Focus on 3 trails in this section:

- Oregon Trail
- Santa Fe Trail
- Mormon Trail

Oregon Trail

Started in Independence, Missouri and ends in Oregon Territory

2,000 miles long

Between 1846 and 1869 over 400,000 people travel on the trail west
Split into California and Mormon Trails as well

**Conestoga Wagon**

Carried 6,000 pounds pulled by 8/10 animals

---

Split into California and Mormon Trails as well

**Conestoga Wagon**

Carried 6,000 pounds pulled by 8/10 animals

---

Prairie Schooner

Half size of Conestoga carries 2,500 pounds pulled by 4 or 6 animals

---

Many on trail traveled in wagon trains (a group of wagons) for safety and cooperation
Average day on trail:

- started at 4 AM
- start on trail at 7 AM
- noon lunch break
- 1 PM back on trail
- stop at 7 PM
- bed at 8 PM

Could cover about 15 miles in an average day

Could cover 20 miles in a good day

Most people walked the entire day, riding in wagon was too bumpy

Dangers on the trail:

- disease (cholera)
- accidents
- shooting
- drowning
- run overs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oregon-California-Mormon Trail Deaths</th>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Estimated deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disease</td>
<td>6,000–12,500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian attack</td>
<td>3,000–4,500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freezing</td>
<td>300–500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Run overs</td>
<td>200–500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drownings</td>
<td>200–500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shootings</td>
<td>200–500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>200–500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scurvy</td>
<td>500–500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>9,400–21,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Many kept journals, kept track of landmarks along the way.

Chimney Rock

Independence Rock

Forts were located along the trail and provided goods and food.
Santa Fe Trail

Connected
Independence, Missouri
with Santa Fe, New Mexico

Around 800 miles long

Santa Fe Trail was mainly for goods and products
Mormon Trail

Trail from Nauvoo, Illinois to Salt Lake City, Utah

1,300 miles in length

Handcarts were used instead of wagons in many cases