



Grades 1-4

Going West!

Learning Lapbook with Study Guide



A Journey Through Learning
www.ajourneythroughlearning.com

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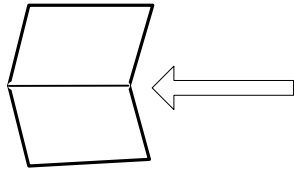
While you are there, sign up for our email newsletter and receive a FREE lapbook!
You'll also receive great discount codes, special offers, find out what's new and what's to come!

Join us on Facebook!

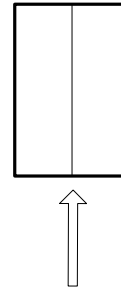
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Keep in mind that children of the same age can have very different academic and motor skills. Some children may have trouble writing in some of the smaller spaces of this lapbook. If this describes your child, we encourage you to let your child dictate the answers and you write for him. A lapbook is to be a fun project, not stressful.

Hamburger Fold-Fold horizontally



Hotdog Fold-Fold vertically



Dotted Lines-These are the cutting lines.

Accordion Fold-This fold is like making a paper fan. Fold on the first line so that title is on top. Turn over and fold on next line so that title is on top again. Turn over again and fold again on the next line so that title is on top. Continue until all folds are done.

Cover Labels-Most of the booklets that are folded look nicer with a label on top instead of just a blank space. They will be referred to as "cover label."

How Long Does it Take to Complete the Lapbook?

Doing a study guide page and mini-booklet a day, a 3-folder lapbook takes about one month to complete. However, you can expand the study portion and make it last as long as you like! That's the beauty of homeschooling! Do it YOUR way!

Lapbook Assembly Choices

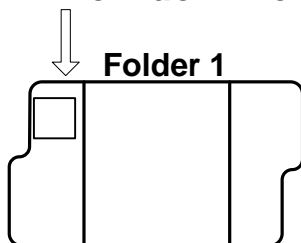
(see photos on how to fold and glue your folders together)

We recommend using Zip Dry Glue or Elmer's Extreme.

Choice #1 -Do not glue your folders together until you have completely finished all three folders. It is easier to work with one folder instead of two or three glued together.

Choice #2 -Glue all of your folders together before beginning. Some children like to see the entire project as they work on it. It helps with keeping up with which folder you are supposed to be working in. The choices are completely up to you and your child!

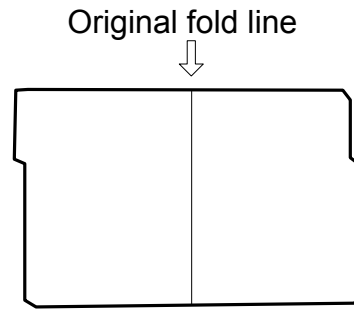
How do I know where to place each template in the folder?



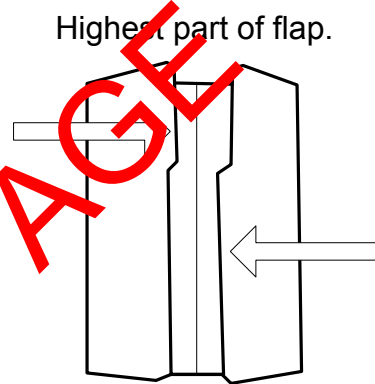
This placement key tells you the template goes in the first folder at the top of the left flap.

Folding a Lapbook Base

Gather the number of folders required for the project. Fold them flat as seen here.



For each folder, fold the left and right sides inward toward the original line to create two flaps. Crease so that the highest part of each flap is touching the original line. It is important not to let the two flaps overlap. *You may want to take a ruler and run it down each crease to make it sharper.*



Glue your folders together by putting glue (or you may staple) on the inside of the flaps. Then press the newly glued flaps together with your hands until they get a good strong hold to each other. Follow this step to add as many folders as you need for your project. Most of our lapbooks have either 2 or 3 folders.

