

Santa Fe Trail Timeline  
Lesson Design by: Sondra Ussary  
Amazonia Elementary, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Social Studies  
June 2008

Lesson Overview: This lesson challenges students to construct a timeline of the Santa Fe Trail. Students will be given important points and events to research and then they will construct a timeline.

Objectives: After completing this lesson the student will be able to:

- *7A.4 - Use and evaluate primary and secondary sources*
- *7A.4 - Identify and use media resources*
- *7B.4 - Create a timeline*

Materials:

Information cards  
Date cards  
Long piece of paper  
Scrap paper  
Black marker  
Pencil  
Computers  
Internet access

Class Time:

2 – 50 minute class periods

## Teacher Input:

1. Prepare before the lesson by printing the “Event” and “Date” cards. You will need to prepare 1 set for each group of 2 students.
2. Say: “The Santa Fe Trail’s history goes back to the 1600’s. We are going to construct a timeline representing important events and points on the trail.”  
Q.Does anyone know what the Santa Fe Trail is?  
A. Trail for pioneers.  
Q.Who knows what U.S. state Santa Fe is in?  
A. New Mexico
3. Explain that the Santa Fe Trail was use for delivery of goods to the town of Santa Fe and all the people in between. The Santa Fe Trail was a historic 19th century transportation route through southwestern North America connecting Missouri with Santa Fe, New Mexico.
4. Group the students in pairs.
5. Hand out cards (event & date) and rubric.
6. Explain: Each group will use the internet to find information about the “event” cards and then place them with the correct “date” card.
7. After every “event” card has a “date” card, place them on your timeline in the correct numerical order.
8. Check your rubric making sure that your group has followed all directions.

### Activities:

1. Students will read and organize the “event” cards matching the correct “date” cards.
2. Students will place each set of cards in the correct order constructing a timeline of the Santa Fe Trail.
3. Students will use a computer and navigate the internet to find the information they need to complete the activity.

### Closure:

Recap the purpose of the Santa Fe Trail. The Santa Fe Trail was used for delivery of goods to the town of Santa Fe and all the people in between. The Trail was a historic 19th century transportation route through southwestern North America connecting Missouri with Santa Fe, New Mexico. Thousands of people travel the trail to make their way west and make a new life for themselves and their families. The trail was full of hardships and triumphs.

### Assessment:

Hand out the **group evaluation** and have each student complete one.

**Scoring Guide** for timeline (attached)

## References:

Santa Fe Trail Adventures by Dave Webb

rubistar.4teachers.org

<http://www.thesantafesite.com/history.html>

<http://www.tamu.edu/ccbn/dewitt/pikejour.htm>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_Mexico](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Mexico)

[http://books.google.com/books?id=QMwldQeORxcC&pg=RA1-PA199&lpg=RA1-PA199&dq=William++Cimmaron+Route&source=web&ots=MxBvPGbyVW&sig=B\\_Sd6883o9caPwRdxv1-85myCa3s&hl=en&sa=X&oi=book\\_result&resnum=8&ct=result](http://books.google.com/books?id=QMwldQeORxcC&pg=RA1-PA199&lpg=RA1-PA199&dq=William++Cimmaron+Route&source=web&ots=MxBvPGbyVW&sig=B_Sd6883o9caPwRdxv1-85myCa3s&hl=en&sa=X&oi=book_result&resnum=8&ct=result)

<http://garrison.leavenworth.army.mil/sites/local/>

<http://www.jstor.org/pss/1892200>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_Mexico#War\\_with\\_the\\_United\\_States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Mexico#War_with_the_United_States)

<http://ceres.ca.gov/ceres/calweb/geology/goldrush.html>

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

<http://www.sangres.com/history/uncledick.htm>

<http://www.sangres.com/history/santafetrail/timeline01.htm>

***“A People without history are like the wind on the buffalo grass...”***  
**Lakota**

## Group Member Evaluation

Directions: Cut apart the boxes below to grade each member of your group. Fill in the information and rate your group members on the following scale:

