

Name _____

4/17/15 – 4/24/15

4th Grade Newsletter

What We're Learning

Reading

- Antarctic Journal
- Close Reading

Math

- Geometry
- Fractions

Science/S.S.

- Oregon Trail

Homework

Reading

- Read 20 minutes each night.
Complete your reading log activity

Spelling

- No Spelling this week

Math

- Students will receive math homework each day from their math group teacher. The homework should be completed that night and returned to school the following day.
- Practice your math facts!!!!!!

How to Reach Me

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4th Grade Website

Banksfourthgrade.weebly.com

Upcoming Events

Smarter Balanced Testing
Continues Next Week

5/7 Kindergarten
Orientation

5/9 Barnes and Noble Book
Fair

The Oregon Trail

By Cathy Pearl



blister	long	camping	longest
graves	during	train	between
unlivable	yards	travelers	grave
trains	killers	become	working
livestock	became	longer	camp
wedding			

Directions: Fill in each blank with the word that best completes the reading comprehension.

The sun hasn't come up yet, but you are already up and
(1) _____. After a breakfast of coffee, bacon, and dry bread, you help your family pack the wagon. By seven in the morning, you are walking again. It is another day almost the same as yesterday. You are heading West on the Oregon Trail.

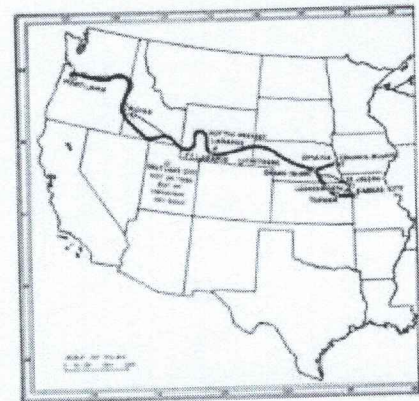
The trip is boring, tiring, and dangerous. Most of the
(2) _____ will walk the entire way. On one day, most wagon trains will go about fifteen miles. The trip will take at least four months. The people that make the trip in five months or less do very well. Taking (3) _____ than that can be dangerous. There was a chance that the wagon (4) _____ would get stuck in snow in the mountains.

Covered wagons were what most people took on the trail. The wagon was usually about eleven feet (5) _____ and four feet wide. The inside of the wagon was about two feet deep. The covered part of the wagon was five feet above the wagon bed. The wagons were very rough to ride in. They also didn't have a lot of room for people. That was why anyone that could walk did.

People also didn't ride in the wagons because they wanted less weight for the oxen to pull. Even with less weight, many oxen would die. Some of them were too tired to go any farther. Others would die of thirst. One man who traveled on the trail wrote home about the number of dead oxen that he had seen. He said that it was hard to find a place to (6) _____ because of all the dead animals.

Leaving behind favorite things was also something people on the trail had to face. Heirlooms and
(7) _____ gifts were left behind. As the oxen
(8) _____ more and more tired, more items were taken out of the wagons. Trails that were harder to travel on were littered with stuff.

There were many different dangers on the Oregon Trail. One in ten people who made the journey would not survive. Most people thought that the danger came from Native Americans. They were



wrong. Disease and accidents killed most of the people.

One of the biggest (9) _____ was a disease called cholera. People who felt okay in the morning could be dead before the sun set. People who were sick would have their skin wrinkle or turn blue. If they hadn't died in twenty-four hours, people usually got better. Cholera could wipe out a whole family in less than a week.

Accidents would also kill many people. Guns would go off when people weren't paying attention to what they were doing. Children could fall from the wagons and be crushed under the wheels. People were hurt trying to round up the (10) _____. There was at least one person that was struck by lightning.

The trails were dusty and dirty. The dust could be two or three inches thick on the trail. When it rained, the dust turned into mud. The shoes would fall off the oxen. The hot sun would cause people's lips to (11) _____ or split. They would use axle grease on their lips to make them feel better.

River crossings were one of the most dangerous times. Even slow rivers were dangerous. Wagon wheels could be broken or (12) _____ stuck in the mud at the bottom of the river. Wagons had to be floated across deeper rivers. Many people did not know how to swim. The people could also drown. If the wagon tipped over, they could lose everything they owned. The wagon (13) _____ that were well organized usually did the best. Many of the groups had written rules that the travelers could use when there were arguments. Most groups would elect officers. There were usually rules about (14) _____, marching, and gambling. There were also punishments and rules for how a person's belongings would be split up after they died.

Those that made it to Oregon without getting sick or hurt were lucky. The Oregon Trail has been called the nation's (15) _____ graveyard. It was used the most from 1843 to about 1870. (16) _____ this time there were as many as 65,000 deaths. If the (17) _____ were evenly spaced, there would be a (18) _____ every fifty (19) _____. (20) _____ Missouri and Oregon.