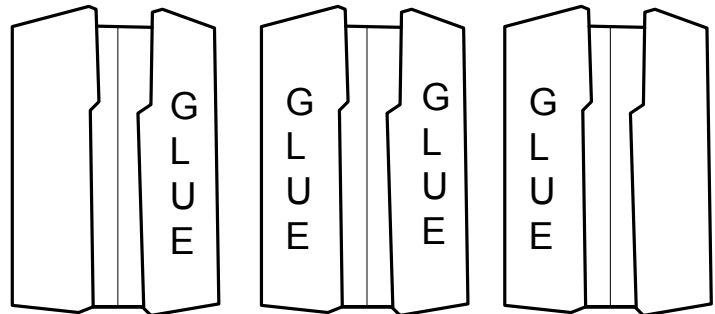
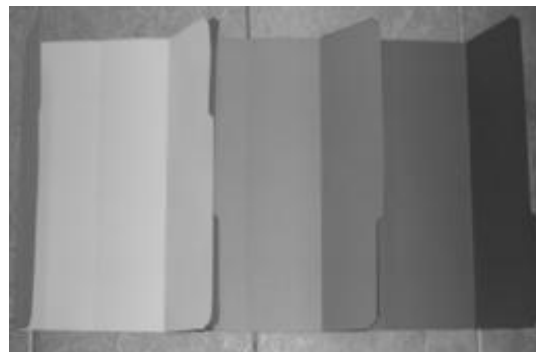
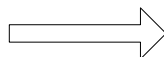


Photo of a completed lapbook base



Supplies and Storage

- *Lapbook Pages
- *3 Colored File Folders
- *Scissors
- *Glue
- *Stapler
- *Brads (not needed for every lapbook. If brads are not available, a stapler will do.)
- *Hole Puncher (again, not needed for every lapbook.)

To make the storage system (optional)

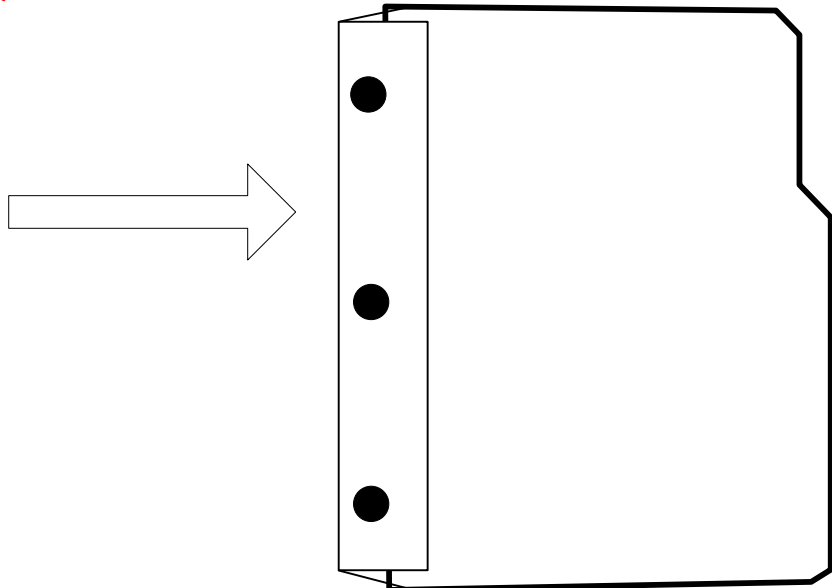
See details below about the use of a storage system.

- *Duct tape (any color)
- *One 3-ring binder
- *Hole Puncher

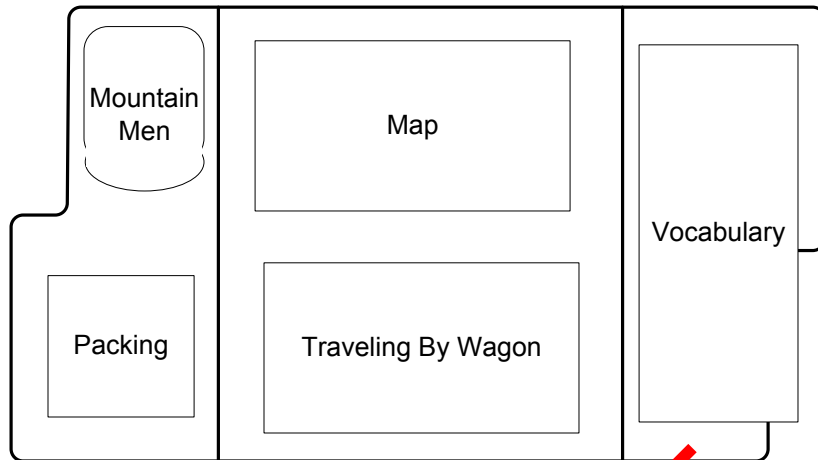
My child has made several lapbooks. Can I store all of the lapbooks together in one place?

