Western Expansion Notes

Why Were People Moving West?

- Push Factors
  - Unemployment after the Civil War
  - Expensive Land
  - Business Failures
  - Religious Repression
  - Devastation after the Civil War

- Pull Factors
  - Opportunities
  - Cheap Land
  - Railroads
  - Less Discrimination/Prejudice

Railroads

How do you build a transcontinental railroad?
Who built the Transcontinental Railroad?

- Two railroad companies
  - Central Pacific
  - Union Pacific
- Civil War veterans
- Freed slaves
- Native Americans
- Immigrants
  - Irish
  - Chinese

Change Brought by Railroads

- Drove industrialization during the 19th century
- Provided the following:
  - modern transportation network
  - increased demand for iron and steel
  - served as model for big business
- Led to:
  - large scale farming
  - economic development in the west

Change Brought By Railroads Cont.

- Reduced travel time and increased the variety and availability of consumer goods
- Increased Standard of Living
- Land grants given by the government promoted further growth in the territories along the route
- Created markets along the railroad routes leading to a relationship between resources and industry
- Forced American Indians off their land and onto reservations

Map Key

- In the bottom right corner of your map you will create a map key.
- Write the different groups we will study in your map key
  - Railroads (Transcontinental Railroad)
  - Miners
  - Cowboys
  - Native Americans
  - Exodusters
  - Settlers/Farmers
  - Populist
- You will need to use a different color to represent each group
Draw in the Transcontinental Railroad on your map.

Perspectives
- Read the perspective placard for Railroad Owners and Workers.
- Next to each image place a “+” positive and a “-” negative impact of westward expansion.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7WdYzemTugs

Miners
- Gold was found along the Yukon River
- Caused the largest rush in North America
  - Many people, after being hit hard by the Panic of 1893, decided to try their luck panning for gold

Physical Geographic Effects
- Logging
- Mining
- Water Pollution

Human Geographic Factors
- The population of Seattle increased
  - 40,000 to 240,000
- Seattle became a commercial center for miners
- Demand for gold and silver increased but very few miners found enough to meet the demand
- Historic Seattle:
- Klondike Routes:
Assignment – back to your map

- Label Yukon River
- Shade in Alaska, California, Washington, and Oregon on your map. Add the miners to your map legend.

Perspectives

- Read the perspective placard for Miners
- Next to each image place a “+” positive and a “−” negative impact of westward expansion.

Cowboys

- Cowboys drove cattle from ranches in Texas to northern railroads in Kansas
- Cow towns developed along these trails
- However, the development of the railroads also put an end to the long cattle drives.
- Famous Cattle Trails
  - Goodnight-Loving
  - Western
  - Chisholm
  - Sedalia-Baxter
  - Spring

Cattle Boom

- Large supply of wild cattle in Texas and the Southwestern United States
- Demand for beef in the North due to urban growth
- The expansion of the railroads helped connect supply and demand
- Boom drove prices down in some places
- Meat packing become a major industry

Assignment

- Add the Chisholm Trail to your Map
- Shade in Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas
- Add Cowboys to your key
Perspectives

- Read the perspective placard for Ranchers and Cowboys.
- Next to each image place a “+” positive and a “-” negative impact of westward expansion.

- The Cowboy Song – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eLaW1AwVazA

Native Americans

Indian Policies

- Differing views of land use and culture caused conflict
- Creation of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to address interactions between the government and Native American nations
- Assimilation policies were efforts to assimilate Native Americans and destroy their traditional way of life
  1. Reservations
  2. Carlisle School
  3. Dawes Act
- Wars were fought to suppress resistance of these policies

Carlisle Indian School

- Founded in 1879 at Carlisle, Pennsylvania
- The first off-reservation boarding school
- It became a model for Indian boarding schools in other locations.
- It was one of a series of efforts by the U.S. government to assimilate Native American children into the majority culture.
  - Required to speak English, practice Christian values and traditions

