



Grades 2-6

History in 12 Weeks

1492-1840

Columbus to the Industrial Revolution



A Journey Through Learning
www.ajourneythroughlearning.net

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Thank you for purchasing from **A Journey Through Learning**. We hope that you enjoy our new History in 12 Weeks activity book. The activity book is perfect to use as a quick, to the point study of history, but LOADED with fun activities! First, take the time to just browse through the pages to familiarize yourself with the layout. In this activity book, you will find many topics!

Each lesson will include:

Study Guide

Each of the topics has an information page to read to your child.

Activity Page

After the information page has been read, it is time to do the activity that is found right after the information page. Some of these activities are more for fun while others are more challenging. All of them will enrich your child's understanding and knowledge of each topic.

Research and/or Report Sheet

Craft Page and/or Cooking Fun

Coloring Sheet

How Long Does it Take to Complete This Activity Book?

This activity book contains 12 weeks of study. This program is simple enough that it can easily be used with other programs to help cover the high points. Yet, it is detailed enough that it can also serve as a quick overview or as a half year history program. 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!

What's covered each week?

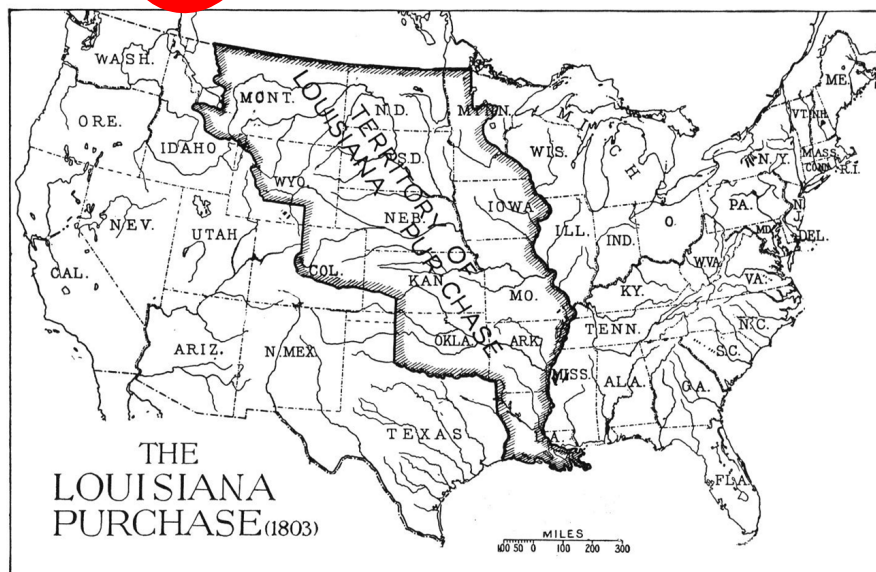
- Week 1: Christopher Columbus
- Week 2: Pilgrims
- Week 3: American Revolution
- Week 4: Declaration of Independence
- Week 5: George Washington
- Week 6: Louisiana Purchase
- Week 7: War of 1812
- Week 8: Missouri Compromise
- Week 9: Underground Railroad
- Week 10: Civil War
- Week 11: Abraham Lincoln
- Week 12: Industrial Revolution

Louisiana Purchase

The United States has not always been as big as it is now. When the Pilgrims first arrived, they settled along the east coast. As time passed, more people ventured farther and farther west. The Northwest Territory (now the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin) was settled by families wanting to farm the land. The young United States government wanted more land.

Up to this point, the Louisiana Territory was owned by France. Thomas Jefferson, the third president of the United States, negotiated the purchase of this territory with Napoleon Bonaparte, the ruler of France. Napoleon needed the money. He agreed to sell all of the Louisiana Territory to the United States for 15 million dollars. It was a bargain! The whole 828,000 square miles became American territory in 1803. The Louisiana Territory extended from the Mississippi River in the east to the Rocky Mountains in the west, and from the Gulf of Mexico in the south to the border with Canada in the north.

This vast territory was not completely explored. Many areas had never been visited by the white man. The United States government needed to send explorers to scout the land and bring back a report. President Jefferson chose his private secretary, Meriwether Lewis, to be the leader of the expedition. Lewis, in turn, chose William Clark as his co-leader. Together, they commanded one of the most amazing expeditions in U.S. history.



Meriwether Lewis

Meriwether Lewis was born August 18, 1774 in Virginia. His family had a great tradition of military heroes. His father, William Lewis, had served in the Continental Army. His mother, Lucy Meriwether, knew a lot about herbs and plants. She passed that love of plants to her son. Lewis' father died in 1779. Lucy married Captain John Marks in 1780 and the family moved from Virginia to Georgia.

In 1794, young Lewis joined the army. During his time in the army, he met and became friends with William Clark. In 1780, Meriwether Lewis became a captain in the United States Army.

When Thomas Jefferson became president, he asked Lewis to be his private secretary. Jefferson was interested in exploring the American continent. In preparation, he sent Lewis to study different areas such as botany and nation history with leading scientists. After the Louisiana Purchase, the expedition became a reality. Lewis was put in charge of selecting the members of the expedition. The expedition took place from 1804 to 1806.

