

# Western Trails & Settlers

Today, you will be able to:

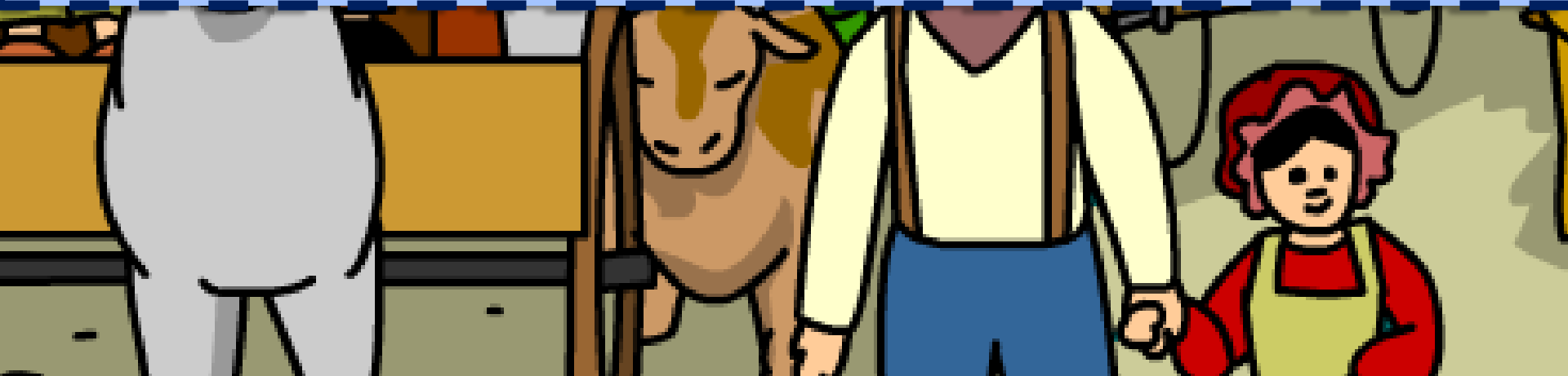
**Identify** selected racial, ethnic, and religious groups that settled in the US and reasons for immigration



# Westward Trails & Settlers

## **Directions:**

- 1. Write vocabulary words on page 77-78**
- 2. Label the Western Trails**
- 3. Read the presentations**
- 4. Complete your Western Trails & Settlers organizer**



Westward Expansion  
Vocabulary

# Westward Expansion Vocabulary Page



Westward Expansion  
Vocabulary

Pages 77-78

**Timeline Voc.**

Destiny

Expansionist

To Acquire

Pioneer

Annex

**Western Trails Voc.**

Wagon Train

Conestoga Wagon

49ers

Mormons

**Land Acquisitions Voc.**

Territorial Acquisition

Treaty

Cede (cession)

