

Rivalry in the Northwest

The Oregon Country covered much more land than today's state of Oregon. Oregon, Washington, Idaho and parts of Montana and Wyoming were all a part of it.

In the early 1800s, four countries claimed the Oregon Country. They were the United States, Great Britain, Spain and Russia.

Claims in the Oregon Country	
Country	Reason for Claim
United States	Claimed the land based on Robert Gray's discovery of the Columbia River in 1792 and on the Lewis and Clark expedition
Great Britain	Claimed the land because it had explored the Columbia River
Spain	Controlled California
Russia	Had settlements south of Alaska and into Oregon

Many Americans wanted to be able to get to the Pacific Ocean. One way to do this would be to control Oregon. In 1819, the United States and Spain signed the Adams-Onís Treaty. With this treaty, Spain gave up its lands in the Oregon Country. Spain's territory would end at California's northern border. In 1824, Russia gave up its claims on lands south of Alaska.

The deal with Britain was more complicated. In 1818, John Quincy Adams worked out a solution. The United States and Great Britain agreed to **joint occupation**. This meant that settlers from both countries could live there. When Adams became president in 1825, he suggested a plan for Britain and the United States to divide the land. Britain said no to the plan, so both countries continued on with joint occupation.

The first Americans to live in the Oregon Country were fur traders. These men trapped beaver for their skins. Fur companies bought the skins to sell in the United States and Europe. The fur trappers were called **mountain men**. Mountain men traded with Native Americans. Many adopted Native American ways.

For years, trappers made their living trading furs. They trapped so many beavers that there were few left. Styles began to change, too, and fewer people used fur. Mountain men had to find new ways to make a living.



Mark the Text

1. Underline the definition of *joint occupation*. Which two countries agreed to joint occupation of Oregon?



Reading Check

2. What did America gain from the Adams-Onís Treaty?



Analyzing

3. Why did the mountain men give up trapping furs?

Lesson 1 The Oregon Country, *Continued*

Making Inferences

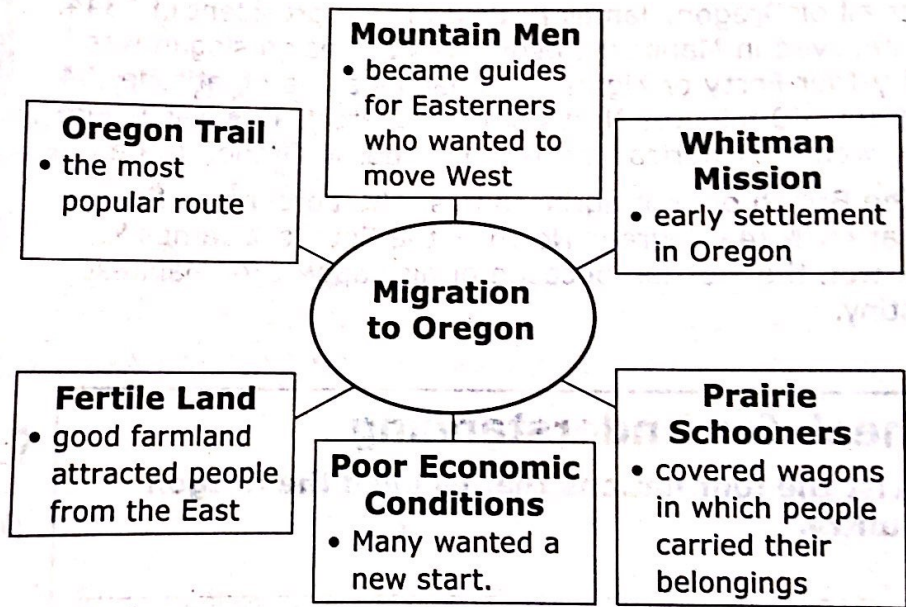
4. Why were the Whitmans killed?

Some became farmers. Others used their knowledge of the region and became guides. Jim Bridger and Kit Carson were two mountain men who became guides.

Guides helped settlers who were moving west to the Oregon Country. They created new routes that led from the east to the west. The best-known route was the Oregon Trail. Guides created other important routes. One was the California Trail and another was the Santa Fe trail.

