



## DISCOVER MORE!

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GRADE  
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## Have I Got a Deal for You!

*“Alana, what would your mother say if she sent you to the store to buy a button and you came home with a whole closet full of new clothes?”*

*“Well, Jackson, she would probably be mad.”*

*“Even if you got an amazing deal?”*

*“I guess it would depend on how amazing the deal was. If it were REALLY amazing, maybe she wouldn’t mind. She might even be happy with my shopping skills!”*

*“That could be, Alana. Thomas Jefferson had a similar experience with two men he sent on an errand to Paris. Let’s see how it turned out ...”*

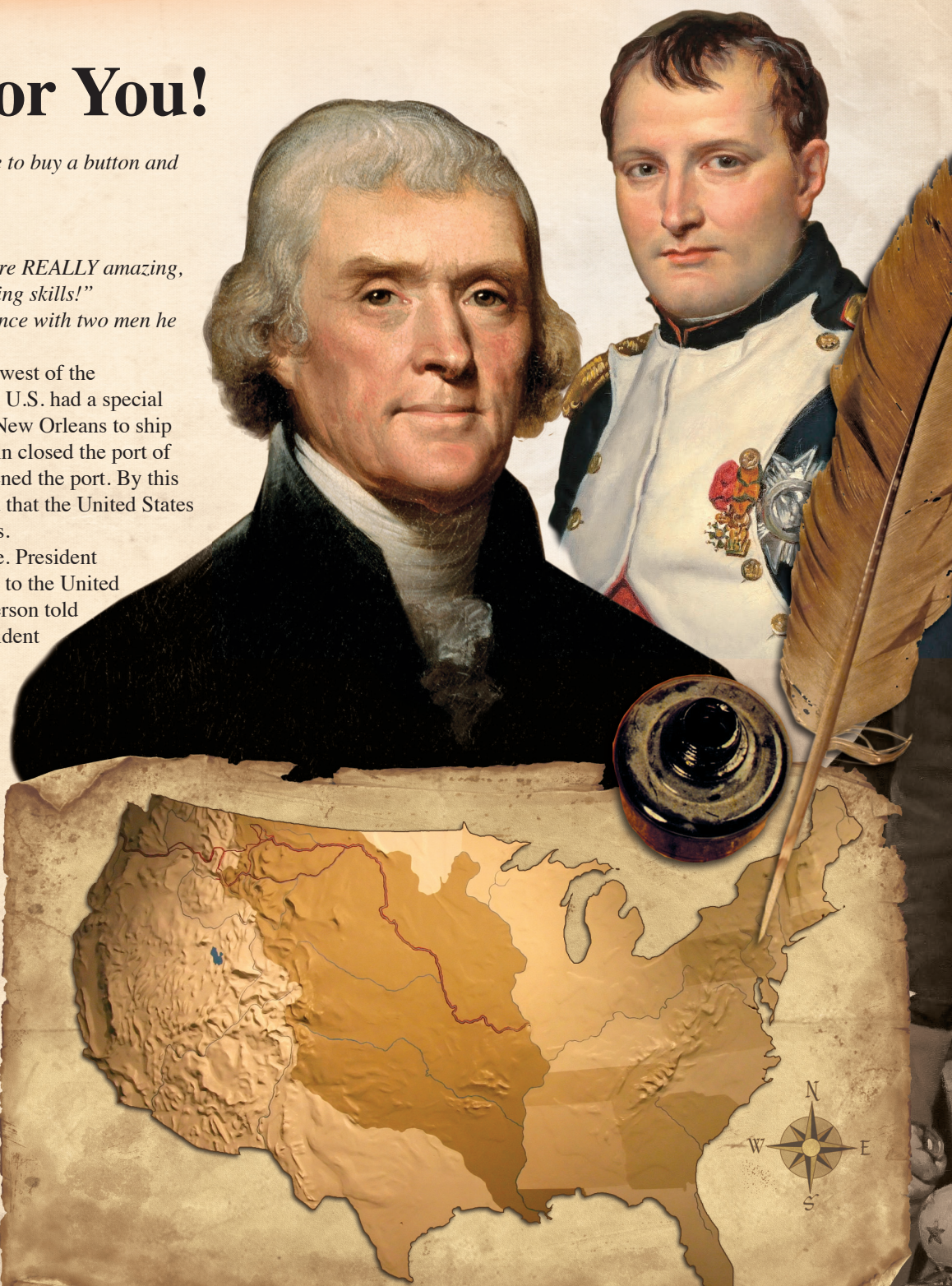
At the end of the 1700s, Spain controlled a large chunk of land west of the Mississippi River. This area included the port of New Orleans. The U.S. had a special agreement with Spain to use the Mississippi River and the port of New Orleans to ship goods to cities on the East Coast and even to Europe. In 1802, Spain closed the port of New Orleans to American traders. After a few months, Spain reopened the port. By this time, though, President Thomas Jefferson was worried. He decided that the United States needed to buy the port of New Orleans to protect its shipping rights.

