

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Wagon Wheels and Wild Ways: A Pre-K Westward Quest

Can you help a pioneer family pack their bags? Little learners identify traveling tools and animal friends in these 10 interactive history challenges.

1. If you were moving far away in a covered wagon, which animal would be the best friend to pull your heavy home?

Answer: B) A strong ox

Oxen are very strong and were used to pull heavy wagons across the grassy plains.

2. Pioneer children could watch movies on a tablet while they traveled in their wagons.

Answer: B) False

There was no electricity or tablets a long time ago; children played with dolls made of corn husks or wood.

3. To stay dry and safe, a pioneer family slept inside a big ____ wagon.

Answer: C) Covered

A covered wagon had a tall fabric top that acted like a tent to protect the family from rain.

4. When the pioneers reached a big river, how did they get their wagon to the other side?

Answer: B) They turned the wagon into a boat to float

Pioneers would sometimes take off the wheels or seal the bottom of the wagon so it could float like a boat across water.

5. Native Americans lived in the West long before the wagons arrived.

Answer: A) True

Many different groups of Native Americans already had beautiful homes and cultures in the West.

6. Pioneers used a ____ to see where they were going and find the way West.

Answer: A) Map

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A map helps travelers know which direction to walk or ride so they don't get lost.

7. What would a pioneer family cook their dinner over at night?

Answer: B) A campfire

Families built campfires on the ground to stay warm and cook their food while traveling.

8. It was very easy and fast to travel to the West in a wagon.

Answer: B) False

The trip was very long and hard, often taking many months of walking and riding.

9. New families moving West built homes called ____ houses made of wood logs.

Answer: B) Log

Settlers used trees from the forest to build strong log cabins to live in.

10. Which of these took some pioneers to the West very quickly later on?

Answer: C) A steam train

The Iron Horse, or steam train, helped people travel much faster than wagons could go.