These brave men, women, and children helped the United States grow to the Pacific. They settled a land that many thought was (21) _____. Their travels were very hard, but there was wonderful land waiting for them in the West.

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Name _____



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Date _____

The Oregon Trail

You have been elected a leader of a wagon train. Write down a set of rules that your train will have to follow. Explain why the rules you have made are important.

Making Pioneer Dutch Oven Apple Crisp

A Math Lesson in Increasing Recipes



Your class would like to cook Dutch oven apple crisp but the recipe says it feeds 8 people. Figure out how much of each ingredient is needed to feed the whole class.



To feed our whole class of _____ students, we will need to make our recipe how many times larger? _____ recipe (one and a half, double, triple, etc.).

Filling for 1 recipe	½ x recipe	1½ x recipe	2 x recipe	3 x recipe
Feeds 8	Feeds _____	Feeds _____	Feeds _____	Feeds _____
8 Granny Smith apples				
2 Tbs. lemon juice				
1/2 cup brown sugar				
1/3 cup flour				
1 tsp. cinnamon				
¾ tsp. grated nutmeg				
¼ tsp. ground cloves				
¾ tsp. salt				

Topping for 1 recipe	½ x recipe	1½ x recipe	2 x recipe	3 x recipe
2 cups rolled oats				
2 cups flour				
½ cup brown sugar				
1 tsp. cinnamon				
dash nutmeg				
dash cloves				
1 cup melted butter (2 sticks)				

Dutch Oven Apple Crisp

serves 8

Ingredients:

8 apples, Granny Smith, sliced
1 c brown sugar
2 cups rolled oats
2-1/3 cups flour
1 c butter
2 Tbs lemon juice
2 tsp cinnamon
3/4 tsp ground nutmeg
1/4 tsp. ground cloves
3/4 tsp. salt



Apple Filling:

In a large bowl, combine and stir together the lemon juice, brown sugar, flour, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, and salt. Peel apples and cut into slices. Add the apples and stir with the filling.

Topping:

In another bowl, add the oatmeal, flour, brown sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, and butter. Stir these ingredients together.

Spray the inside of a Dutch oven with cooking spray or use vegetable oil. Put the apple filling mixture on bottom of the Dutch oven. Top with the topping mix.

To cook with charcoals:

Put 8 coals under the Dutch oven and 16 coals spread around the top of the lid and near the handle. Cook until it smells done and the topping is brown.

To cook in an oven:

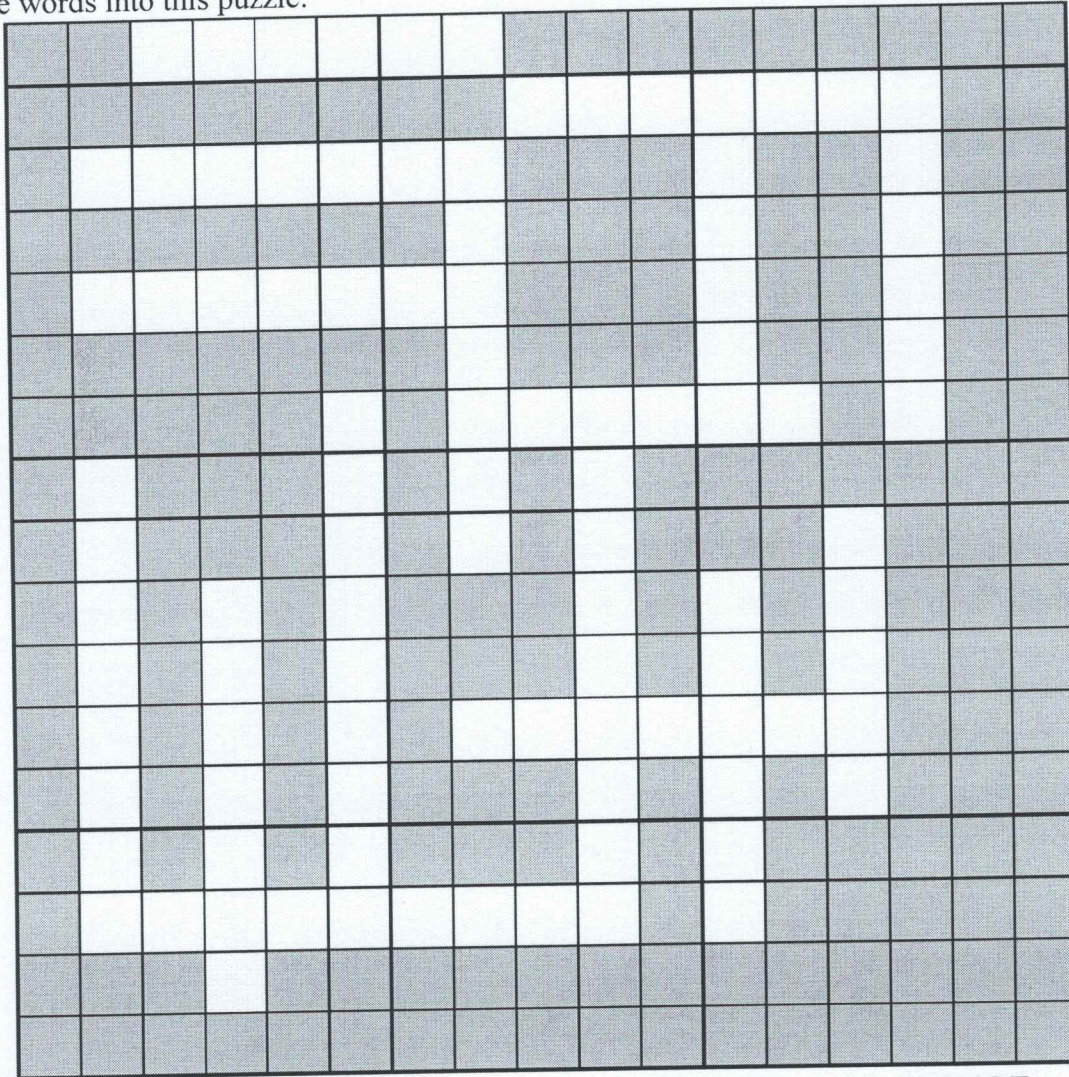
Preheat the oven to 350°F. Cook 45 minutes to an hour until the apple crisp smells done.