Oregon and Manifest Destiny

Americans began to settle all over the Oregon country in the 1830s.



Dr. Marcus Whitman and his wife Narcissa were among the first settlers. They built a mission among the Cayuse people in 1836. The Cayuse are Native Americans who lived near what is now Walla Walla, Washington. The Whitmans wanted to convert the Cayuse to Christianity. They also wanted to provide medical care.

New settlers came to the mission. They did not know it, but they carried the disease, measles. The Cayuse had no defenses against measles, and the disease spread. Many children died of measles. The Cayuse blamed the Whitmans for the deaths. In November 1847, the Cayuse attacked the mission. They killed the Whitmans and 11 others.

Settlers kept coming to Oregon. Reports of fertile land attracted many of them. Others faced economic hard times and wanted a fresh start. These pioneers were called **emigrants**. Emigrants are people who leave their home

Ab C Defining

5. What is an emigrant?

Manifest Destiny

Lesson 1 The Oregon Country, *Continued*

country for another place. To reach Oregon, they had to travel about 2,000 difficult miles. They packed everything they owned in covered wagons. These wagons were called **prairie schooners**. From a distance, they looked like a ship called a schooner. Even though it was a very hard trip, thousands of people started for Oregon.

In the early 1800s, many Americans thought the nation had a special role to play in the world. Many Americans thought they should spread freedom by settling the whole country, all the way to the Pacific Ocean. In the 1840s, newspaper editor John O'Sullivan called this mission "**Manifest Destiny.**"

Many Americans thought the United States should take over all of Oregon. James K. Polk ran for president in 1844. He believed in Manifest Destiny. His campaign slogan was "Fifty-four Forty or Fight!" This names a line of latitude (54 degrees, 40 minutes North of the equator). This was where they wanted America's northern border in Oregon to be.

The British did not agree to this. The border was finally set at 49°N (49 degrees North of the Equator). James K. Polk won the election because of his support for Manifest Destiny.

Glue Foldable here

Check for Understanding

List the four nations that claimed the Oregon Country.

List three reasons Americans moved to Oregon.

Describing

6. "Manifest Destiny" was America's special mission. Describe it.

Reading Check

7. What views did Polk present in the 1844 election campaign?

FOLDABLES®

8. Place a two-tab Foldable along the dotted line to cover Check for Understanding. Write *Migration to Oregon* on the anchor tab. Label the left tab *West: Oregon Country* and the right tab *East: Manifest Destiny*. Draw an arrow from east to west across both tabs. Write what you remember about each and the migration to Oregon. Use the Foldable to help answer Check for Understanding.

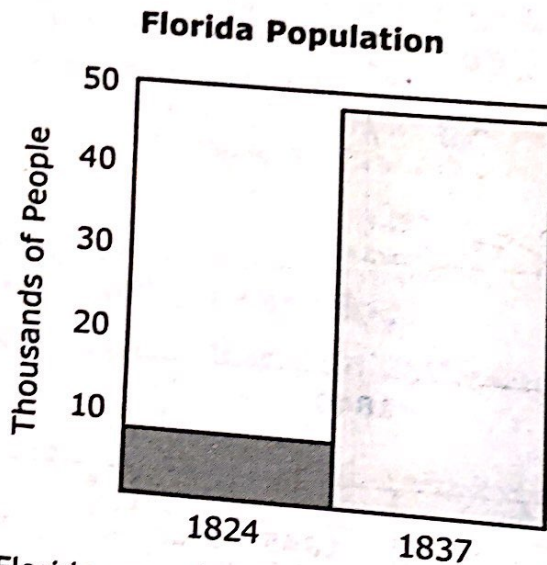
Lesson 2 Statehood for Florida and Texas, *Continued*

Florida

Florida belonged to Spain until 1821. In that year, Spain transferred Florida to the United States. Tallahassee was made the capital of the territory in 1824. It was located between two major cities, St. Augustine and Pensacola.

Thousands of new settlers came to Florida from the United States. Many came because of the fertile soil. Among these were planters from Virginia, Georgia, and the Carolinas. The soil in those states had been overused. It did not grow crops well. The planters settled mostly in western and northwestern Florida. They set up cotton and tobacco plantations. Small farms and cattle ranches were started in central Florida.

