

# **Westward Expansion Overview**

When the United States was originally founded, it was comprised of land on the \_\_\_\_\_\_.

Gradually, the U.S. gained territory and its citizens moved Westward from the land between the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. Fueled by the belief in <a href="Manifest Destiny">Manifest Destiny</a>, Americans moved Westward for for land and hope of wealth.

However, often life for these settlers was very difficult. Additionally, to make room for the settlers, \_\_\_\_\_ lost their land and were forced to lose much of their culture and way of life.



### **Manifest Destiny**

The belief that the expansion of the US throughout the American continents was both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_ to expand from coast to coast.

"GOD GIVEN RIGHTS"

## "From sea to shining sea"

### This is also understood as:

The idea that white Americans were \_\_\_\_\_ to settle the entire continent of North America. The ideology of Manifest Destiny inspired a variety of measures designed to remove or destroy the native population.



### **Gold Rushes**

### **California Gold Rush**

- Sparked in 1848 in Sacramento, CA
- As news spread of the discovery, thousands of prospective \_\_\_\_\_ traveled by sea or over land to San Francisco

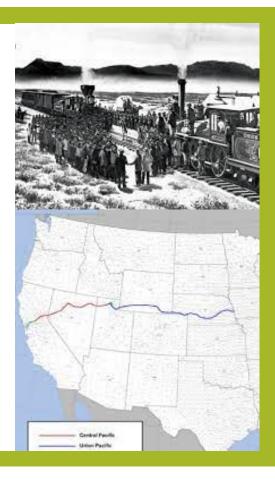
### Klondike Gold Rush

- Found in 1896 in Alaska and Canada
- The idea of striking it rich led over 100,000 people from all walks of life to \_\_\_\_\_\_ their homes and \_\_\_\_\_ on an extended, life-threatening journey across treacherous, icy valleys and harrowing rocky terrain.



# **Transcontinental** Railroad

Completed in 1869, the Transcontinental Railroad connected the Eastern and Western United States. Railroads started on \_\_\_\_ in the middle.



# **Transcontinental Railroad**

Before the Civil War, the North and South • 2 separate crews of engineers and could \_\_\_\_\_ on a route for a Transcontinental Railroad

• After the South succeeded, it was clear it would run through the \_\_\_\_\_.



crews

California worked eastward Nebraska worked westward

- The 2 halves met in 1869 in Utah
  - New rail lines were laid to bring Americans closer together
- The labors on Cali's side were made up of Chinese immigrants
  - They made just \$26 \$35 a MONTH for a 12 hour a day, 6 day work week
- The journey from coast to coast was reduced from months to WEEKS!

## Impact of the RR

- More people moved out west and the demand for \_\_\_\_\_\_increased
- The creation of time \_\_\_\_\_
- Increased settlement of the Great Plains
- New methods of \_\_\_\_\_
- Disappearance of the \_\_\_\_\_\_

New agricultural \_\_\_\_\_\_ allowed farmers to increase crop yields with less labor, but falling prices (surplus) and rising expenses (railroad costs) left them in \_\_\_\_.