Yes! A three-ring binder serves as a great place to keep your lapbooks. This method of storage not only keeps your lapbooks from getting lost but also keeps them neat and readily available to share with dad, grandparents, friends, etc. When you are through sharing your lapbooks, just place the three-ring binder back on your bookshelf! Below are step-by-step directions of how to prepare each lapbook to be placed in a three-ring binder.

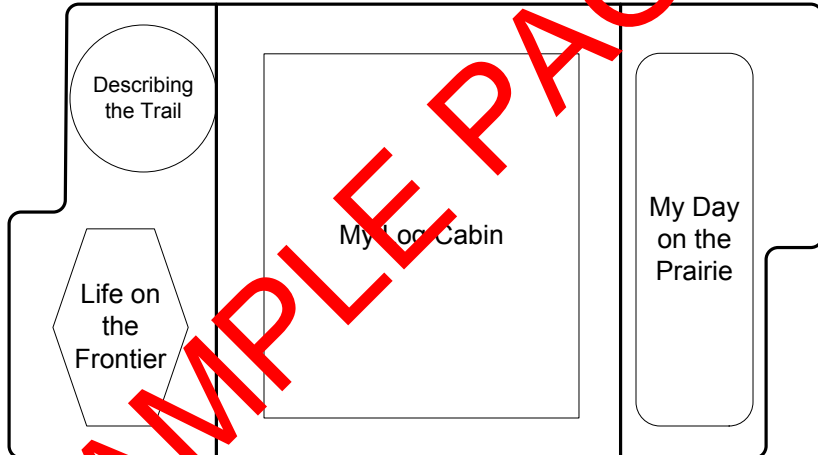
Close the lapbook. Measure a piece of duct tape that is as long as the lapbook. Place the edge of the duct tape on the top edge of the lapbook. Then fold the duct tape over so that it can be placed on the bottom edge. Make sure to leave enough duct tape sticking out from the edges to punch three holes. Be careful when punching the holes that you do not punch the holes in the folder. If you do, that's okay. Then place in three-ring binder. Depending on the size of your three-ring binder, you can store many lapbooks in it.



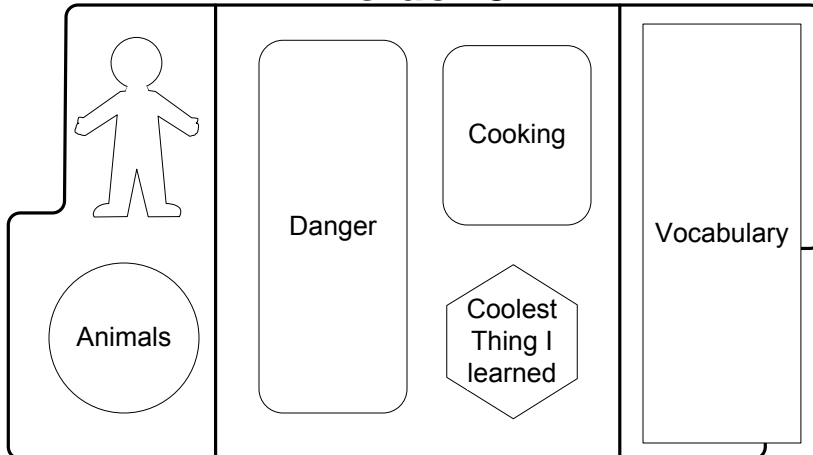
Folder 1



Folder 2



Folder 3



Cut out the page on the dotted lines. Glue to the front of your closed lapbook. Color the picture.

Going West



The American West

The United States is a big, big country. It hasn't always been that way. At first, the United States only owned the land east of the Appalachian Mountains. Then, in 1803, Thomas Jefferson purchased the **Louisiana Territory**.

The Louisiana Territory belonged to a country in Europe: France. The French government needed some money and decided to sell their American land. Nobody knew how big the Louisiana Territory really was.

Thomas Jefferson wanted to find out everything he could about the land he had just bought. He sent two explorers, **Meriwether Lewis and William Clark**, in a great adventure that changed the United States forever.