The population began to grow quickly. By 1837, the population was 48,000. Enslaved people made up about half of the population.



Voters in Florida voted that they wanted to become a state. They chose 56 people to write a constitution.

Florida's First Constitution

- Governor elected for four years
- An elected General Assembly, or legislature
- Public schools to be set up
- Slavery allowed

In 1839, the constitution was submitted to the U.S. Congress for approval. The question of allowing slavery created a problem. Congress wanted to keep the number

Explaining

1. Why did planters move to Florida from Virginia, Georgia, and the Carolinas?
-
-

Visualizing

2. Based on the graph, about how much did the population of Florida increase between 1824 and 1837?
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Determining Cause and Effect

3. Why didn't Florida become a state as soon as it had written a constitution?
-
-

Reading Check

4. What caused the population of Florida to grow?
-
-

Lesson 2 Statehood for Florida and Texas, *Continued***FOLDABLES****Describing**

5. Place a two-tab Foldable along the line under the heading *Texas*. Write the title *Texas* on the anchor tab. Label the two tabs *country* and *state*. On both sides of the tabs, describe *Texas* as a country and then a state.

**Mark the Text**

6. Circle the definition of *decree*. Then underline what the Mexicans decreed.

**Identifying**

7. Who was Santa Anna?
- _____

**Analyzing**

8. What happened to Texas after the battle of San Jacinto?
- _____
- _____

of slave states and the number of free states equal. Admitting Florida as a slave state would make the number uneven. Six years later, in 1845, Iowa joined the Union as a free state and Florida joined as a slave state.

Texas

In 1821, Mexico won its freedom from Spain. Mexico owned Texas. Mexican citizens who lived there were called **Tejanos** (teh • HAH • nohs). Mexico wanted more people to settle in Texas. They encouraged Americans to come and live there. Stephen F. Austin brought 300 American families to Texas and became their leader.

Americans did not want to follow the rules that Mexico made for those living in Texas. The rules included learning Spanish and becoming Catholic. Mexico made a **decree**, or official order, that no more Americans could come to Texas. American leaders Stephen Austin and Sam Houston tried to reach an agreement with Mexico, but could not. They decided to break away from Mexico so that they could form their own government.

In 1835, Mexican general Santa Anna led an army into Texas to stop the Americans. The Mexicans had many more soldiers. Still, the Texans captured the city of San Antonio.

Santa Anna did not give up. In 1835, his army marched to San Antonio. It found a group of American soldiers **barricaded**, or blocked off, in a mission building called the Alamo. Santa Anna attacked. The defenders of the Alamo fought long and hard for 13 days. In the end Santa Anna killed all the American soldiers. The general was sure the Texans were beaten. The bravery of the defenders inspired other Texans. "Remember the Alamo!" Texans would cry.

In 1836 while fighting was going on at the Alamo, Texan leaders met. They announced that they were independent of Mexico. Sam Houston gathered an army and supplies. The Texan army made a surprise attack near San Jacinto (san hah • SIHN • toh). They beat the Mexican army and captured General Santa Anna. Santa Anna signed a treaty agreeing that Texas was independent of Mexico.

Texas was now a country. It was named the Lone Star Republic. In September 1836, voters elected Sam Houston president. He asked the United States to annex, or take control of, Texas. Again the problem of balancing slave and free states came up. Adding Texas as a slave state would upset the balance in Congress.

Southerners wanted to annex Texas. Northerners were against adding another slave state. By 1844, the mood of the country had changed. Manifest Destiny had become a very popular idea. James K. Polk was elected president. He strongly supported expanding the country in Oregon and in Texas. In 1845 Texas entered the Union.

Check for Understanding

Where in Florida did each of the following develop?

cattle ranches _____

cotton plantations _____

tobacco plantations _____

small farms _____

Write one thing each of the following men did in Texas:

Sam Houston _____

Santa Anna _____

Stephen Austin _____

Reading Check

9. Why did it take a long time for the United States to annex Texas?

FOLDABLES

10. Place a two-tab Foldable along the dotted line to cover Check for Understanding. Write the title *New States* on the anchor tab. Label the two tabs *Texas* and *Florida*. List two things you recall about each. Use the Foldable to help answer Check for Understanding.