Name _____



Date _____
(Key 1 - Answer ID # 0590393)

Fill all the words into this puzzle.



TRAVELED
DANGER
CHOLERA
KILLERS

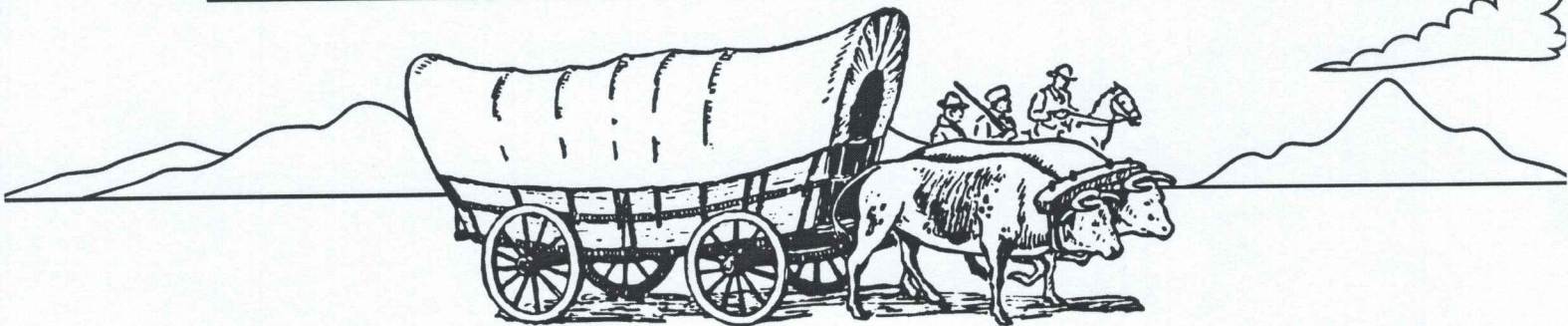
TRAVELERS
UNLIVABLE
LONGEST
DANGEROUS

HEADING
GRAVES
GREASE
LONGER

CAUSE
WEDDING
ENTIRE
TRAVELS

THE TRAIL WEST WORD SEARCH

The words can be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal.



Find the terms listed below in the word search puzzle!

Prairie Schooner: a converted covered wagon used to hold supplies and personal possessions.

Oxen: very sturdy animals needed to pull the wagons for 2,000 miles west.

Independence: this Missouri city was a major starting point for most emigrants.

Oregon Trail: was the main route travelers used to head west.

California Trail: overlapped with the Oregon trail until Idaho, where it headed south.

Mormon Trail: was the other major route of westward migration, usually starting in Illinois.

Whitman: Marcus and Narcissa Whitman were the first to travel to Oregon with a covered wagon in 1836. Dr. Whitman also helped the Great Wagon Train make it to Oregon in 1843.

Astor: Astor Overland Expedition was the first expedition from St. Louis MO to the mouth of the Columbia River, after Lewis and Clark blazed a trail.