In 1803, Spain gave control of the Louisiana Territory to France. President Jefferson hoped to convince France to sell the port of New Orleans to the United States, so he sent Robert Livingston to Paris to make an offer. Jefferson told Livingston to offer France \$2 million for New Orleans. Later, President Jefferson sent James Monroe to France to help close the deal. Jefferson gave him permission to pay up to \$10 million for New Orleans, if necessary.

Napoleon Bonaparte was the leader of France. He was fighting a war against Great Britain and needed money to pay for the war. Napoleon decided that selling the land to America would be a great way to get money. He offered to sell the entire Louisiana Territory, not just New Orleans, to the United States for approximately \$15 million. This was more money than Monroe or Livingston had permission to spend, but the men knew that this was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and jumped at the chance!

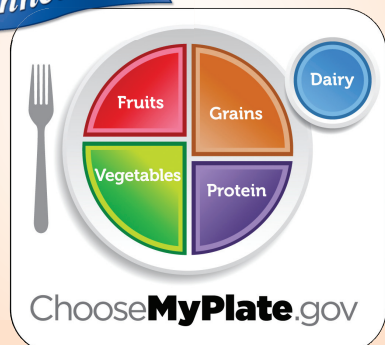
The land deal doubled the nation’s size, adding another 828,000 square miles to the United States. The Louisiana Purchase included land that later became the states of Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, North Dakota, Texas, South Dakota, New Mexico, Nebraska, Kansas, Wyoming, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Colorado and Montana.

Thomas Jefferson was surprised that France was willing to sell the whole territory, but he soon gave his approval and asked Congress to do the same. On Oct. 20, 1803, the Senate authorized the treaty and the Louisiana Purchase was officially joined to the Union.



## Connections

## Lewis and Clark—Healthy Eating?



We know that we need daily exercise and a healthy diet to stay well. The men who explored the Louisiana Purchase got plenty of exercise, but what do you think they ate? Would their diet fit the standards set by the USDA called My Plate?

While on the trail, we know that the members of the Corps of Discovery ate meat at every meal. Each man ate nearly nine pounds of meat per day! My Plate recommends that adults eat no more than

5-6 ounces of meat or protein per day. The Corps of Discovery was well over this daily limit. The men needed more protein than the average American does. They spent their days doing hard physical labor such as poling keelboats along the river, climbing mountains and hunting for food.

My Plate also suggests that we should base our diets on plant foods and grains. The Corps of Discovery met many American Indians who ate plants, roots

and fish. The explorers believed that this type of diet caused diarrhea and stomach problems. They preferred to eat meat. They even traded with the American Indians for dog meat rather than eat the nutritious salmon and plant foods offered by the American Indians.

How does your diet fit with My Plate? Do you eat more like the Corps of Discovery or like the American Indians?





# Exploring the Louisiana Purchase

After the Louisiana Purchase was added to the United States, the nation was excited about doubling its size. No one really knew what this huge chunk of land was like. Thomas Jefferson sent Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to explore the new land so Americans could begin settling the country's newest frontier.