Lewis and Clark were the first Americans to go west. They opened the way to many more. Once Americans realized that there was so much land to be had, their sense of adventure awakened. Many families started to move west to settle this vast land. A new period in the history of the young country began. This period of history is known as the Western Expansion.

Trails of Adventure

As more people began to move west, overland routes began to develop. These paths were called trails. Along these trails, lines of wagons traveled carrying entire families who pushed west with the dream of finding land.

Most of these trails began in Independence, Missouri. From there, some would go northwest towards Oregon; others, would head southwest .

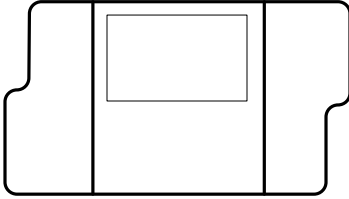
The **Santa Fe Trail** (draw this trail in red on the map) led from the Missouri river to Santa Fe, New Mexico. New Mexico wasn't part of the United States yet. Traders had heard of the riches of that land and were anxious to trade with them. The Santa Fe Trail was the route the traders used to bring their goods to Santa Fe.

The most popular of the trails was the **Oregon Trail** (draw this trail in green on the map). This trail was used by settlers who wanted to find land where they could stay and farm. This trail was 2000 miles long and went from Missouri to Oregon. From it, a branch headed south to California. This part was known as the **California Trail**.

Other popular trails were the **Mormon Trail**, leading to Utah, and the **Bozeman Trail**, heading into Montana.