# Wagon Train

A group of wagons traveling together following the trails westward



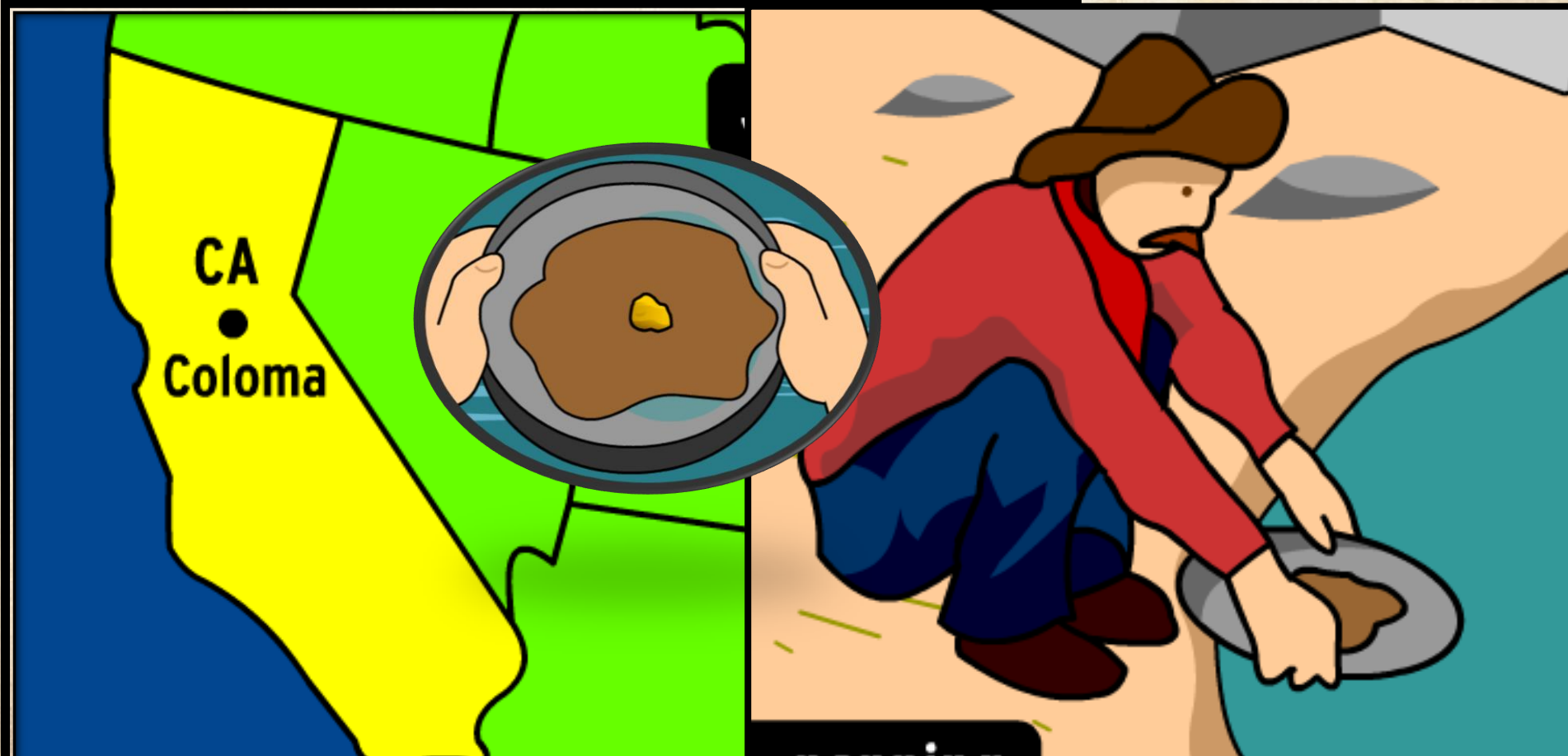
# Conestoga Wagon

**Large covered wagon used for long-distance travel**



# 49ers

People that traveled on the California trail to search for gold in 1849





# Mormons

A religious group that traveled west to Utah



# Westward Trails

## Oregon Trail



Where did the Oregon Trail lead to?

What country did the US acquire Oregon from:

Who were many of the first white settlers in Oregon?

What physical features would people traveling to Oregon encounter?

## Mormon Trail



Where did the Mormon Trail lead to?

Utah was a part of which territorial acquisition?

What religious group did many of settlers traveling to Salt Lake City, Utah belong to?

Why did the Mormon travel to Utah?

## California Trail



Where did the California Trail lead to?

What country did the US acquire California from:

Why did many settlers head to California?

What were settlers headed to California often called?