## Jefferson Organizes the Trip

Thomas Jefferson always wondered what lay west beyond the borders of the United States. When America bought Louisiana from France, Jefferson knew that the time had come to explore this new frontier. He chose his personal secretary to lead the expedition. This was an army captain named Meriwether Lewis. Lewis chose one of his friends to go with him. He was another army captain named William Clark. The captains gathered a group of 31 men to accompany them on their journey. They were called the Corps of Discovery.

Jefferson suggested three main goals for the expedition. These goals included:

1. Find a water route to the Pacific Ocean.
2. Build relationships with the American Indians they would meet along the way.
3. Record important information about the area's soil, water, plants, animals, weather and insects.

## Heading West

Lewis and Clark, along with the Corps of Discovery, set out on their journey in May 1804. They left from St. Louis, Missouri, with three boats and headed west along the Missouri River.

When the group reached Fort Mandan, near what is now Washburn, North Dakota, they hired Toussaint Charbonneau to act as a guide and an interpreter (someone who translates from one language to another). He brought along his American Indian wife, Sacagawea. Sacagawea was born around 1788 into a Shoshone tribe near Three Forks, Montana. When she was only 10 years old, the Hidatsa tribe kidnapped her and took her to their village on the upper Missouri River. The tribe raised her and later sold her to the French trapper Charbonneau as one of his wives.

Sacagawea made the journey easier for the group by helping them make friends with American Indians they met

along the way. She was also able to translate the Shoshone language into Hidatsa. Her husband, Charbonneau, would then translate Hidatsa into French. Charbonneau didn't speak English, but some of the members of the Corps of Discovery spoke French. They translated for Lewis and Clark. Can you imagine a conversation with that many translations? Without Sacagawea, communication would have been impossible in many cases.

Not long after joining the group, Sacagawea gave birth to a baby boy, Jean Baptiste Charbonneau. Sacagawea carried the baby on her back as they traveled. Clark became very attached to the young boy, and the group felt that both mother and baby brought them good luck. He nicknamed the boy "Pompey," or "Pomp." It was unusual for a woman with a child to travel with a group of men. Many American Indian tribes welcomed the group because of Sacagawea and her baby.

## Dangers and Hardships

During their journey west, the group faced many dangers and hardships. They were often hungry, even though the Corps of Discovery had brought along food and supplies. They planned their meals around whatever meat, fish, berries or plants they could find while traveling. When game (wild animals, birds or fish hunted for food) was scarce (in short supply) or the weather was bad, the group was very hungry.

Paddling their boats along the Missouri River was dangerous work. Often, the boats would overturn, soaking both the travelers and their supplies. At times, their supplies ran low and food was difficult to find. Sickness and injuries were common. The group also faced rainstorms, blistering heat, biting mosquitoes and bitter cold. Wild animals, especially grizzly bears, were also known to bother the group.

## 'Ocean in View!'

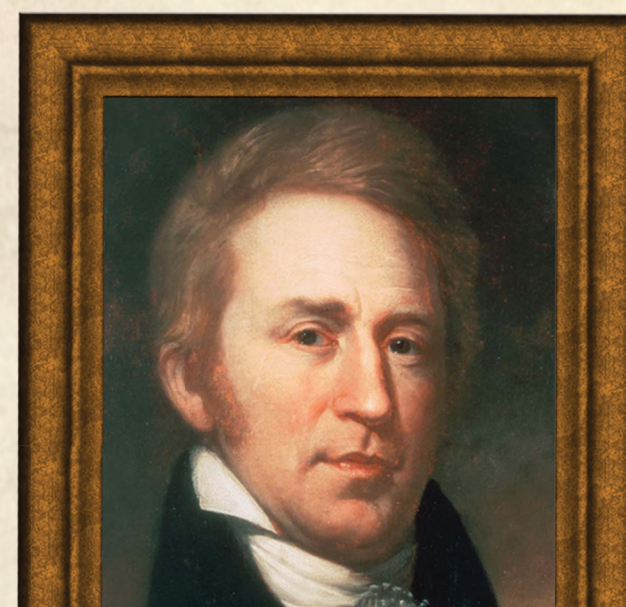
Eventually, Sacagawea helped the men trade with a Shoshone tribe for horses. They used the horses to cross the Rocky Mountains. They crossed the Continental Divide at Lemhi Pass, then crossed the Bitterroot Mountains and continued on to the Columbia River. Finally, in November 1805, the Corps of Discovery reached the Pacific Ocean. After the long, difficult journey, they looked at the waves

breaking on the rocky shoreline with wonder and awe. Clark wrote in his journal, "Ocean in view! O! The joy!"

