

The Pioneer Trail

1. Who were the pioneers and why did they move westward?

2. What trails did the pioneers follow? Label the trails, their beginning points, and their ending points on the included map.

3. To begin their journey, the pioneers first needed a wagon. Label the parts of a typical pioneer wagon on the included diagram.

4. Once they had their wagon, how did they pull it? Why did they choose the animals that they did?

5. Weight capacity was a major concern for the pioneers heading west. Their wagons would only carry about 2000 lbs., yet they had to take everything they needed with them for the trip. There would be no place to stop and replenish their goods. What was the recommended amount of food per person that they needed to carry?

6. Using the recommendations in Question 5, figure the weight of the necessary food for a family of four for the five month trip.

7. How much weight allowance is left for other needed items in the wagon?

8. Keeping in mind the limited space left after loading the needed food supplies, choose the other items you would take with you if you were making the trip. Tell why you would take each item.

Additional supplies:

Calculate the total weight. It must not exceed 2000 lb.

Food Supplies = _____ lbs.

Additional Supplies = _____ lbs.

Total = _____ lbs.

9. Pioneers faced many challenges on their journey. What were three of the most common hardships they encountered?

10. What happened to those that died along the trail?

11. Sickness and injury were common on the trail, doctors were not. Pioneers had to be prepared as best they could. Review the alphabetical list (click on each letter) then choose three medical conditions and list the "healings" for each.

Condition	Healing
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12. Describe some of the duties of the men on the trail.

13. Describe some of the duties of the women on the trail.

14. Describe some of the duties of the children on the trail.

15. Explore the places and sites the pioneers would have seen along the trail to Oregon. Choose three of the sites and describe them.

Site 1: _____

Site 2: _____

Site 3: _____

16. For the pioneers that settled in wooded areas, describe the process of clearing the land and building a cabin.

20. What are the common characteristics that could be used to describe pioneers.
