

Name: _____

Date: _____

INTERNET ACTIVITY

Oklahoma: Our History, Our Home

Chapter 7: Opening the West

In this lesson, you will learn about many of the trails that crisscrossed the Indian Territory in the mid-19th century.

Instructions: Use the links to find the information to complete each item below.

Part I: Emigrants moving from the eastern United States to the west coast sometimes traveled in wagons with all of their belongings.



<https://www.britannica.com/technology/prairie-schooner>
<https://oregontrailcenter.org/the-wagon>

1. How did the prairie schooner compare in size to the Conestoga wagon?

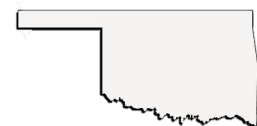
2. How was the prairie schooner an improvement over the Conestoga wagon for emigrants traveling the trails west?

3. What were the length, width, and depth of a typical prairie schooner's "box"?

4. Imagine that you and your family had to move all your belongings in a vehicle the size of the schooner, and you had to live in the same vehicle for weeks on end. What problems will your family face? What might you leave behind?

Part II: The Butterfield Stage Route through Indian Territory (now Oklahoma) was an important communications link for the country in the mid-19th century.

<http://www.discoverseaz.com/History/Butterfield.html>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Butterfield_Overland_Mail_in_Indian_Territory



Name: _____

Date: _____

INTERNET ACTIVITY

5. How many stations were on the route in Indian Territory? _____

6. About how far apart were the stations? _____

7. The stage was created to carry mail, but passengers could travel from St. Louis, Missouri to San Francisco, California, if they dared and had the money. How long would such a trip take, how many miles would it have covered, and what was the cost?

8. What problems might be encountered on the stage route?

Part III: Numerous travelers made their way across Indian Territory headed to Texas or New Mexico and California. Be sure to look for the great photographs that are a part of the websites below.

Texas Road: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Texas_Road
<https://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/ays02>

Santa Fe Trail: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Fe_Trail
<https://www.nps.gov/safe/learn/historyculture/map-timeline.htm>

9. What was the main purpose for the Texas Road through Indian Territory?

10. Which Civil War battles were fought along the Texas Road?

11. What were the northern and southernmost points of the Texas Road?

12. What were the eastern and westernmost points of the Santa Fe Trail?

13. Contrast the Cimarron and Mountain Routes of the Santa Fe Trail.