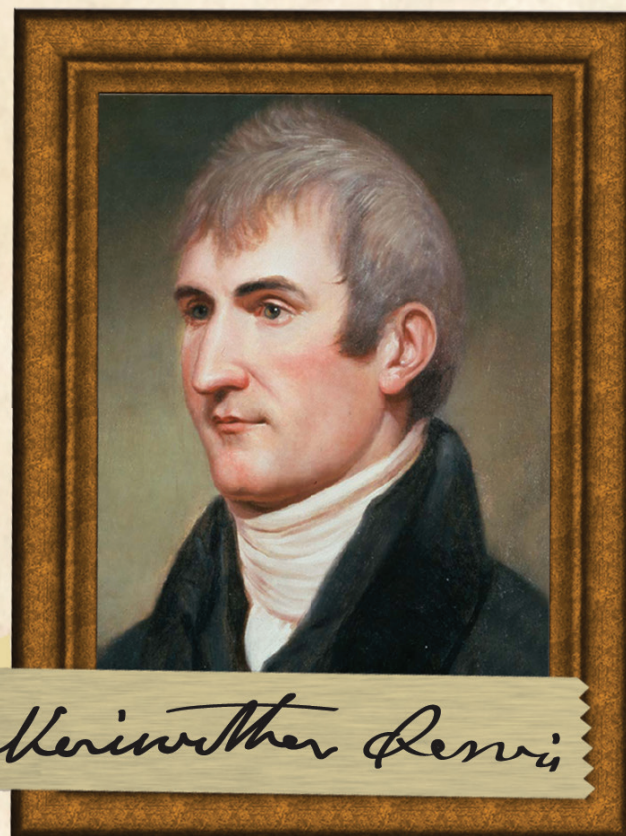
The group then spent a miserable winter at Fort Clatsop on what is now the Oregon Coast. While at Fort Clatsop, they faced a cold, drizzly rain that continued for all but 12 days of that long winter. Finally, in spring 1806, the group headed back to St. Louis.