- 3 did their job and contributed ideas
- 2 did their job or gave ideas but not both
- 1 didn't do anything

Your Name: Activity: Group Members                      Rating	Your Name: Activity: Group Members                      Rating
1.                                      3    2    1	1.                                      3    2    1
2.                                      3    2    1	2.                                      3    2    1
3.                                      3    2    1	3.                                      3    2    1
4.                                      3    2    1	4.                                      3    2    1
Your Name: Activity: Group Members                      Rating	Your Name: Activity: Group Members                      Rating
1.                                      3    2    1	1.                                      3    2    1
2.                                      3    2    1	2.                                      3    2    1
3.                                      3    2    1	3.                                      3    2    1
4.                                      3    2    1	4.                                      3    2    1

## TimeLine Rubric

### Timeline : Santa Fe Trail

Teacher Name: **Mrs. Ussary**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Title	The timeline has a creative title that accurately describes the material and is easy to locate.	The timeline has an effective title that accurately describes the material and is easy to locate.	The timeline has a title that is easy to locate.	The title is missing or difficult to locate.
Dates	An accurate, complete date has been included for each event.	An accurate, complete date has been included for almost every event.	An accurate date has been included for almost every event.	Dates are inaccurate and/or missing for several events.
Time Use	Classroom time was used to work on the project. Conversations were not disruptive and focused on the work.	Classroom time was used to work on the project the majority of the time. Conversations were not disruptive and	Classroom time was used to work on the project the majority of the time, but conversations often were disruptive or did	Student did not use classroom time to work on the project and/or was highly disruptive.
Content/Facts	Facts were accurate for all events reported on the timeline.	Facts were accurate for almost all events reported on the timeline.	Facts were accurate for most (~75%) of the events reported on the timeline.	Facts were often inaccurate for events reported on the timeline.

Date Created: **Jun 17, 2008 01:06 pm (CDT)**

## Answer Key for Timeline

1692 – Santa Fe was established as the capital of Spanish New Mexico

1807 – American explorer Zebulon was arrested and taken to Santa Fe

1821 - Mexico won independence from Spain, making Santa Fe a Mexican city.

1822 - William Becknell used the Cimarron Route to take the first wagons to Santa Fe.

1827 - Fort Leavenworth was established.

1829 - First time U.S. troops escorted a Trail caravan.

1846 - The U.S. declared war on Mexico.

1848 - Mexican War ended; gained land from New Mexico to California, making Santa Fe an American city.

1848 - California gold rush began.

1851 - Fort Union was established

1859 - Colorado gold rush started.

1866 - “Uncle Dick” Wootton started a toll road through Raton Pass that made Mountain Route popular.

1880 - AT&SF Railroad reached Santa Fe, ending wagon days of the Santa Fe Trail.

1987 - President Ronald Reagan signed a bill making Santa Fe Trail a national historic trail.

## Event Cards

Santa Fe was established as the capital of Spanish New Mexico	American explorer Zebulon was arrested and taken to Santa Fe
Mexico won independence from Spain, making Santa Fe a Mexican city.	William Becknell used the Cimarron Route to take the first wagons to Santa Fe.
Fort Leavenworth was established.	First time U.S. troops escorted a Trail caravan.
The U.S. declared war on Mexico.	Mexican War ended; gained land from New Mexico to California, making Santa Fe an American city.
California gold rush began.	Fort Union was established
Colorado gold rush started.	“Uncle Dick” Wootton started a toll road through Raton Pass that made Mountain Route popular.
AT&SF Railroad reached Santa Fe, ending wagon days of the Santa Fe Trail.	President Ronald Reagan signed a bill making Santa Fe Trail a national historic trail.

Date Cards

<b>1692</b>	<b>1807</b>
<b>1821</b>	<b>1822</b>
<b>1827</b>	<b>1829</b>
<b>1846</b>	<b>1848</b>
<b>1848</b>	<b>1851</b>
<b>1859</b>	<b>1866</b>
<b>1880</b>	<b>1987</b>