The Dawes Act of 1887

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Consequences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reservation land was divided into individual family plots of land</td>
<td>By 1900, Indians had lost 50 percent of the land they had held just two decades earlier.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change the Native American concept of shared land in favor of the principle of private property</td>
<td>The forced assimilation doctrine of the Dawes Act remained the cornerstone of the governments' official policy for nearly half a century.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sand Creek Massacre 1864

- Cheyenne and Arapaho accepted protection from the government to stay in the Sand Creek Reservation
- Government orders an attack on the Indians settled on this reservation
- 150 men, women, and children are slaughtered
Battle of Little Bighorn 1876
- Commonly known as Custer’s Last Stand
- Custer leads 264 US troops against 2,500 Sioux and Cheyenne led by Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull
- Custer’s troops are defeated

Battle of Wounded Knee 1890
- US Army rounds up 350 starving Sioux at Wounded Knee
- Sitting Bull was killed
- 300 Sioux and 29 US soldiers lose their lives
- Last major episode of the Indian Wars

Native American Territory
On your map label the Native American land (reservations) left in 1890.
Must include OK and then 3 other reservations.
Add Native Americans to your map key

Perspectives
- Read the perspective placard for Native Americans.
- Next to each image place a “+” positive and a “-” negative impact of westward expansion

Settlers
Exodusters

- After the Civil War, African Americans moved westward to escape:
  - Sharecropping
  - Violence
  - Poverty
  - Debt
  - Exploitation
- 6,000 people in two months move to Kansas
- Name comes from the Exodus in the Bible

Perspectives

- Read the perspective African Americans.
- Next to each image place a “+” positive and a “-“ negative impact of westward expansion.
- Draw three arrows from the South to Kansas
  - At the end of each arrow write a push/pull factor
- Add Exodusters to your map key

The Homestead Act of 1862

- Offered 160 acres of land to anyone who met these requirements
- Settlers had to be at least 21 years old or the head of a family
- Settlers had to build a house and live on the land at least six months each year
- Settlers had to farm the land for five consecutive years.

Settlement of the Great Plains

- Challenges faced by Settlers:
  - Defensive Native Americans
  - Great distances
  - Harsh conditions
    - Sod Busting
    - Bugs – grasshoppers, locust, boll weevils, mosquitoes, flies, snakes
  - People adapted to their environment by using resources readily available (i.e. sod houses)

Farming the Plains

- a large farm owned by a corporation.
  - +: raised massive quantities of cash crops
  - -: oversupply led to lower prices
New Technology

- Helped to create larger farms that required less labor
- Buying this new technology put many farmers into debt, especially after droughts and blizzards ruined crops

Perspectives

- Shade in Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, Iowa, and Missouri. Add the farmers to your map legend.
- Read the perspective Settlers.
- Next to each image place a "+" positive and a "-" negative impact of westward expansion.

Farm Issues

- Rising debt crippled many farmers
- Dependence on railroad led to conflicting interest between agriculture and big business
- Resentment of monopolistic big business led to creation of The Grange Movement, the Farmers Alliance, and the People’s Party

Tariffs Increase

- Tax on imported goods
  - Protect goods made at home
- Also hurt farmers
  - Raised the prices of manufactured goods
  - Kept foreigners from buying American farm products

Populism – “The People’s Party”

- Farmer’s Complaints:
  - Led to the creation of a 3rd party
  - Unstable economy
  - Failure of the banks
  - Unemployment
  - Falling crop prices
  - Loans called in (DEBT)
  - Railroad monopolies
  - Uneven prosperity between agriculture and big business

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oCva-2AXgoE
**Interstate Commerce Act**

- Created in 1887
- Regulated the prices railroads charged to move freight between states
  - Proportional to distance traveled
- Made it illegal to give special rates to some customers
- Set up the Interstate Commerce Commission to enforce the laws

**Omaha “Populist” Platform 1892**

- Unlimited coinage of silver
- Direct election of senators
- Term limits for President
- Secret ballot
- Government ownership of communication and transportation industries
- Graduate income tax
- Shorter work day
- Immigration restrictions

**Map Assignments**

- Draw one of the trails taken west.
- Add the Populists to your map key

**Perspectives**

- Read the perspective for Populist.
- Next to each image place a “+” positive and a “−” negative impact of westward expansion.