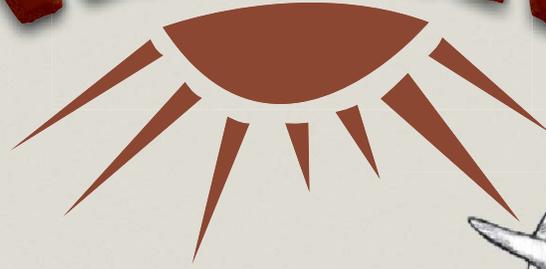




# JUNIOR WAGON MASTERS



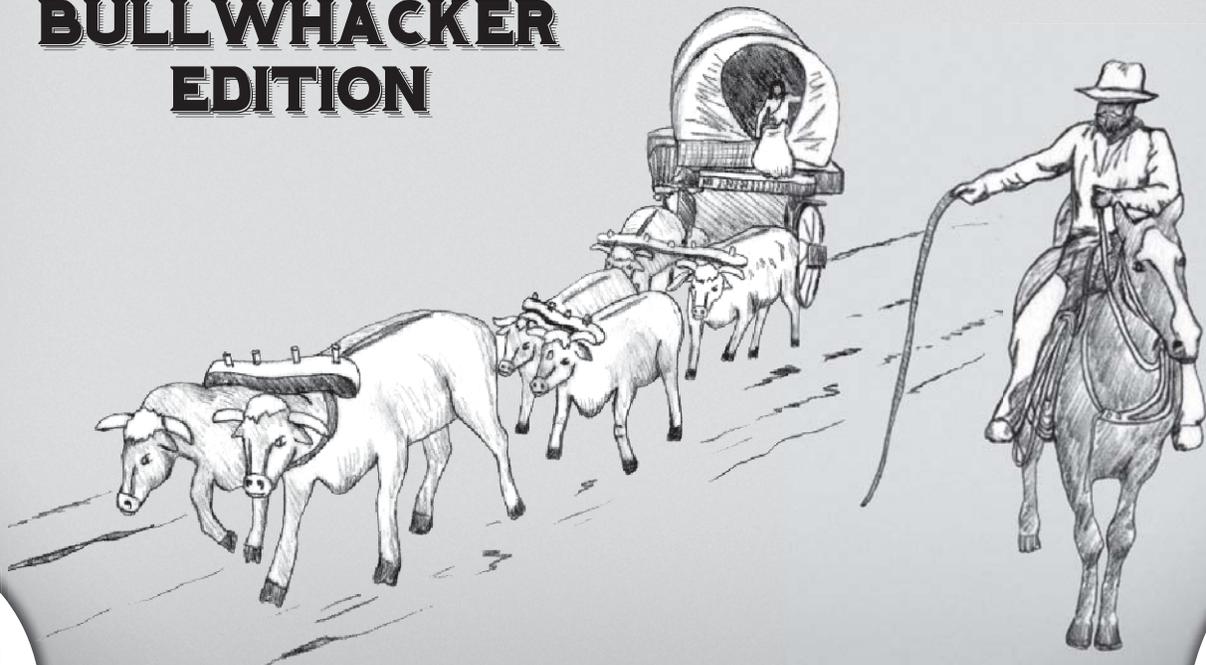
JOIN THE WAGON TRAIN  
**WAGONS HO!**



OF THE *Santa Fe Trail*

AN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY PROGRAM

**BULLWHACKER  
 EDITION**

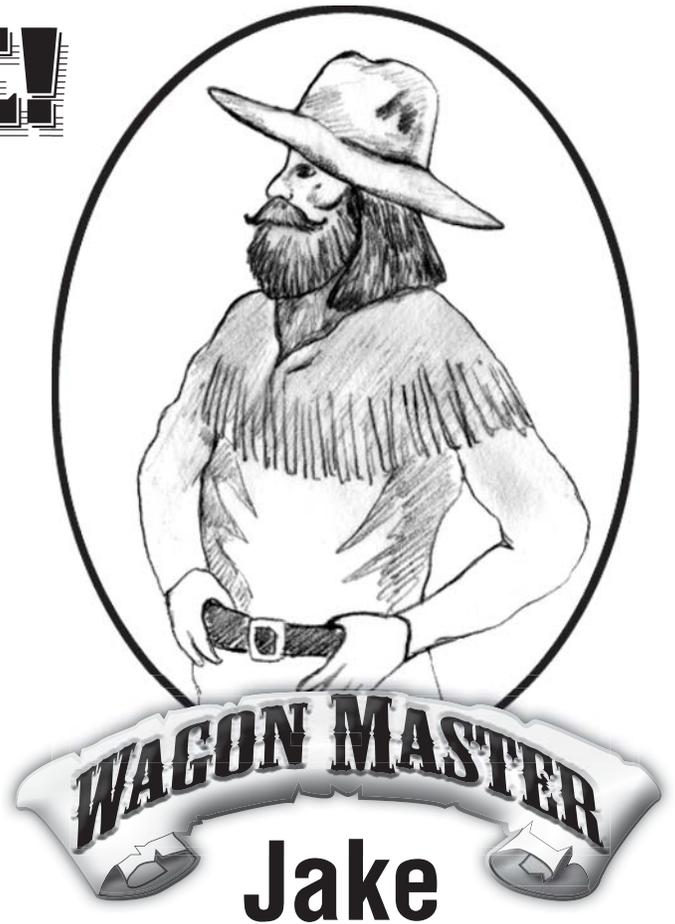


# WELCOME!

Glad to have you on the Santa Fe Trail wagon train! I'm Jake, by the way, the Wagon Master.

It's good that you happened by, because I'm in need of helpers up and down the Trail!

After you learn about the Santa Fe Trail and complete the activities, I'll make you an official **Junior Wagon Master!**



# TRAVEL TODAY!

You will probably be traveling by car along highways and county roads. In the days of the Santa Fe Trail, it took the wagons pulled by draft animals three months to get from Franklin, Missouri, to Santa Fe, in Mexico, traveling along rivers and creeks, and American Indian trails. Time to get you outfitted and give you a job! Read on to find out more!

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## SANTA FE TRAIL JUNIOR WAGON MASTER PROGRAM CONTRIBUTORS

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# WORKING ON THE WAGON TRAIN!



**Ages  
12 to 14**

