

# Fort Davis

## National Historic Site

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



Curriculum Materials Grades 9-12

Student Activity: Travel Through Time

LESSON: Travel Through Time

Summary: Students research National Park Service sites that connect to Western Expansion. Students design a travel brochure to advertise the park. As there are over 70 National Parks and Historic Sites that relate to Westward Expansion, each student should have a different focus.

Guiding Question: How do units of the National Park Service reflect and preserve the experience of Westward Expansion?

Objectives: Students will—

- Understand the role that units of the National Park Service play in preserving America's heritage
- Understand that multiple locations in America represent the experience of Westward Expansion

Materials Needed:

- Access to computers with internet connection
- Assignment sheets (3 pages)
- Blank paper and art materials

Procedure:

1. Using the National Park Service website ([www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)), students will select a Park or Historic Site. In the category "westward expansion," there are over 70 parks for the students to choose from.
2. Once students have made their selection, they design a brochure to advertise the park to the general public. This assignment can be completed on software such as "Microsoft Publisher," if the software is available. If software is not available, students use the information they gather to then create their publication using other software or by hand.

3. Now, create a brochure, poster, or other visual aid to “sell” the place back then to people traveling during the era of Western Expansion! Why should they stop there? What amenities would they find there? Why should they stop there and not at the next place?
4. Compare and contrast the travelers then and now. What things would both groups want? What things would be different?

Assessment: Grade students on accuracy of information, creativity, and completeness of brochure or final product(s).

National Social Studies Standards:

*III. Social studies programs should include experiences that provide for the study of people, places, and environments.*

*V. Social studies programs should include experiences that provide for the study of interactions among individuals, groups, and institutions.*

*VI. Social studies programs should include experiences that provide for the study of how people create and change structures of power, authority, and governance.*

*VII. Social studies programs should include experiences that provide for the study of how people organize for the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services.*