## A Successful Journey

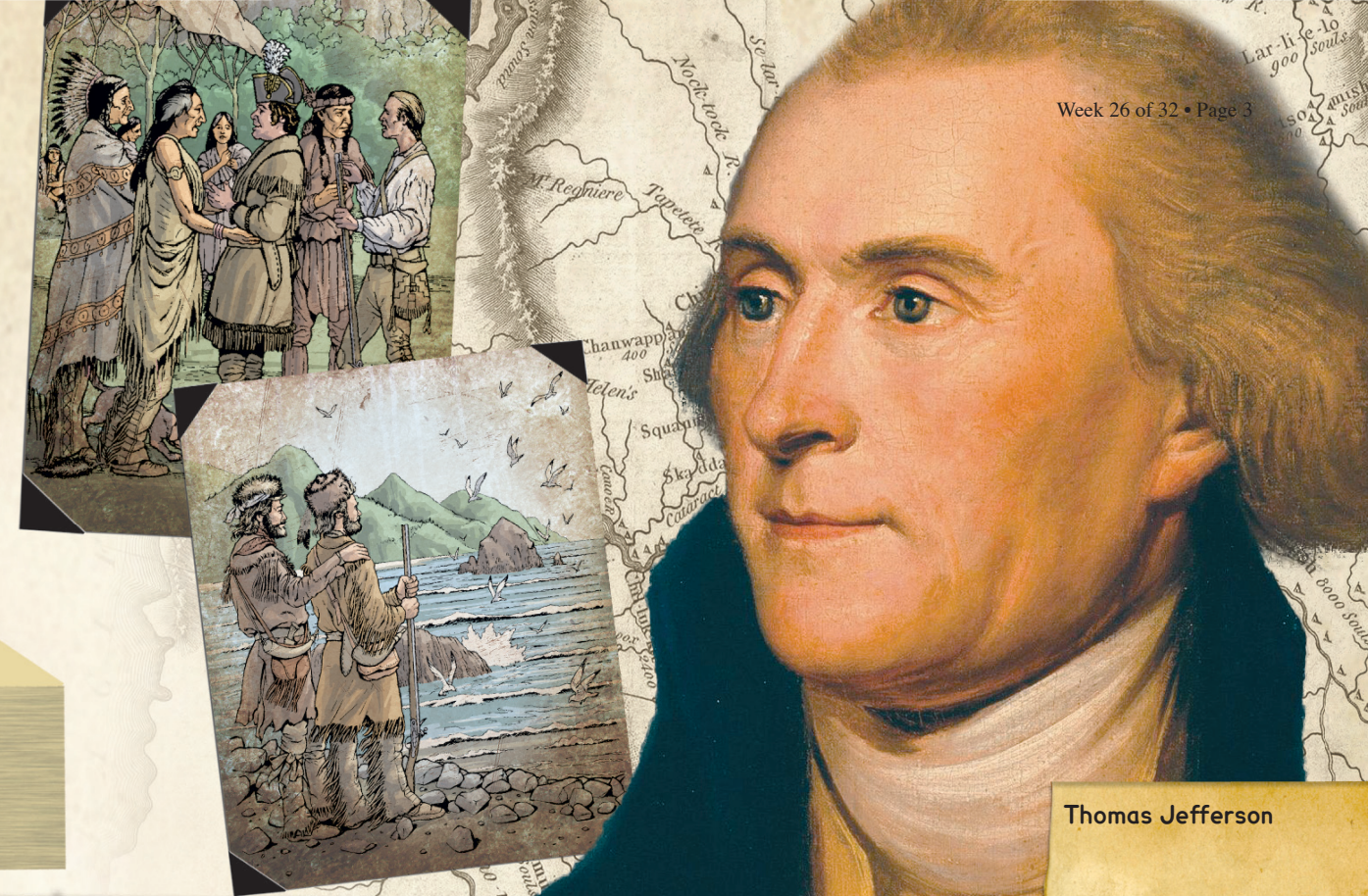
Lewis and Clark arrived back in St. Louis in September 1806. They didn't find a direct water route to the Pacific as Jefferson had hoped. However, they did achieve the other two goals of the expedition. They created good feelings between the Americans and some of the American Indian tribes they met. They also made detailed notes about plants, animals and soils they observed from St. Louis all the way to the Oregon coast. They even brought some plant samples back to show Jefferson. Lewis and Clark's detailed journals and hand-drawn maps gave Jefferson just the information he wanted. The long, hard journey was a success and opened the way for settlers to come to America's newest frontier.



William Clark



Meriwether Lewis



Thomas Jefferson

Sacagawea



## Dedication American Character



When Thomas Jefferson hired Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to explore the Louisiana Purchase, he asked both men to keep journals of their experiences along the way. While Lewis and Clark both kept records, Lewis often let weeks go by without writing. Clark, on the other hand, rarely missed a day. He recorded the weather, described the landscape, drew pictures of plants and animals and even made detailed maps. Clark had a dedication (strong commitment) to write, no matter how busy, tired or sick he was.

It guaranteed that no important information was lost or forgotten. His journal gave Thomas Jefferson the information he had hoped for and made it possible for settlers to plan their own journeys out west. Without Clark's dedication to record keeping, the expedition would not have been such a success.

## Portable Soup Trades & Technology

When Lewis and Clark headed off to explore the Louisiana Purchase, they brought along 193 pounds of portable soup. Portable (easy to carry) soup is a dried paste made from beef, cow hooves, eggs and vegetables. After cooks mixed the ingredients, they boiled it until its liquid evaporated. Then it dried into a thick paste. Travelers then wrapped the paste in paper and stored it in tin canisters. To make the soup, they added the paste to boiling water. Sailors and other travelers used portable soup as a nutritional food to carry with them on long journeys. While the soup was healthy, it didn't always taste good. It was nothing like the chicken noodle soup we know so well! Records show that the Lewis and Clark expedition only used the soup when they were near starvation. They returned to St. Louis with plenty left over.



