

ABOUT THIS PACKET

The Close Reading Passages in this packet allow students to work on comprehension skills. After reading the passage several times searching for evidence.

TASK	OVERVIEW
TASK 1: FILL IN THE BLANK	The Fill in the Blank task has students using context clues to support the correct answer. Certain words are omitted, and students will use the word bank to find the correct answer.
TASK 2: VOCABULARY	The vocabulary activity helps kids understand new or unfamiliar words before they complete further activities.
TASK 3: CROSSWORD	Students will reread the passage searching for answers to the crossword puzzle.
TASK 4: TEXT MARKING	Students will reread the passage again looking for text-marking evidence and annotating the text.
TASK 5: TRUE OR FALSE	Now that students have read the passage several times, they should be able to answer the True or False questions with very little reference back to the reading. This task helps to show overall comprehension of the passage.
TASK 6: SUMMARY	After identifying key vocabulary words, searching for evidence and text-marking, students will fill out the final summary graphic organizer.
GRADE LEVEL	PASSAGE
4	MIDDLE
4	END
5	BEGINNING
5	MIDDLE
5	END
6	BEGINNING
6	MIDDLE
6	END
7	BEGINNING

TASK 1: FILL IN THE BLANK

Directions: Use the words below to fill in the reading.

West	weather	Migration
covered	1840	faith
Missionary	thousands	Pacific

The Oregon Trail is a very important part of the history of the United States of America and the settlement of the American West. In the 1800's, hundreds of thousands of pioneers made their way in _____ wagons on the 2,000 mile-long Oregon Trail. The trail crossed the middle of the country through the current states of Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Idaho, _____, and finally into Oregon.

The first people to make their way west in covered wagons were Christian missionaries wanting to spread their _____ to Native Americans. Lewis and Clark had proved through their expedition (1804-1806) with the Corps of Discovery that people could make it from Missouri to the _____ Ocean. While those first missionaries, Meriwether Whitman and his wife, proved that men and women could move their whole lives and families out west. Joel Walker was the first non-missionary settler to complete the trip along the Oregon Trail in _____.

In 1843, The Great _____ took place. Marcus Whitman left his new home in Oregon to seek more funding for his mission. He joined a wagon train when he went home again that successfully carried wagons and more than 1,000 people safely to Oregon. This trip helped pave the way for even more people to consider heading _____ on the Oregon Trail.

The Oregon Trail was a very difficult journey. The trail was difficult to follow because it was a path through the existing landscape and rugged terrain. Many travelers carved their names in stones along the trail. A large granite stone in Wyoming called Independence Rock had _____ signatures.

Part of the struggle of the Oregon Trail was the five or six month journey that had to be endured. Planning to travel for months along the trail left several things to be considered. Pioneers had to plan for all types of _____, how

TASK 2: VOCABULARY PRACTICE

Directions: Choose 5 words from the reading that are unfamiliar or new to you and fill in the diagram below.