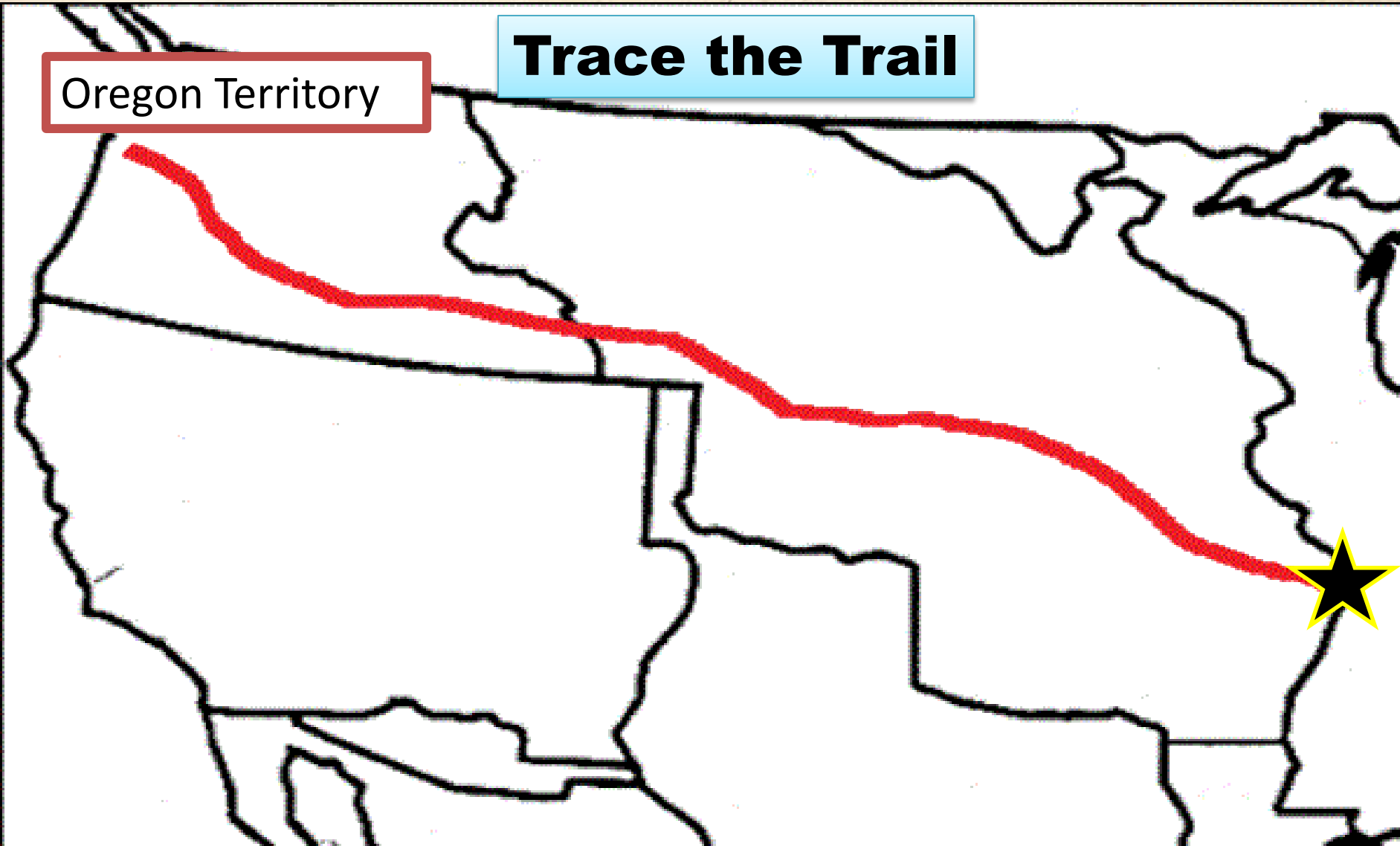
## Trail Map



# Oregon Trail

**Trace the Trail**

Oregon Territory



# Oregon Trail

In the 1830s, many Americans began to travel to an area of land known as the Oregon Country. The trail to this area became known as the Oregon Trail. The United States acquired the Oregon Territory in this area in 1848 from Great Britain (England).

- Where did the Oregon Trail lead to?
- What country did the US acquire Oregon from?



# Oregon Trail

- Who were the first white settlers in Oregon?

