

HISTORY – YEAR 10 – THE EARLY SETTLEMENT OF THE WEST

C.1835 – C.1862



The de Ferrers Trust

A KEY DATES		
1	1830	Indian Removal Act - Indians moved west of the Mississippi River.
2	1834	Indian Trade Act sets up the Frontier between white and Indian land.
3	1845-7	Start of the Mormon migration from Illinois, ending in Salt Lake City.
4	1846	The Donner Party got trapped in the Rockies trying to get to California and resorted to cannibalism.
5	1848	US victory in the Mexican- American War.
6	1849	100,000 people left the East for California after gold was discovered.
7	1850s	White settlers moved to the Great Plains, pushing out the Indians.
8	1851	Indian Appropriations Act forced Plains Indians to live on reservations.
9	1851	Fort Laramie Treaty signed to try to prevent conflict between white settlers and Plains Indians. It was not successful.
10	1869	First Transcontinental Railroad created.

B KEY INDIVIDUALS/GROUPS		
1	President Jackson	Signed the Indian Removal Act.
2	John Fremont	A white settler inspired by Manifest Destiny.
3	George Donner	Leader of the Donner Party.
4	Joseph Smith	Original founder of Mormonism.
5	Brigham Young	Mormon leader after Smith's murder in 1845.
6	The Homesteaders	White settlers who set up farms (homesteads).
7	The Mountain Men	They were guides and made maps for settlers.
8	The Plains Indians	Native American tribes like the Sioux in the USA.

C KEY TERMS/CONCEPTS		
1	Counting Coup	Plains Indians do this in battle by hitting their enemy over the head with a coup stick to steal their strength.
2	Chief	The leader of a tribe such as Red Cloud or Sitting Bull (Sioux chiefs) who can tell warriors to hunt.
3	Oregon Trail	The only trail for settlers with wagons to cross the Rockies.
4	Permanent Indian Frontier	President Jackson promised the Plains Indians that they had their own land west of the Mississippi for good.
5	Manifest destiny	The belief of white Americans that God gave them the right to control America.
6	Scalping	Plains Indians removed the scalps of their enemies so they couldn't go to the Happy Hunting Ground.
7	Prairie	The grassland on the Great Plains, prone to prairie fires
8	Buffalo chips	Buffalo dung was used for fuel because the Great Plains was so arid there were few trees.
9	Claim/claim jumping	The name of a gold prospector's piece of land. If someone stole your claim it was known as claim jumping.
10	Road agents	Gangs of criminals who robbed travellers.
11	US Marshall	A police officer for the government. Sheriffs worked with them in smaller, specific areas to keep the peace.
12	Vigilantes (committee)	In 1851, the citizens in San Francisco took the law into their own hands - criminals could be lynched (hung).
13	Nation	A huge tribe of Plains Indians like the Sioux.
14	Polygamy	The Mormon belief in having multiple wives.