WORD



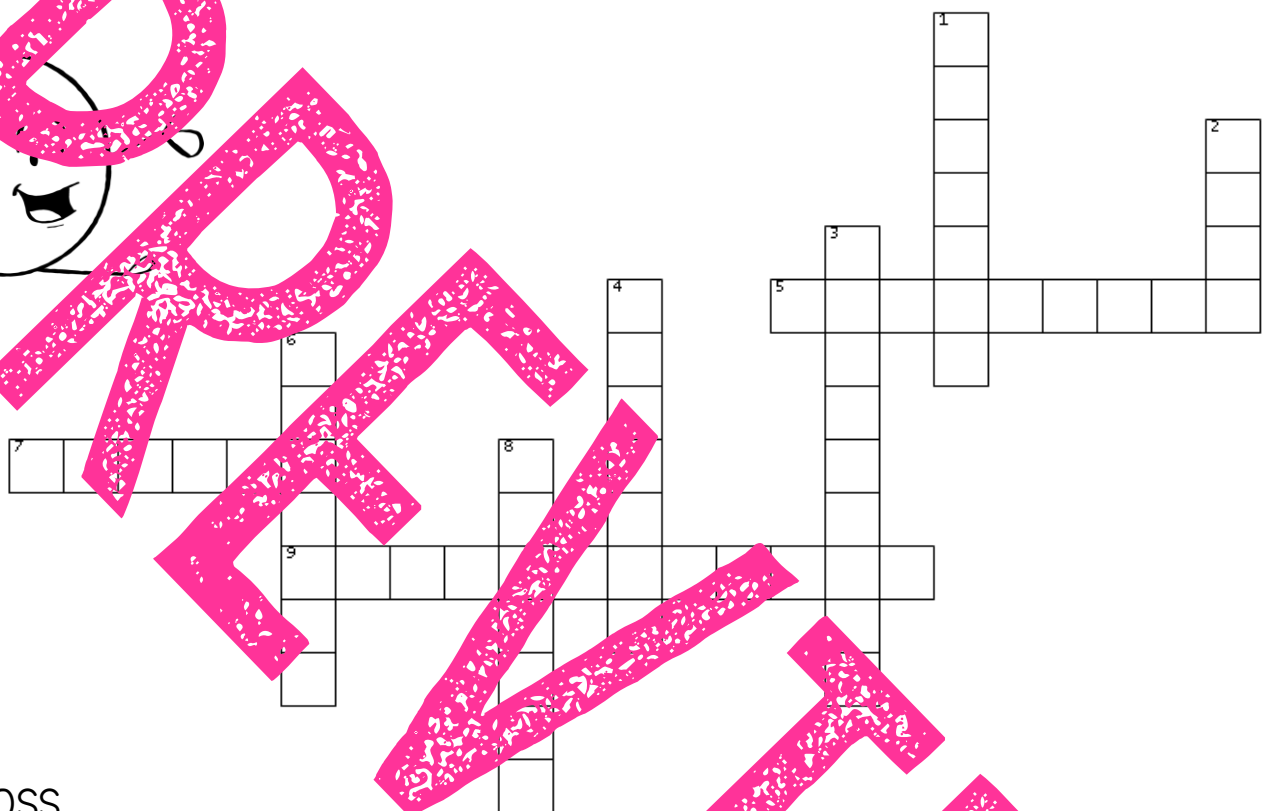
PICTURE



DEFINITION

TASK 3: CROSSWORD

Directions: Complete the crossword puzzle by reading the clues below and entering the correct response.

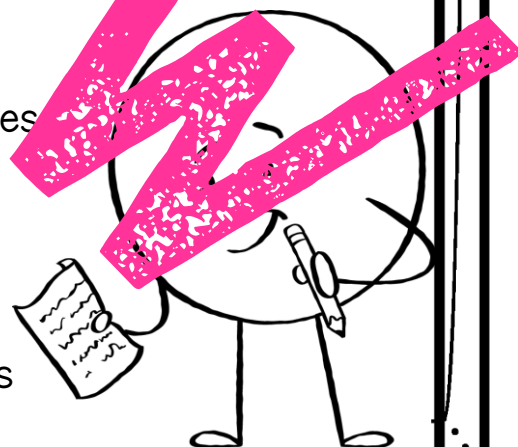


ACROSS

5. In 1843, The Great _____ took place
7. Last name of the first non-missionary settler to complete the Oregon Trail
9. The first people to make their way West in covered wagons were Christian _____

DOWN

1. The biggest threat on the Oregon Trail was _____
2. Covered wagons were often pulled by _____ and mules
3. Lewis and Clark led the Corps of _____
4. The state where Independence Rock can be found
6. Fort _____ in Wyoming gave the pioneers the opportunity to refill their supplies
8. _____ Rock was a landmark used to warn the settlers that the trail would get steep



TASK 6: SUMMARIZE



TOPIC SENTENCE



SUPPORTING DETAIL

SUPPORTING DETAIL

SUPPORTING DETAIL



SUMMARY



MORE RESOURCES

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