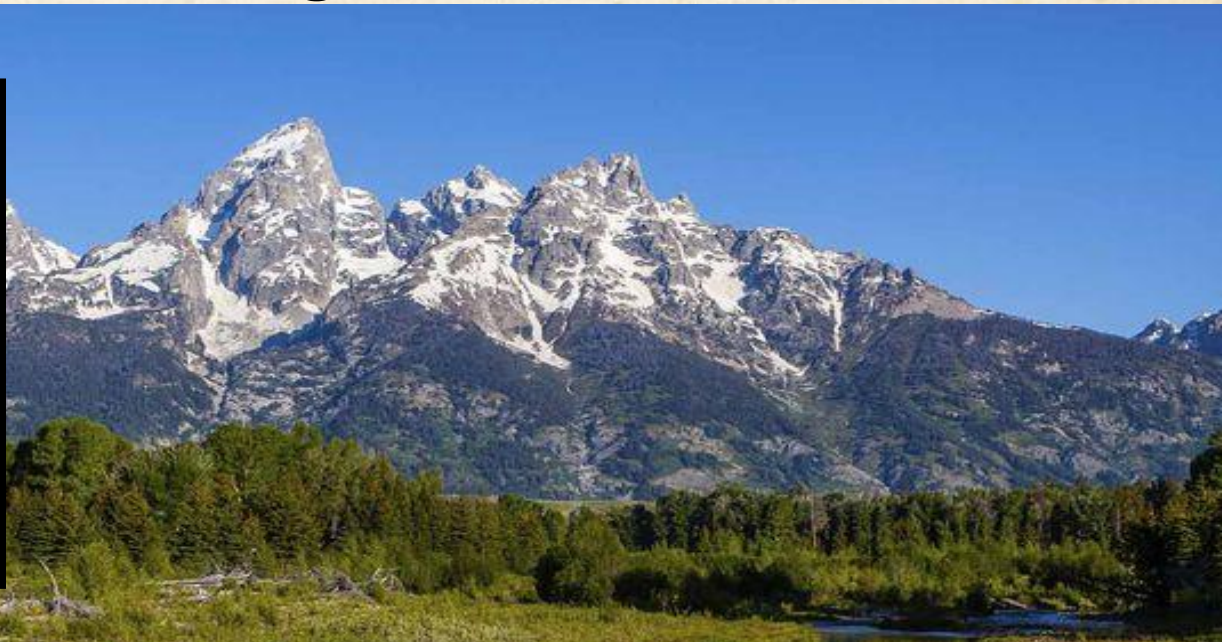
The first white settlers to move into this area were missionaries that were looking to convert Native Americans of the area to Christianity.



# Oregon Trail

- What physical features would people travel to Oregon encounter?

Settlers had to cross the Rocky Mountains (a major physical feature). This physical barrier would be the most hardest part of the journey. Travelers were forced to leave by May in order to avoid becoming trapped in the Rockies during the winter.





# California Trail

**Trace the Trail**

San Francisco, California





# California Trail

- What did the California lead to?
- What country did the US acquire California from?

The California Trail lead settlers to California. The United States acquired California from Mexico after the US Mexico. The area was part of the Mexican Cession.



# California Trail

- Why did many settlers travel to California?
- Why were the settlers called the “49ers”?

