

## **Interesting Facts about the Historic Trails**

**(Explore the Galleries and Handouts) Fill in the blanks.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ trekked from west to east in 1812 after losing a ship off the Oregon coastline and discovered South Pass.
- \_\_\_\_\_ was a mountain man who rediscovered South Pass in 1824 while traveling west.
- \_\_\_\_\_ led the first wagon train over the south pass in 1832.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ caused many farmers to lose their farms and encouraged some to travel to the Oregon territory where land was free.
- In the Great Migration the first large caravan of settlers headed to the Oregon Territory in \_\_\_\_\_ (date).
- The Missourian cities of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ became two of the most famous jumping off points for the Oregon Trail.
- Conestoga wagons were heavy farm wagons used by earlier travelers on the trail. These heavy wagons were replaced by \_\_\_\_\_ which were narrower wagons designed for travel along the trails.
- \_\_\_\_\_ were the draft animal of choice for the emigration west because they were cheaper than mules and horses, were less likely to be stolen, were strong and constant, and tasted good if needed for food.
- At an oxen's top speed of 2 mph, more than \_\_\_\_\_ miles could be covered on a good day.
- The average family spent \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to outfit their wagon for the trip: flour, bacon, sugar, coffee, beans, rice, salt and pepper
- Emigrants packed enough food and clothing for a minimum of \_\_\_\_\_ months.
- \_\_\_\_\_ was the first child to die from an accident on the Oregon Trail. His grave marker is still visible today near Glenrock, Wyoming.
- The one-hour midday rest known as " \_\_\_\_\_ " gave everyone a rest to recuperate for travel during the second half of the day.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is the term used by the *New York Morning News* to describe Americans' pursuit of westward expansion. (This term was coined by John L. O'Sullivan in 1845.)
- The Donation Land Law of 1850 gave \_\_\_\_\_ of land to each family willing to settle in the Oregon territory.
- It is estimated that between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ travelers journeyed along the Oregon Trail.
- Disease made traveling on the trail difficult. Some were already sick with consumption (tuberculosis) and were making the trip for a healthier climate. Others caught diseases like Pneumonia, whooping cough, measles, and smallpox on the trail. Another disease, \_\_\_\_\_, mostly transmitted through contaminated drinking water or food was the deadliest disease on the trail.

**Note: Do you still have questions? Ask a volunteer -guide or interpreter.**