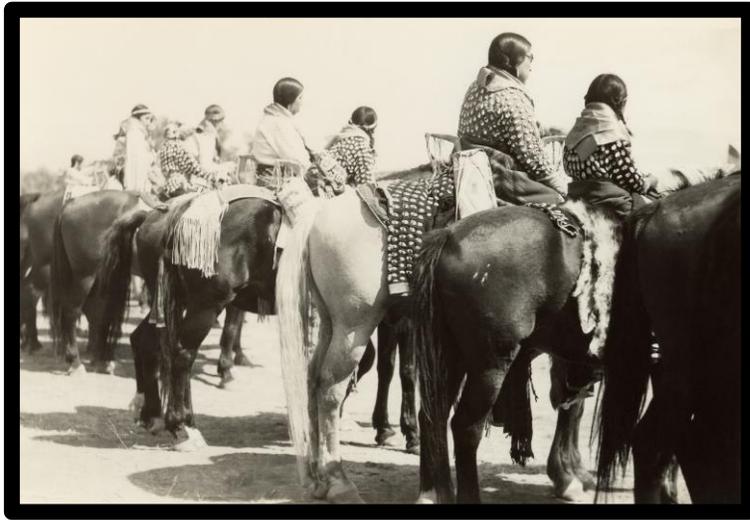
There were no bridges on the Oregon Trail. Pioneers had to get their wagons across **ivers**. Some people got hurt or drowned.



The pioneers drank river water. Sometimes the **water** had bacteria in it. The bacteria made some pioneers sick with cholera. Some pioneers died from cholera.



There were **rattlesnakes** along the Oregon Trail. Rattlesnake bites are poisonous. Some pioneers got bit. Some pioneers died.



Many Native Americans lived out west. They were nervous when they saw so many pioneers. Sometimes there were fights. Sometimes horses or supplies were stolen.



Not everyone traveled all the way to Oregon. Some pioneers liked the land along the trail. They decided to stay there and build **western towns**.



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Many pioneer families moved out west in covered wagons. The Oregon Trail took **5 months**. It was difficult, but most people made it out west.



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