

★ Reteaching Activity 11

Settling the West, 1865–1900

The “Great American Desert” attracted settlers in the mid-1800s. The lure of precious metals and livestock profits brought miners and ranchers. Homesteaders followed, aided by a revolution in farming techniques. However, new beginnings for these Americans spelled the end of the buffalo and ultimately the Native American way of life.

DIRECTIONS: Each item listed below played a role in the development of the West. Categorize each term in the appropriate box and then briefly define it.

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| 1. Chisholm Trail | 5. Comstock Lode | 9. boom and bust |
| 2. nomads | 6. Medicine Lodge Creek | 10. bonanza farms |
| 3. Wheat Belt | 7. Homestead Act | 11. Texas longhorn |
| 4. Dawes Act | 8. Wounded Knee Creek | 12. sod busters |



Settling the West

Miners/Ranchers
Farmers
Native Americans

- 13. Critical Thinking** The slaughter of the buffalo represented the “get rich quick” mentality of the 1800s. Name one recent example of an individual, corporation, or nation pursuing monetary gain with little concern for the consequences. Consider economic, environmental, political, or cultural actions you have read or heard about in the media.