***If you want to study the Mormon and Bozeman Trail on your own, you can also add these to your map and key.

Folder 1

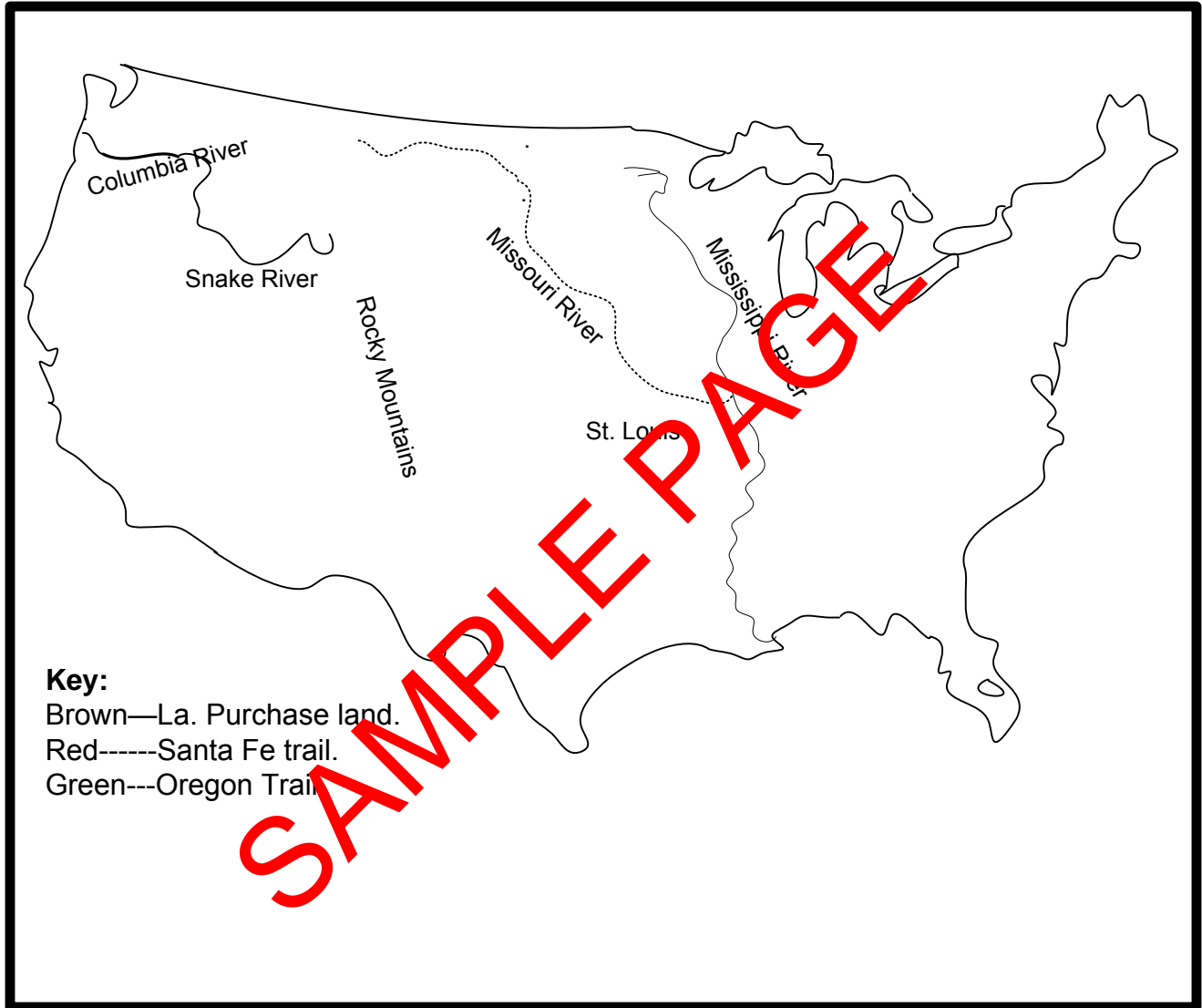


Read The American West and Trails of Adventure.

Cut out booklet. Glue into lapbook.

This map will be used throughout the lapbook. There is a place for your child to create a key at the bottom.

Directions: Color brown the area that was purchased in the La. Purchase.



Mountain Men and Trappers

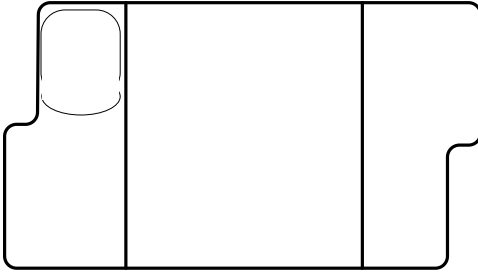
Men thirsty for adventure and life in the open country heard of the abundance of beavers in the western territories. They came and set their traps in the icy waters of the streams, trapped the beavers and took their furs. These furs would bring them good money!

Most of the year, these men would live in the wild country. Adventure and danger were their constant companions. Then, in the summer they traveled to meet other trappers. They traded, danced, raced horses and celebrated.

These men were not only trappers. Because of their great knowledge of the mountains, trails, short cuts, places to find water, and the dangers to avoid, these men served as a guide for the wagon trains. Some of them even wrote guidebooks to help the wagon trains get to where they were heading. Some of the most famous mountain men were Jim Beckwourth, Jim Bridger and Jedediah Smith.

As more people settled in the west and cities and trading post began to appear, these men were not needed any more. Their way of life disappeared to give way to a more civilized one.

Folder 1



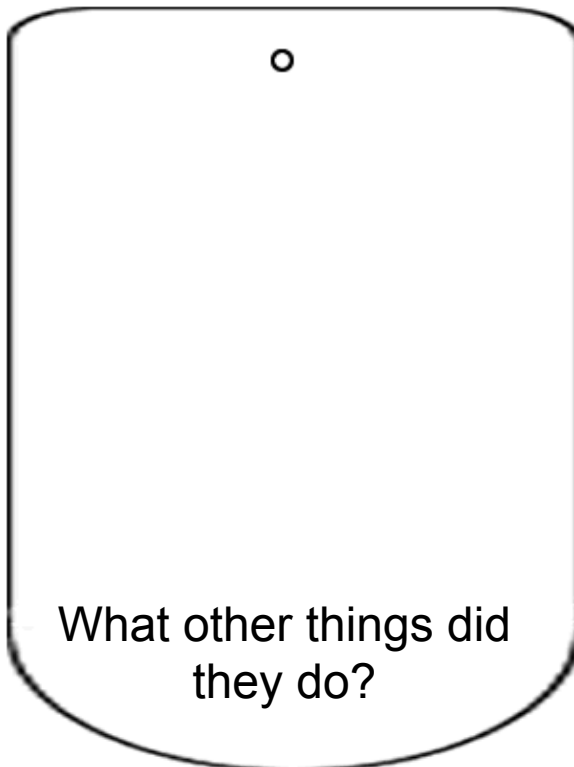
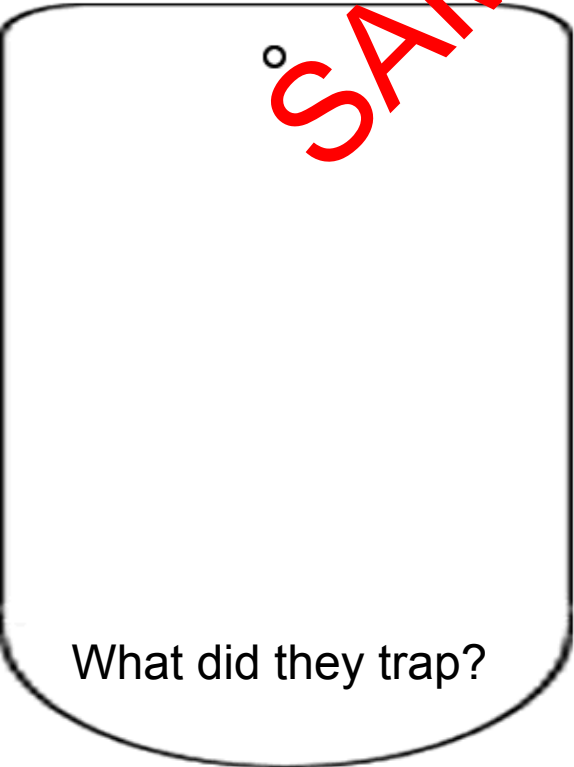
Read Mountain Men and Trappers.