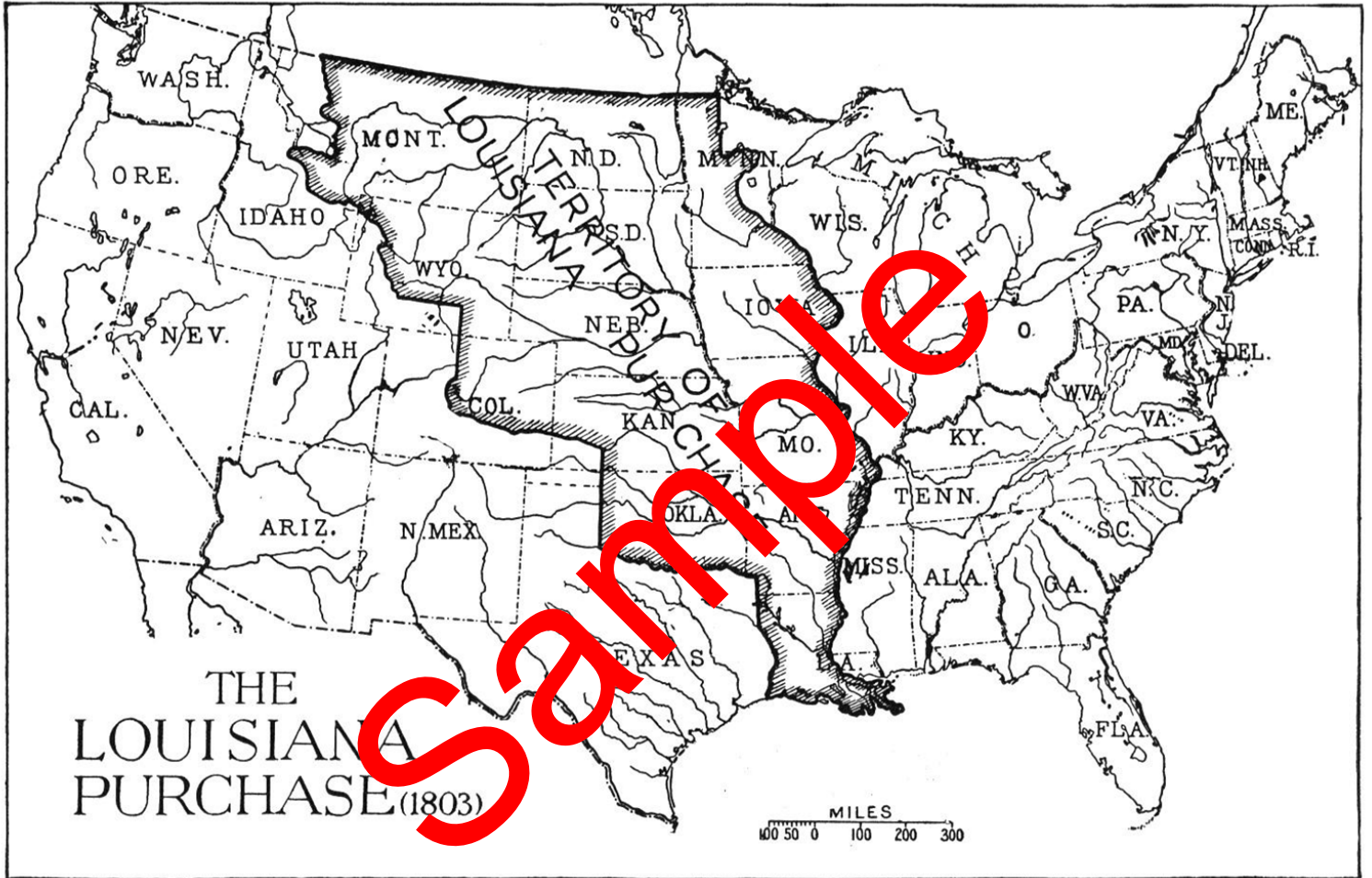
All through the expedition Lewis wrote his impressions. He collected examples of animals and plants to bring back. Jefferson named Meriwether Lewis Governor of Louisiana and, in 1809, when he was on his way to visit Jefferson, Lewis died.

William Clark

William Clark was one of ten children. He was born in Virginia on August 1, 1770. The family moved to Kentucky in 1784. William joined the Kentucky Militia and later the Army. During his time in the army, Clark learned many skills that later served him well. He was a good leader and was promoted to captain in 1795. One of the members of his company was Meriwether Clark. Both men became fast friends. After an illness in 1796, Clark retired from the army and returned to Kentucky to help with the family business.

When the expedition to the Louisiana Territory was formed, Lewis chose Clark as his co-leader. Clark brought to the expedition his outdoors skills and his ability to relate to the Indians. During the expedition, Clark was the cartographer or map maker. His maps, even though they had some mistakes, were a great resource.

Color the Louisiana Territory green.



What I Would Take
on a Wilderness
Journey

Pretend you are going
on a wilderness
exploration trip. What
do you think you would
need? Draw the items
on the bag.

Sample

Meriwether Lewis Biography Book Report

Report- Week 6

Title: _____

Author: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

This book was about: _____

From reading this book, I learned _____

This person was famous or remembered for _____

Sample

William Clark Biography Book Report

Report- Week 6

Title: _____

Author: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

This book was about: _____

From reading this book, I learned _____

This person was famous or remembered for _____

Sample



The Louisiana Purchase