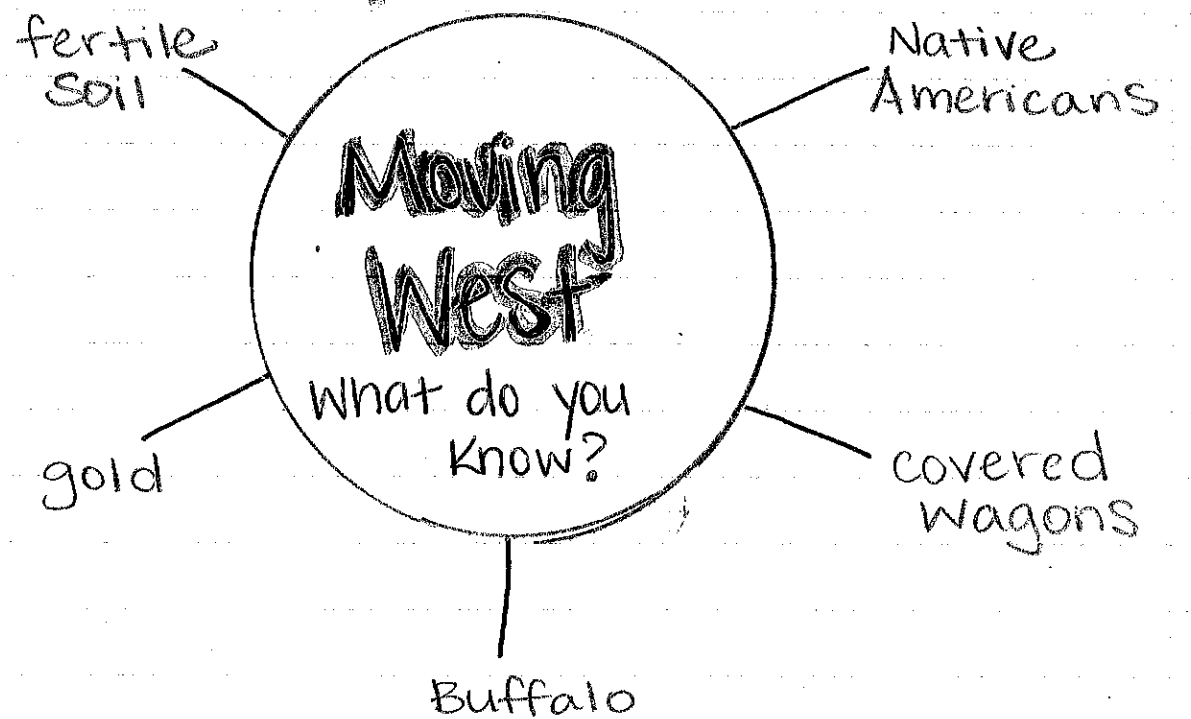


# Westward Expansion



Physical Features  
of Land

mountain ranges  
rivers  
deserts

ALL those formed obstacles for moving west!



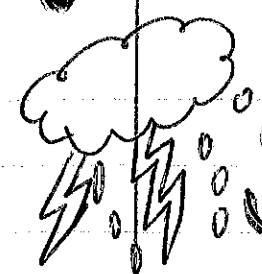
# Climate/Weather

- hot dry summers brought Drought

DUST STORMS and Insects.

- winters brought SNOW and Spring FLOODS.