Cut out all shapes. Stack with title on top and fasten them together with a brass fastener.

Directions: On each booklet, write or draw what you have learned.



SAMPLE PAGE



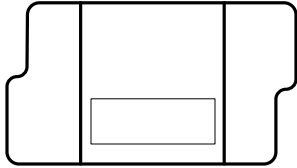
Wagons

Whether travelers were on the trail because they wanted to trade or because they wanted to settle in the west, they needed a way to carry goods or possessions on that long, long trip over thousands of miles. They used **wagons**.

Experience had taught the travelers that venturing alone was dangerous. They could be attacked by Indians. People traveling together organized themselves into **wagon trains**. Wagon trains were lines of wagon which stayed together, usually traveling in single file. The travelers elected a leader. At night time, the wagons formed a circle. Inside the circle, they cooked their meal and slept. Guards stayed up all night keeping watch for possible danger.

Traveling by wagon was hard. There were no roads and the bumping and jostling of the wagon was such that people preferred to walk alongside the wagon. Only really small children, the elderly or the sick stayed in the wagon. The wagon was packed full with all the things the settlers thought they might need to start their new life in the west. Wagons were pulled by either oxen or mules. The trip was slow and very long!

Folder 1



Read Wagons.

Cut out the two pieces on this page and the one on the next. Stack on top of each other and staple down the left side. Glue into lapbook.

Directions: On the booklets, write or draw about life on a wagon.