## .....EXPLORE THE PAST.....

The Santa Fe Trail was used from 1821 until 1880, when the first railroad made it to Santa Fe. The Santa Fe National Historic Trail was made a part of the National Trails System as part of the National Park Service in 1987. The NATIONAL PARK SERVICE and SANTA FE TRAIL ASSOCIATION worked together to create this program for you.

In your role as a **Bullwhacker**, you are essential to the daily travel on the Trail. Bullwhackers were skilled at guiding oxen, to make them turn left or right, or start and stop. No bullwhacker was without a bull-whip—up to 20 feet long! Two hands were needed to crack the buckskin “poppers” at the end of long whips, but good drivers could flick flies off an ox’s ear without hitting the animal.

**Keep going strong!**

There’s more to do on the wagon train! These other **Junior Wagon Master Booklets** have something for everyone!



**Ages 5 to 8**



**Ages 9 to 11**



**Ages 15 and up**

## .....TAKE THE SANTA FE TRAIL.....

When you begin your journey to become a Junior Wagon Master, you will learn the history of the Santa Fe Trail by visiting sites along portions of the 900-mile historic route. You will learn to protect special places along the Trail, while exploring where trail travelers went, and studying how they lived.

# HISTORIC OVERVIEW OF THE SANTA FE TRAIL

From 1821 to 1880, the Santa Fe Trail was used for hauling and selling trade goods and eventually army supplies. A few families did travel the Trail looking for a new place to live, but that was not the main purpose.

