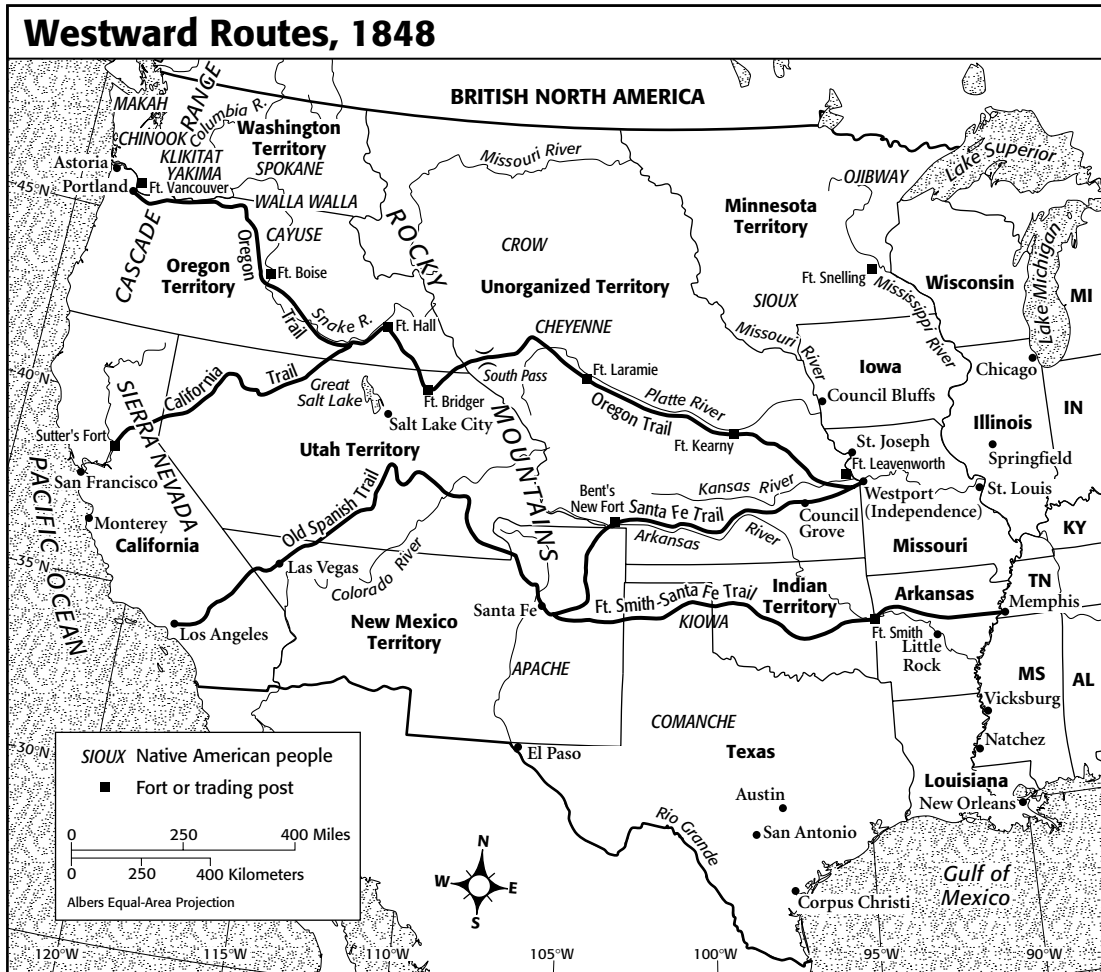


CHAPTER 8

Map Activity

Western Settlement of the United States

The settlement of the West was one of the major American achievements of the 1800s. Before railroads crossed the country, settlers moved west either by overland wagon routes or by sea to California. Despite the difficulties, thousands of pioneers made the journey west. Study the map below, then answer the questions on the following page.



Chapter 8, Map Activity, continued

1. What five wagon trails are shown on the map? Where did they begin? What major obstacle did all the trails cross?

2. Which trail passed through Ft. Laramie? What river did it follow to get there?

3. Where did the California Trail begin and end? Which trail ended at Los Angeles?

4. What Native American lands did the Ft. Smith-Santa Fe Trail cross? What Native American lands did the Oregon Trail cross north of Ft. Boise?

5. Describe the sea route to California.

6. **Critical Thinking: Movement** Would you have preferred to take the overland route or the sea route west? What would have been the advantages and disadvantages of each?

ACTIVITY Imagine that you are a pioneer traveling west on one of the overland routes. Write a journal entry explaining where you are going and why you are making the trip. Also describe some of the things you see along the way and discuss the joys and hardships of the journey.