Cover label

Traveling By Wagon

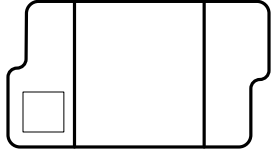


Wagon Train

Traveling By Wagon

SAMPLE PAGE

Folder 1

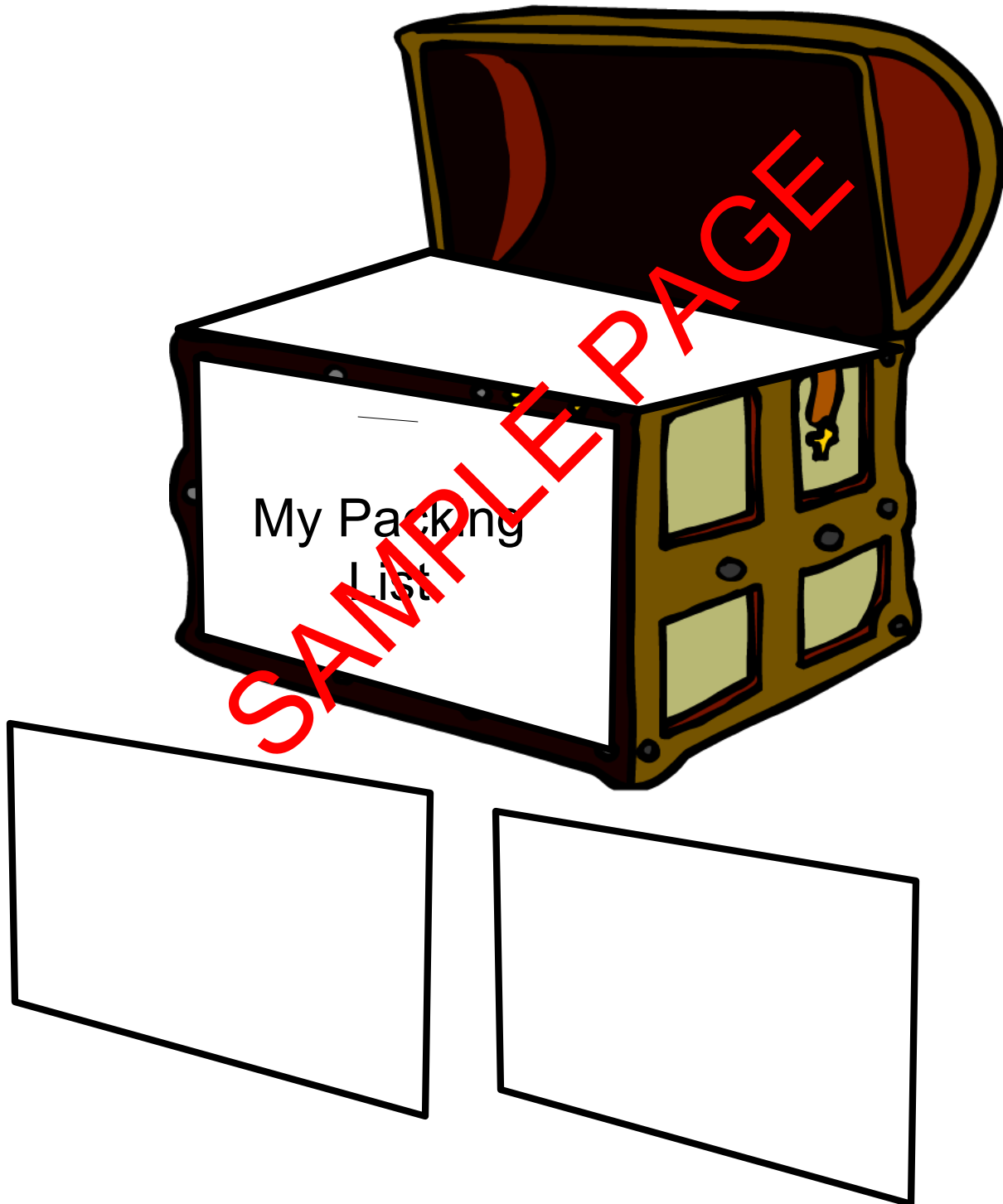


Read Wagons.

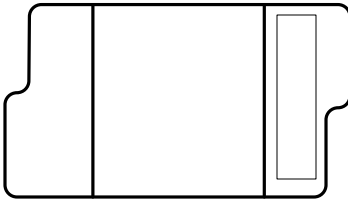
Cut out booklet as one piece. Cut out the two smaller pieces. Stack the two smaller pieces on top of the large square. Staple. Glue into lapbook.

Directions: On each booklet, write or draw what you would pack for your trip. In the top white space, draw things in your trunk.

This is a GREAT website that has fun ideas, crafts and even worksheets for your child to do!
<http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/485/files/wagon.pdf>



Folder 1



Cut out the booklet. Cut along the dotted lines to make tabs. Fold tabs over so that words are on top. Cut out the Words to Learn label and glue to side of booklet. Cut out the definitions from the next page.

Directions: Match the words with the right definitions. Glue each definition under the correct word tab. When you lift a tab, you see the definition for that word. Now glue the entire booklet into the lapbook.

	Louisiana Territory
	Merrill Lewis and William Clark
	Santa Fe Trail
	Oregon Trail
	Wagon Train

SAMPLE PAGE

WORDS
TO
LEARN

Cut out the definitions. Match the definitions with the words in the booklet.

A big piece of land purchased in 1803 from France.

A 2000 miles long trail that led from Missouri to Oregon.

Two men who explored the new western land.

Lines of wagons that traveled together, usually in single file.

This trail started at the Missouri River and ended at Santa Fe.

SAMPLE PAGE