STORMS

Tornadoes

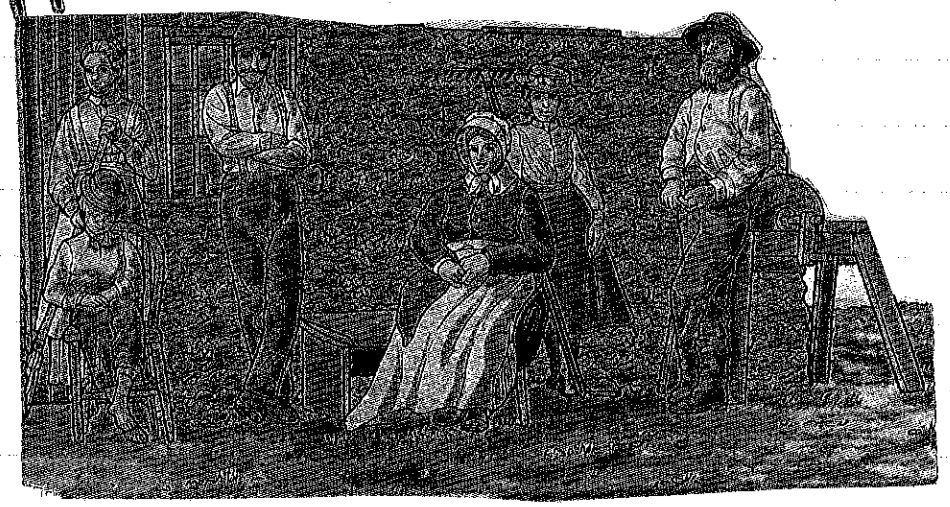
Ruin  
CROPS!

Unpredictable weather

So why go?!?

★ land ownership

★ other economic \$  
opportunities



Windmills

Mechanical  
reaper

3 Things that affected  
the development of  
the West:

Railroads

Steel Plow - used to  
plow the hardpacked  
earth.

<sup>cheaper!</sup> Barbed Wire -  
1st wire capable of restraining cattle

Subsidies for railroads -  
the government gave  
companies who agreed to  
build railroads land and  
money.

Homestead act of 1862 - must <sup>agree</sup>  
farm and improve land for  
5 years in Great Plains.

Mining

Fur Trade

Ranching/Farming

There were  
GOOD times (of  
cooperation)

AND

Bad times (of  
conflict)

CONFLICT



Prospector VS Prospector

- competed for precious  
metals.

\* Prospectors were settlers  
looking for gold and other  
precious metals out west.

Mining  
Companies VS Proprietors

- competed for claims  
to the richest sites.

\* Proprietors own businesses  
or property.

Cowboys vs farmers

- fought over how the land should be used.

Farmers now used barbed wire, blocking cowboys from driving cattle.

Cowboys vs rustlers

- fought over cattle

\*rustlers - people who stole cattle.

**Cooperation**

ranchers and cowboys

- cowboys drove the rancher's herds to shipping depots.

\*ranchers - people who own and raise cattle.

Native Americans and  
explorers of the West  
**Cooperated** at first...

Later, they became  
**Hostile** as more and  
more people traveled  
West.

→ Native Americans believed ←  
land belonged to groups  
not individuals.

Effects:

- Native Americans pushed  
across the Mississippi River  
to Oklahoma (Trail of Tears)
- moved to reservations  
(but not honored by government)

Immigrant - a person who came over from another country.

Asian immigrants were tolerated for building the railroads.

## Buffalo

- trampled the iron rails of the railroads.

- railroad owners hired riflemen to shoot buffalo.

### effects

↓  
- this DECIMATED the population.

- Native Americans now lived in poverty.



Mexican Americans were driven from their lands too! (They were here first!)

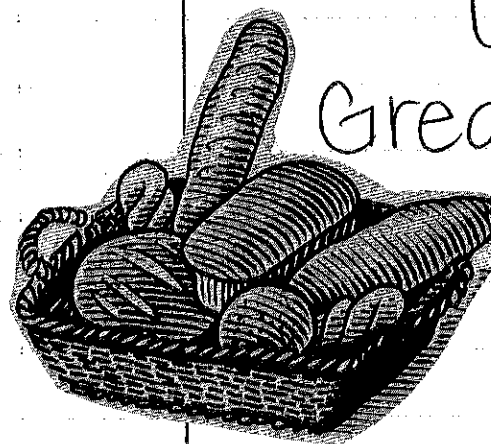
### Review of Federal Policies...

1. Removal of Native Americans

2. Native American reservations

3. Severalty

↓ took reservations and divided up land into farms for individual NA families  
**(DAWES SEVERALTY ACT)**



Great Plains =  
Great American Desert =  
Breadbasket

St. Louis, Missouri became known as "The Gateway to the West" (this was the last stop before starting travel west)