The Trail first began in Franklin, Missouri. As the steamboats traveled further west along the Missouri River, the jumping-off points or starting points also moved west. Eventually railroads began to push westward from Missouri, which also caused changes in the jumping-off points.

Between Missouri and southwestern Kansas, the Trail was one route. Near present-day Dodge City, Kansas, the Trail split into two routes. One branch went south crossing the Arkansas River, traveling through very dry country referred to as the *Jornada*. This part of the trail

was called the Cimarron Route. The other branch went west to the Rocky Mountains and then turned south. This branch was called the Mountain Route. Eventually the two joined near Fort Union in present-day New Mexico and proceeded to Santa Fe.

Three cultures were affected by commercial trade on the Trail. American Indians, who had lived along the route for centuries, had already developed trading and hunting trails, and now they had new people moving through their lands. Mexicans who lived in northern Mexico were isolated on the frontier and did not have a way to trade for manufactured goods until the Trail opened in 1821. Americans began moving west to take advantage of opportunities to trade along the Trail. Life changed forever for all three cultures.



# A WORD OF ADVICE



You are not expected to travel the entire Trail at one time. Each booklet has been divided into four sections:

## **Eastern Terminus**

(Missouri & Kansas)

## **Central Portion**

(Kansas)

## **Mountain Route & Cimarron Route**

(Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, & northern New Mexico)

## **Western Terminus**

(Santa Fe, New Mexico, area)



Each booklet contains the same background information which is intended to let visitors know the importance of the sites to the history of the Trail.

**Adults accompanying younger children should assist them as they work through the booklet, because everybody should lend a hand on the Santa Fe Trail!**

# YOUR GOAL:

## HAVE FUN LEARNING HISTORY!

To qualify for one of the Junior Wagon Master Section Patches you must complete a total of **eight activities** in a geographic section. The eight activities could be a combination of **site tasks**, **Wagon Master Challenges**, or **side trips**. Once you have completed those eight you will show your booklet to a staff person in one of the designated museums or National Park locations (see back page). This person will help you check your answers for completion and then you will be awarded with a patch that represents that section of the trail. How far on the Santa Fe Trail can you go? Try to collect all four Section Patches!



# YOUR GUIDE:

## HOW TO USE YOUR BOOKLET

For each location you visit in a section there are **site tasks** related to that place. There are also **Wagon Master Challenges** related to the trail which can be completed as you drive from site to site or even at home. Finally, there are **side trips** that you might find interesting as you travel. If you go to one of these, take a picture to show you were at the site.

**Look for these icons to help you plan your visits to sites along the Santa Fe National Historic Trail:**



Kepi Cap for Military History



Freight Wagon for Anglo-American Culture



Hand Cart for Mexican Culture



Eagle Feather for American Indian Culture



Trail Marker for NPS/SFTA Signs & Information



DAR for Daughters of the American Revolution Marker



Mountain for Landmarks & Unique Terrain



Dollar Sign for Admission Fees



Checkmark for Site to Share Booklet for Staff Checking



Highway Sign for Driving Directions & Address Info

# YOUR GEAR:

## THINGS TO BRING ALONG

Pocket Folder  
Camera

Crayons  
Blank Paper

Pencils  
Bug Spray

Hat  
Sunscreen

Water  
Map/GPS Locator

# YOUR CHOICE

## OF THE SANTA FE TRAIL

### *The Eastern Terminus*

PAGE

6

SIDE TRIP



Watch for Eastern Side Trips or see Page 28

### *The Central Portion*

PAGE

30

SIDE TRIP



Watch for Central Side Trips or see Page 52

### *The Mountain Route & Cimarron Route*

PAGE

54

SIDE TRIP



Watch for Routes Side Trips or see Page 76

### *The Western Terminus*

PAGE

82

SIDE TRIP



Watch for Western Side Trips or see Page 98