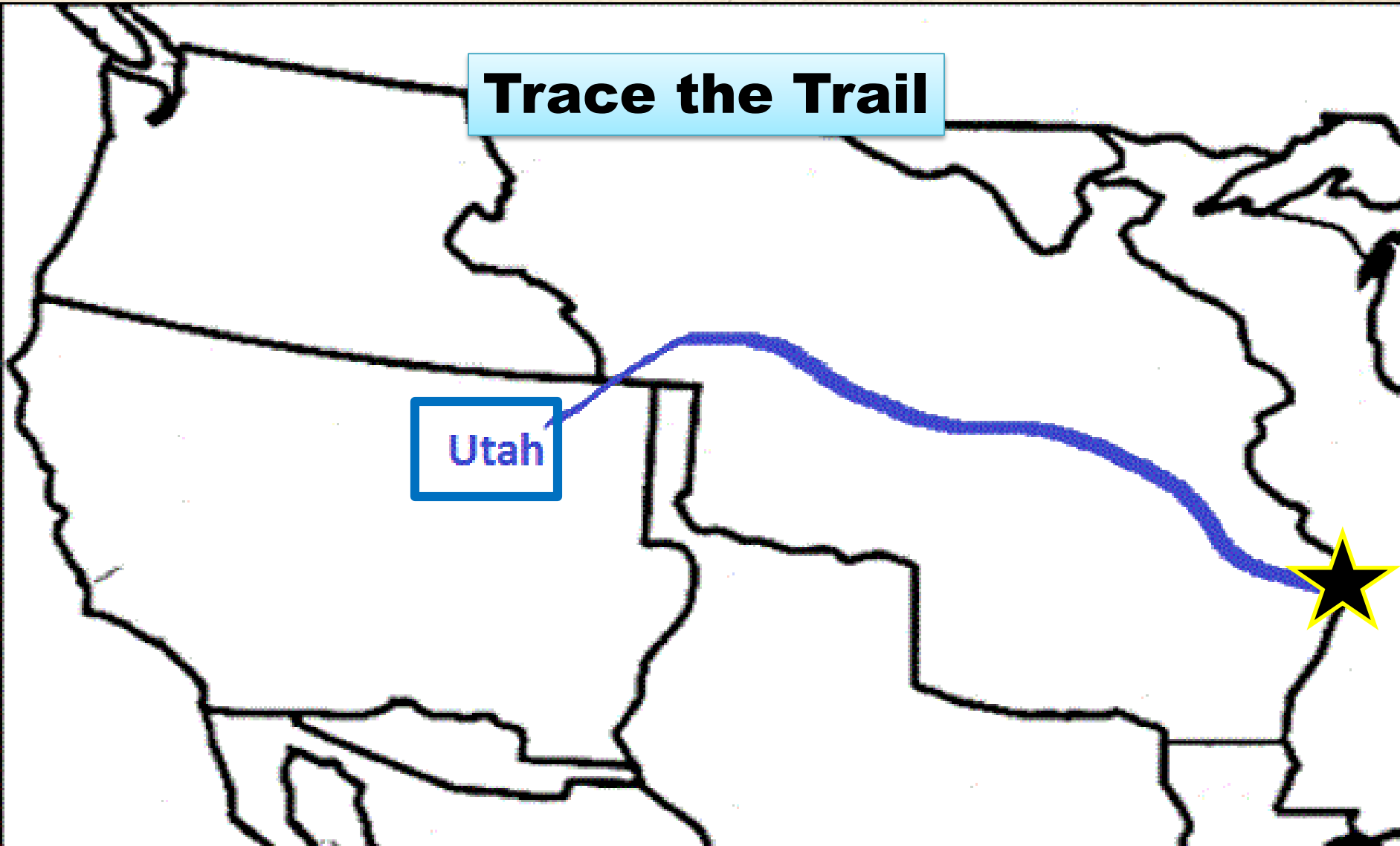
Many settlers were attracted to California because they hoped to find gold and have access to the fertile farmland. The thousands of farmers that traveled to California in the search for gold were called 49ers because so many people traveled to California to find gold in 1849.



# Mormon Trail

**Trace the Trail**

Utah



# Mormon Trail

- Where did the Mormon Trail lead to?
- Utah was part of which territorial acquisition?

The Mormon Trail led to Salt Lake City, Utah. This territory of Utah was part of the Mexican Cession.



# Mormon Trail

The settlers who traveled along the Mormon trail were often settlers headed to Salt Lake City hoping to practice the Mormon religion freely. The Mormons used this route to escape religious persecution happening in other parts other United States.

- What religious group did many of settlers travel to Salt Lake City, Utah?
- Why did the Mormons travel to Utah?



# Westward Settlers

## Chinese Immigrants



Where did many Chinese Immigrants settle?

---

---

---

Why did many Chinese immigrants come to the United States?

---

---

What types of jobs many Chinese immigrants have to take once in California?

---

---

## 49ers



Who were the 49ers?

---

Where did the 49ers settle?

---

---

How did the 49ers get their nickname?

---

---

Many 49ers search for gold in the cold, clear streams along which mountain range?

---

---

## Mormons



Where did the California lead to?

---

What country did the US acquire California from:

---

Why did many settlers head to California?

---

---

What were settlers headed to California often called?

---

---

## Farmers



Why did many farmers head west?

---

What act gave farmers free land?

---

---

What were some technological innovations that encouraged farmers to move west for agriculture?

