

Lesson Title: Follow the Santa Fe Trail
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Grade 5-8, Social Studies
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Teaching American History Program
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Mike Lair, Project Director
<http://www.chillihistoryproject.com/>

Lesson Overview:

This lesson is designed to help students make a connection to the geography of the Santa Fe Trail. It is intended to be part of a lesson on the 5 Themes of Geography.

The link takes students to pictures taken along the Santa Fe Trail in June of 2008.

The pictures can be viewed on the map from the Picasa web page.

Each picture is tagged with the location (latitude and longitude) and the elevation the picture was taken. The pictures may also be viewed in Google Earth from the web photo link.

Essential Questions:

How did the geography change as people traveled over the Santa Fe Trail from Franklin, Mo to Santa Fe, NM?

What challenges did the geography of the trail present as people traveled west?

What role did climate play in the difficulties of travel along the trail?

Objectives:

- Students will be able to describe how the geographical theme of place affects travel. (GLE 5, B SS5 1.4, 1.5)
- Students will be able to give examples of how the geography of place changes from Santa Fe, NM to the trails beginnings in Missouri (GLE 5, C, SS 1.10 and 1.6)

<http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/curriculum/GLE/SSGLE10.20.04.pdf> (Mo DESE Grade level expectations link)

Assessment:

Students will describe 5 geographic features present on the Santa Fe Trail. Giving specific examples of the geographic theme of Place for each feature they describe.

Using the photographs and the map, give both the absolute and relative location of at least 3 of the places in the photograph.

Materials:

Teachers Guide

Attached rubric

Rubric:

The Santa Fe Trail	Poor 1 pts	Fair 2 pts	Good 3 pts	Excellent 4 pts
Explanation	Poor Missing Key Points	Fair Explanation is unclear	Good Good solid response with clear explanation	Excellent A complete response with a detailed explanation
Demonstrated Knowledge	Poor Response shows a complete lack of understanding for the content area	Fair Response shows some understanding of the content area	Good Shows substantial understanding of the content area	Excellent Shows complete understanding of the content area
Requirements	Poor Does not meet the requirements of the Project	Fair Hardly meets the requirements of the project	Good Meets the requirements of the project	Excellent Exceeds the requirements of the project

Comments:

Class time:
1-3 Class periods

Teacher Input:

Lead class discussion of each photograph on the map.

Activities:

Students should be directed to this photo gallery to view the placement of each photograph on the map.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/27771387@N06/map/>

<http://picasaweb.google.com/keithdewey3/FollowTheSantaFeTrail> then click on “view map”

Each student should describe the geography of place for each photograph
Each student should copy the latitude, longitude and elevation for each location on the map.

Questions for review:

How did the geography change between Missouri and New Mexico?

How did geography affect the building materials used at each end of the trail? What was different?

How much did the elevation change between Kansas City, Mo and Santa Fe, NM?

What is the difference in latitude between Kansas City, Mo and Santa Fe, NM?

What is the difference in longitude?

Closure:

Discuss the impact geography had on travel along the Santa Fe Trail.

References:

“Following the Santa Fe Trail” by Marc Simmons and Hal Jackson, Ancient City Press 1984, 2001

Teachers guide:

Salt Well at Booneslick, Mo

<http://www.mostateparks.com/booneslick/geninfo.htm>

Fort Osage, Mo

<http://www.epsi.net/graphic/fthist.html>

Albert Boone Store, Westport, Mo

<http://www.westporthistorical.org/kellys.html>

Steamboat Arabia, Kansas City, MO

<http://www.1856.com/>

Mahaffie Farmstead, Olathe, Ks

<http://www.olatheks.org/Mahaffie/About>

Ralph Hathaway, Ralph's Ruts, Chase, Ks

<http://www.nps.gov/archive/safe/fnl-sft/photos/kspages/ralphs.htm>

Pawnee Rock, Pawnee Rock, Ks

<http://www.kshs.org/places/pawneerock/>

Santa Fe Trail Center, Larned, Ks

<http://www.santafetrailcenter.org/>

Boot Hill, Dodge City, Ks

<http://www.boothill.org/>

Santa Fe Trail Marker

<http://www.nps.gov/archive/safe/fnl-sft/certguide/certguide.htm>

Autograph Rock, Boise City, Ok

http://www.cccok.org/autograph_rock.htm

McNee's Crossing

<http://www.santafetrailnm.org/site30.htm>

View of the Rockies, NM

Wagon Mound, near Colmer, NM

<http://www.nps.gov/archive/safe/fnl-sft/maps/map7s/wgnmdtbl.htm>

Ft Union, NM

<http://uspark.about.com/library/miniplanner/blfortunionnm.htm>

Pecos Ruins, NM

<http://www.nps.gov/peco>

Santa Fe, NM

http://www.americansouthwest.net/new_mexico/santa_fe/index.html

Ruins at Bandelier National Monument, NM

<http://www.nps.gov/band/historyculture/index.htm>

Taos Pueblo, NM

<http://www.nps.gov/history/worldheritage/taos.htm>

Mt Man Rendevvous, NM

<http://cap-n-ball.com/raton/>

Near Stonewall, CO

Bent's Fort, La Junta, CO

<http://www.nps.gov/beol>

Boggs House, Boggsville, CO

<http://www.ghosttowns.com/states/co/boggsville.html>

Custer House, Ft. Riley, KS

<http://www.prairieghosts.com/riley.html>

I took these photographs in June, 2008, while traveling the Santa Fe Trail with a group of fellow teachers. Please feel free to copy or print any pictures you would like to use in any way. If you have any requests for additional photographs of places along the trail you would like to include but can't find a copy of it here please feel free to contact me at kfoster@ccr3.k12.mo.us. If I have a picture of that place or object I will be happy to share it with you.