

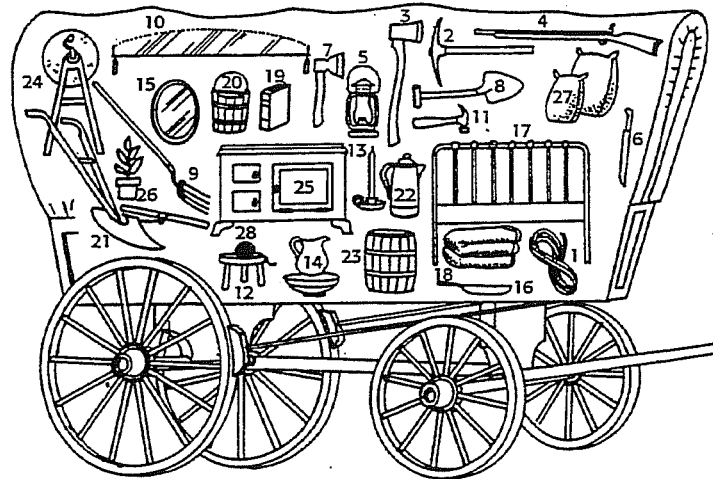
Manifest Destiny:

The belief that it is the **destiny** of the United States to **overspread and possess** all of the **North American continent** because **God** has made it possible to do so. Above all, it involves the philosophy that it is **divine Providence (the will of God)** that American **democracy and values** should **dominate** the entire continent.

Packing for a New Life

When settlers loaded up their goods to travel westward in Conestoga wagons, they could not bring all of their possessions. Study the diagram that shows the goods carried in a Conestoga wagon.

1. Rope
2. Pickax
3. Ax
4. Rifle
5. Lantern
6. Knife
7. Hatchet
8. Shovel
9. Pitchfork
10. Crosscut saw
11. Hammer
12. Stool
13. Candlestick
14. Pitcher, basin
15. Mirror
16. Cooking pan
17. Bed
18. Blankets
19. Family Bible
20. Bucket
21. Plow
22. Coffeepot



23. Barrels of food
24. Grindstone
25. Cookstove
26. Plants
27. Bags of seeds
28. Twine

Weight is a problem! If you allow your animals to die pulling heavy goods, you will not survive. Prioritize your list into ten items you cannot live without:

1. rifle 2. lantern 3. barrels of food

4. blankets 5. bucket 6. ax

7. rope 8. knife 9. cooking pan

10. bags of seeds

Map of the Oregon Trail

H. Willamette River Valley

The end of a 2,400 mile journey.
Most settled at the mouth of the river.

G. Columbia River

1. Rapid currents meant dangerous navigation.
2. Linked wagons together, animals waded in shallow water.

F. Blue Mountains

1. Steep climb through thick forests.
2. Used ropes, chains, pulleys and winches.
3. Some days several yards was all that could be traveled.

E. Great Basin

1. One of the driest parts of the country.
2. Water was unattainable; 500 ft. high scorched bluffs were all around.
3. Crossing the Snake River was treacherous!

OVERALL PROBLEMS:

1. EXPOSURE: COLD, WIND, RAIN, SNOW, HEAT
2. BAD WATER: DYSENTERY
3. DISEASES: CHOLERA, MEASLES
4. SORES: UNWASHED CLOTHES, UNWASHED BODIES

5. CHILDREN; CRUSHED BY WAGON WHEELS

6. MOSQUITOES

7. ANIMAL ATTACKS:

BEARS, WOLVES, SNAKES, BUFFALO HERDS

D. South Pass: Finally a Breakthrough!

1. Dry rocky terrain; slow going.
2. Guide ropes were used in the Rockies
3. High places had snow storms; animals died

C. Rocky Mountains

1. Rugged trails (2-3 m.p.h.)
2. Boulder pried, trees cut, detours had to be made.
3. Wagons tipped over several times a day.

B. Platte River: (The Easy Part)

1. Quicksand made it difficult to cross: people drowned, especially women due to the big skirts they wore.
2. Dry heat tired out people and animals; Arguments broke out from boredom; factions developed.

A. The Great Plains

1. Rains soaked the land; cart wheels stuck in the mud.
2. Nighttime sleepers could be crushed under the wagons.
3. Frequent storms at night; strong winds
4. Wagons circled at night: kept animals Pinned, protection against buffalo herds, Indian attacks.