## What were the benefits of the Louisiana Purchase?

The Louisiana Purchase improved the United States in several ways. First, it doubled the size of the United States, and all for less than five cents per acre. This new piece of land was added without a single American dying in a battle! It gave control of the port of New Orleans and the Mississippi River to the United States. It also made sure that no foreign countries had the power to block this important shipping route. With this purchase, the country had plenty of room to expand into the great western frontier. The U.S. bought the land with money instead of taking it by force. This set a precedent (an example to be followed later on) for adding territories to the United States in the future.

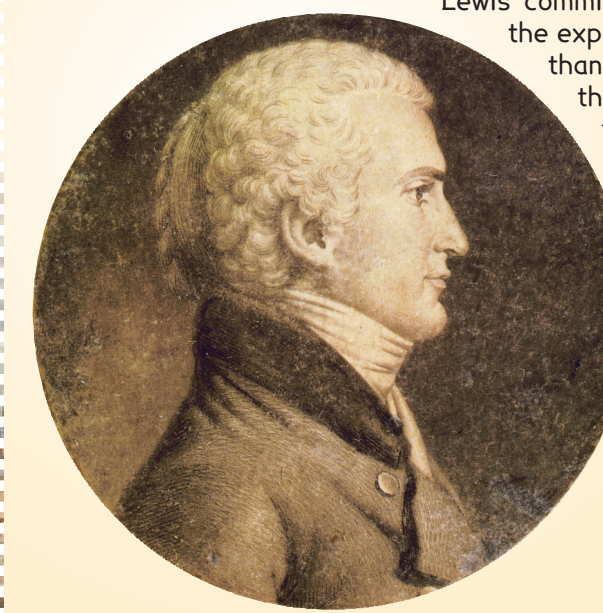


## This Week's Question

## Meriwether Lewis Biography

Besides mapping the new wilderness, one of the greatest goals of the Lewis and Clark expedition was to gather information about the plants, animals and soils of the area. Thomas Jefferson sent Captain Meriwether Lewis as head of the expedition. Lewis studied with several famous scientists before leaving on the journey so he would be prepared to study and record new findings along the way.

Together, Lewis and Clark described about 120 mammals, reptiles, birds and fish. They also found examples of about 182 plants. Lewis showed great attention to detail in his studies and asked questions about everything he saw. How deep was the river? How fast was the current? How high were the cliffs? Was this animal or plant a new species? Because of Lewis' commitment to science, the expedition was more than just a trip across the continent. It was truly a journey of discovery.





Name \_\_\_\_\_

- ACROSS
1. group that explored the Louisiana Purchase:  
Corps of \_\_\_\_\_

3. an example to be followed later on

6. dried paste made of boiled beef, cow hooves, eggs and vegetables: \_\_\_\_\_ soup

7. strong commitment

8. wild animals, birds or fish hunted for food
9. nickname of the baby who traveled with Lewis and Clark