---

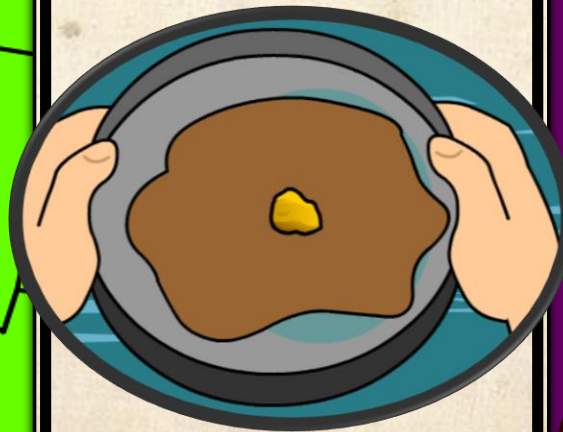
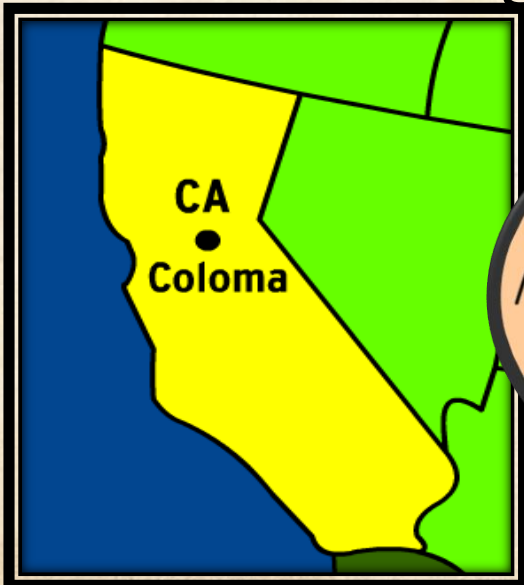
---



# Chinese Immigrants

- Where did many Chinese immigrants settle?
- Why did many Chinese immigrants come to the U.S.?

Lured by the tales of “mountains of gold” thousands of Chinese immigrants came to California 1849 in search of gold. Many faced extreme discrimination in the gold fields. Owners of the gold mines refused to let Chinese Immigrants search for gold.





# Chinese Immigrants

- What types of jobs did many Chinese immigrants have to take on in California?

Despite discrimination, many Chinese immigrants stayed in California and searched for other opportunities to earn a living. Many were hired to work on the transcontinental railroad. In fact, two-thirds of 4,000 workers who built transcontinental railroad were Chinese immigrants.







# Mormons

- What challenges did the Mormons face?
- Who made the decision for Mormons to travel west?

One group of people who began to move west for religious reasons were the Mormons. Facing discrimination (persecution) in the United States, the leader of the Mormons, Brigham Young, began to move the Mormons further west.



# Mormons

- What area did the Mormons settle?
- How many Mormon families moved to Utah Territory?



The Mormons eventually settled in Salt Lake City, Utah, an area over the Rocky Mountains in the valley of the Great Salt Lake. Over the years, hundreds of Mormon families moved to the Great Salt Lake and the area would be known as the Utah Territory. In 1896, Utah became recognized as a state





# 49ers

- What interest people all over the world travel to California in 1848?

Gold was discovered in the California territory in 1848. People from across the world learned about this discovery. Soon people from all over the world began to move to California.





# 49ers

- How did the “49ers” get their nickname?

In all, over 80,000 people moved to California in the year 1849 hoping to find gold. This group of people who travelled to find gold in 1849 became known as the 49ers.



**CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC**

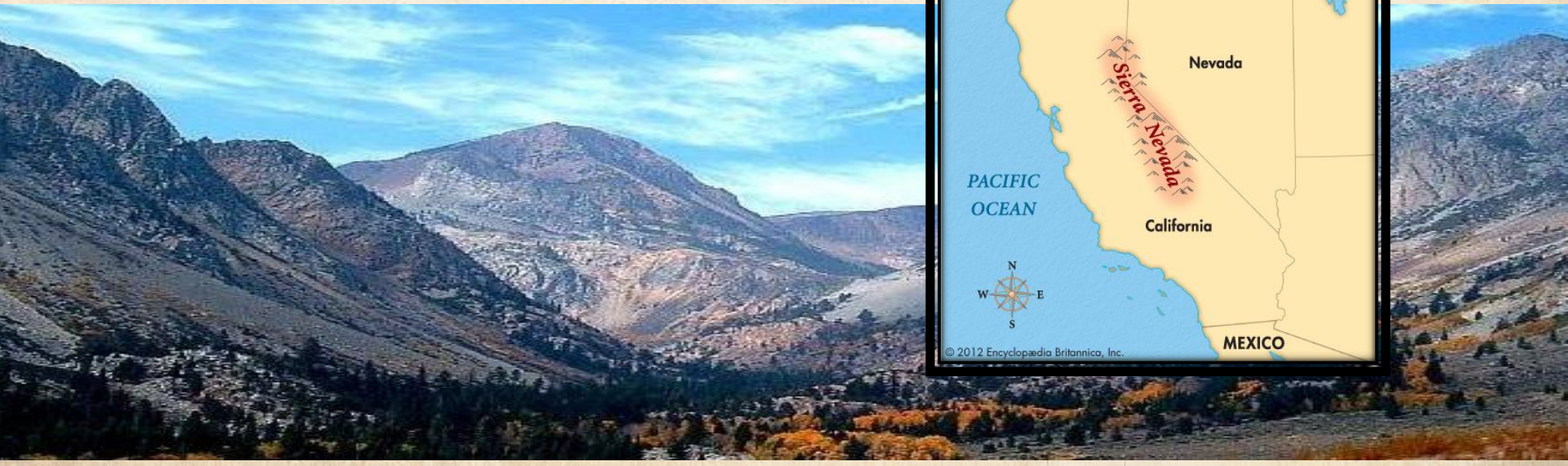




# 49ers

- What happened to the population of San Francisco?
- Many 49ers search for gold in the cold, clear streams along which mountain range?

The population of California exploded. In one year, the population of San Francisco went from 800 people in 1848 to more than 25,000 people in 1849. The 49ers often searched for gold the cold, clear streams of the Sierra Nevada.





# Farmers

- Why did many farmers head west?

Just like people today, many farmers moved west in search of a opportunity to own more land and create a better life for themselves and their families.

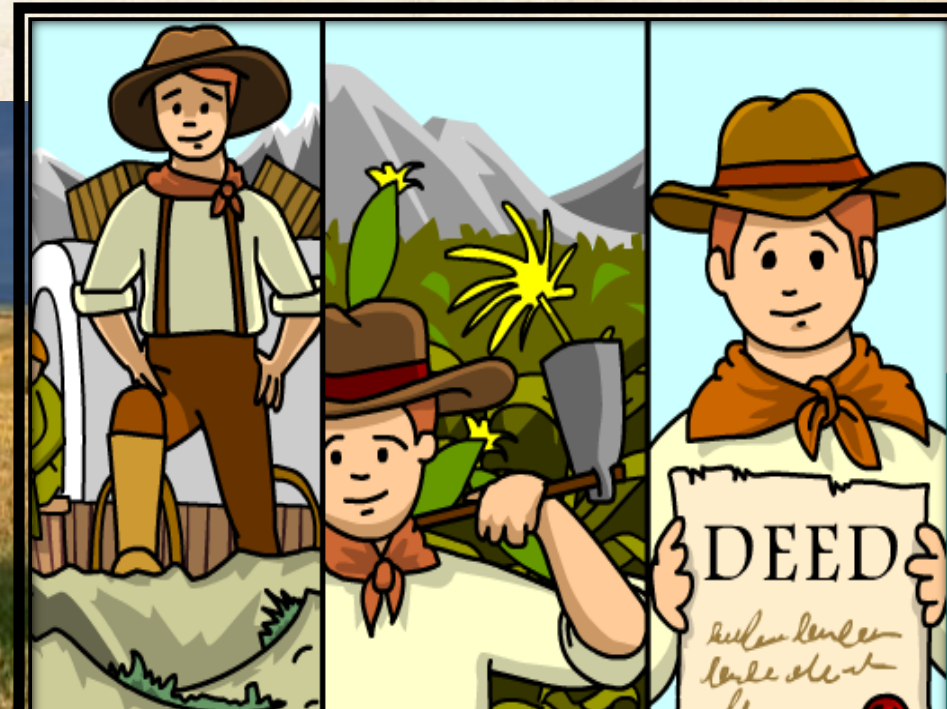




# Farmers

- What Act gave farmers free land?
- How many acres of land was given to farmers?

The Homestead Act enacted in 1862 gave farmers the opportunity to own 160 acres of land simply by claiming an area of land and settling it for a minimum of 5 years. (That's equivalent to more than 160 football fields of free land.)



**This makes  
farming so  
much easier!**







# Farmers

- What were some technological innovations that encouraged farmers to move west for agriculture?

The dirt of Western land was very tough and hard to farm but the invention of the steel plow allowed farmers to line fields for crops. The mechanical reaper was another machine used by western farmers as they could now easily harvest crops rather than doing so by hand. Inventions like the steamboat and railroad helped goods reach markets in the East.



**Today, this is the modern reaper**