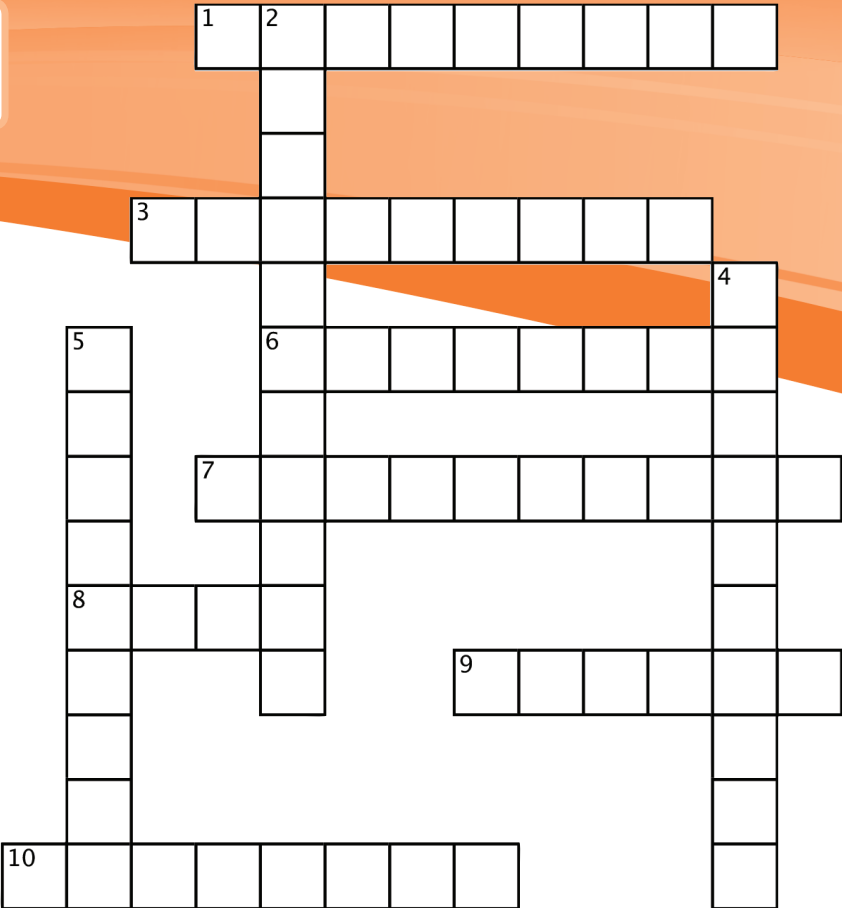
10. French leader who sold Louisiana to the U.S.: \_\_\_\_\_ Bonaparte
- DOWN
2. someone who translates from one language to another

4. port that Jefferson wanted to control

5. Shoshone Indian guide



As you read this week’s lesson, circle or highlight all proper nouns with any color pen or highlighter. This will help you find some of the crossword answers and get ready for this week’s test.



Louisiana Purchase, 1803

Answer the following questions using the map provided. You may also use a classroom map or an atlas for help with this activity.

1. At the time of the Louisiana Purchase, which country owned California?
2. Which country controlled present-day Canada?

3. Name the states that were later carved out of land brought into the Union by the Louisiana Purchase.

Mapping & Charting

4. Which country controlled the Oregon Country at this time? Name one state from this region that would later become part of the U.S.
5. About how many miles did Lewis and Clark travel from St. Louis to the Oregon coast?
6. Which country controlled Florida in 1803?



1. Why did Thomas Jefferson send Robert Livingston and James Monroe to France?
2. Why was the port of New Orleans important to the United States?
3. How much did the United States pay for the Louisiana Territory?
4. Why did Napoleon decide to sell such a large piece of land to the United States?
5. What was Thomas Jefferson’s reaction to the Louisiana Purchase?
6. What were the three main goals of the Lewis and Clark expedition?
7. How did Sacagawea make the expedition easier for the Corps of Discovery?
8. What were some of the benefits of the Louisiana Purchase?
9. When did the Corps of Discovery begin its journey? When did it finally arrive at the Pacific Ocean? When did the group arrive back in St. Louis? How long did the entire journey take?
10. What were some of the dangers the Corps of Discovery faced?

Think & Review

Imagine you are a member of the Corps of Discovery traveling with Lewis and Clark. Describe a typical day along your journey. Using correct grammar, spelling and punctuation, tell what you ate, what you wore, how far you traveled, the new plants and animals you saw, etc. Be sure to include lots of details!

Let’s Write

“Jackson, whatever happened to the baby who traveled with the Corps of Discovery?”  
“Well, Alana, his mother, Sacagawea, died in 1812, probably from typhoid fever. William Clark raised her son, ‘Pompey.’ Pompey attended schools in St. Louis and Germany and later became a fur trader and mountain man.”

Did You Know?