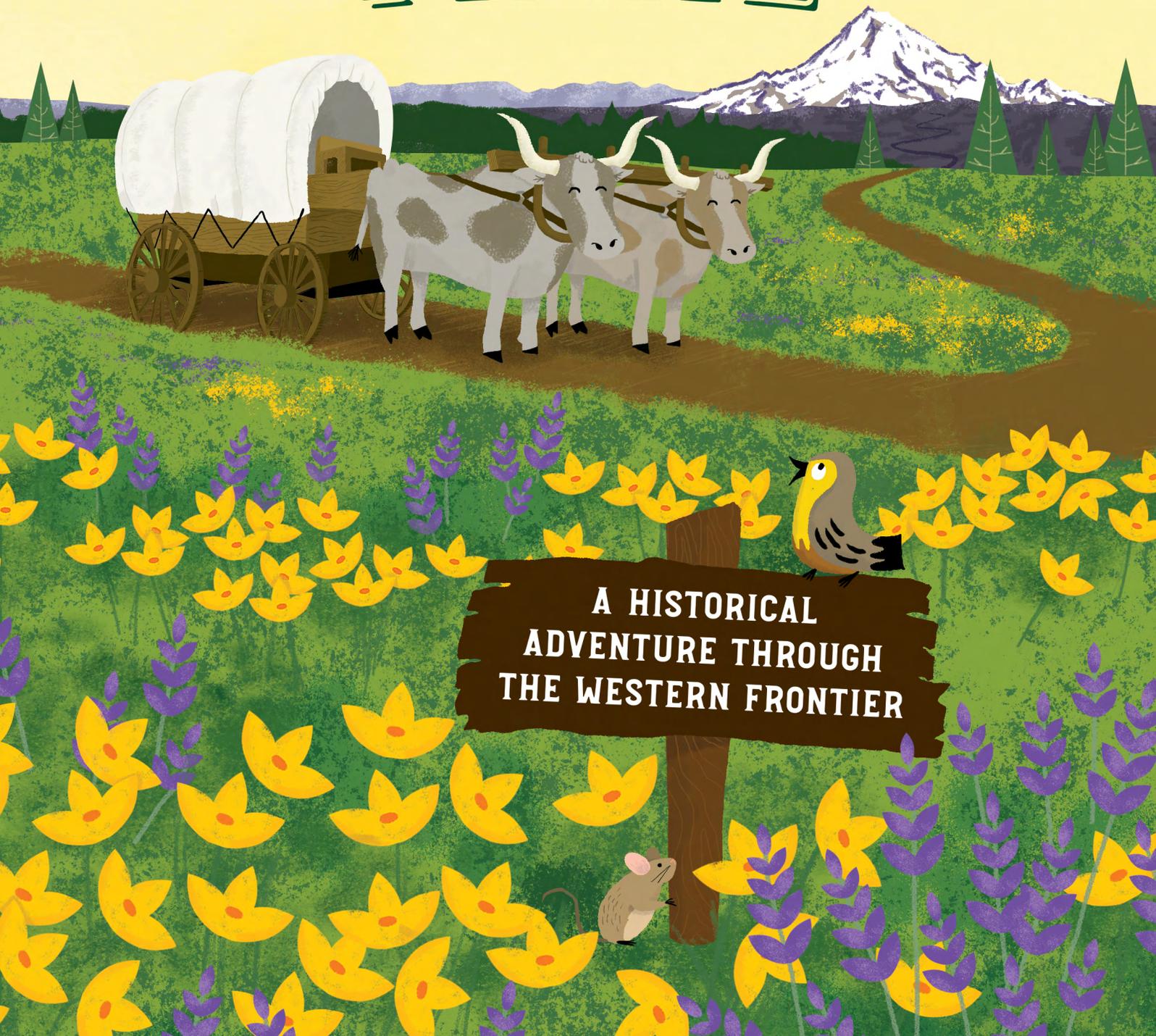


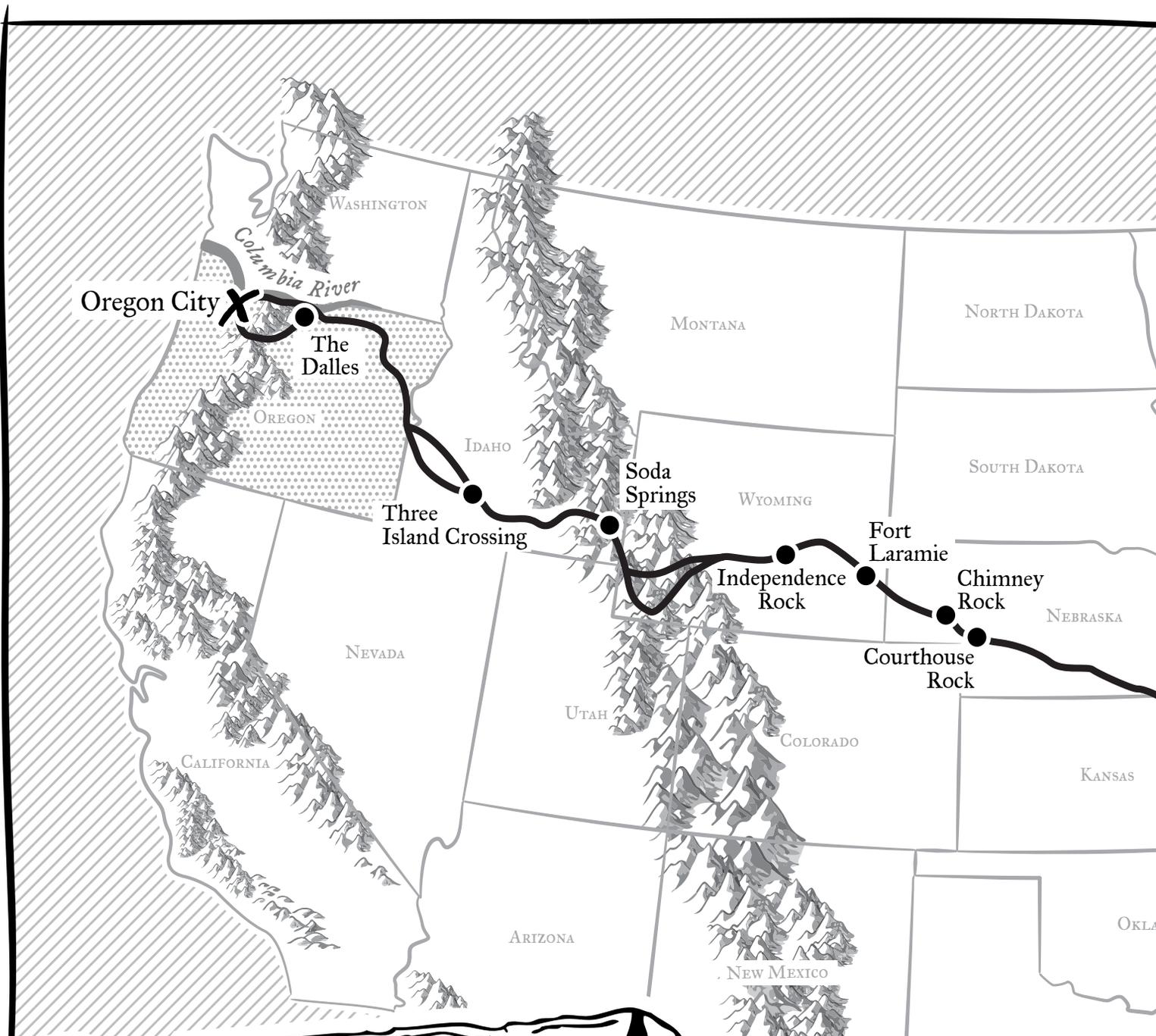
ACTIVITIES & COLORING

*The*

# OREGON TRAIL



A HISTORICAL  
ADVENTURE THROUGH  
THE WESTERN FRONTIER



*The*  
**OREGON  
TRAIL**



# The WESTWARD TREK

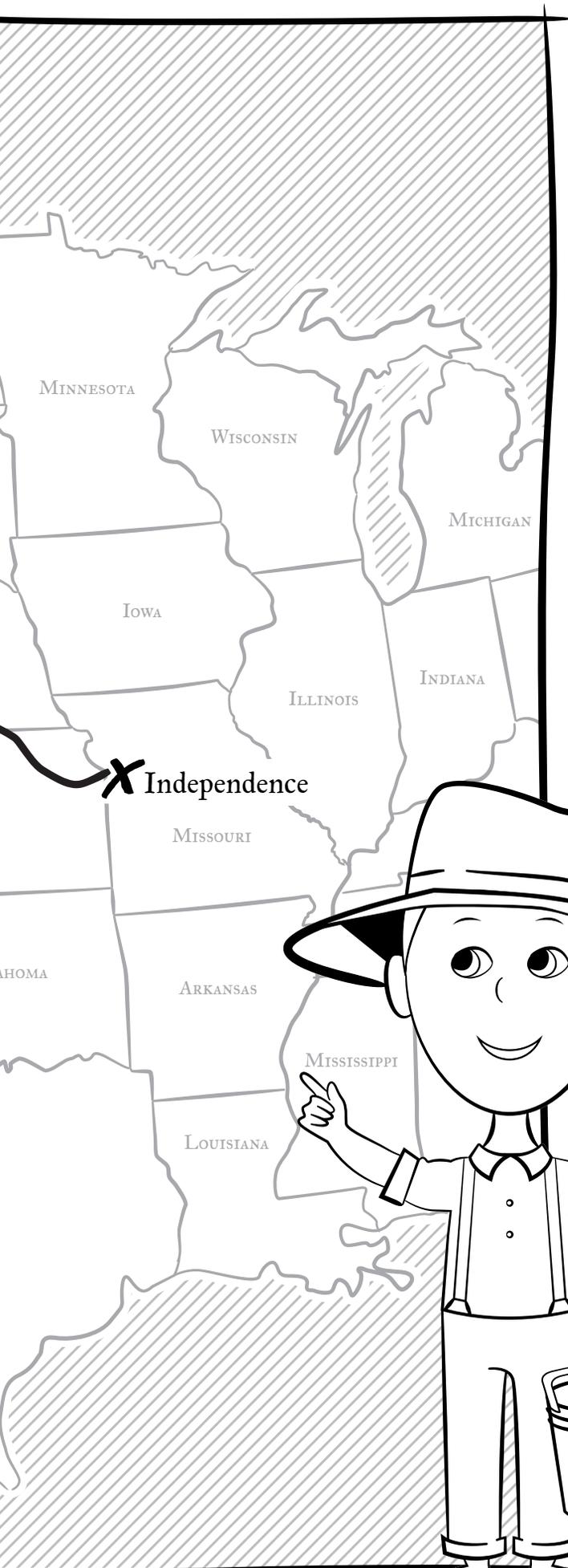
In the mid-1800s over 300,000 men, women and children sold their possessions, packed their wagons and embarked on an epic journey to Oregon, driven by the promise of better health and good farmland.

They traveled 2,000 miles over 5-6 months passing waterfalls, vast open grasslands, traversing mountains, crossing rivers and seeing famous landmarks like Chimney Rock and Soda Springs. They encountered herds of buffalo and met many Native American tribes.

Life on the trail was difficult.

Pioneers faced hunger, disease and injury. They walked 10-15 miles a day, and everyone worked hard. Even very young children would use their tiny fingers to help clean out the oxen's noses so they could breathe on the dusty parts of the trail! Although the journey was long, the pioneers were driven by the promise of a better life in Oregon.

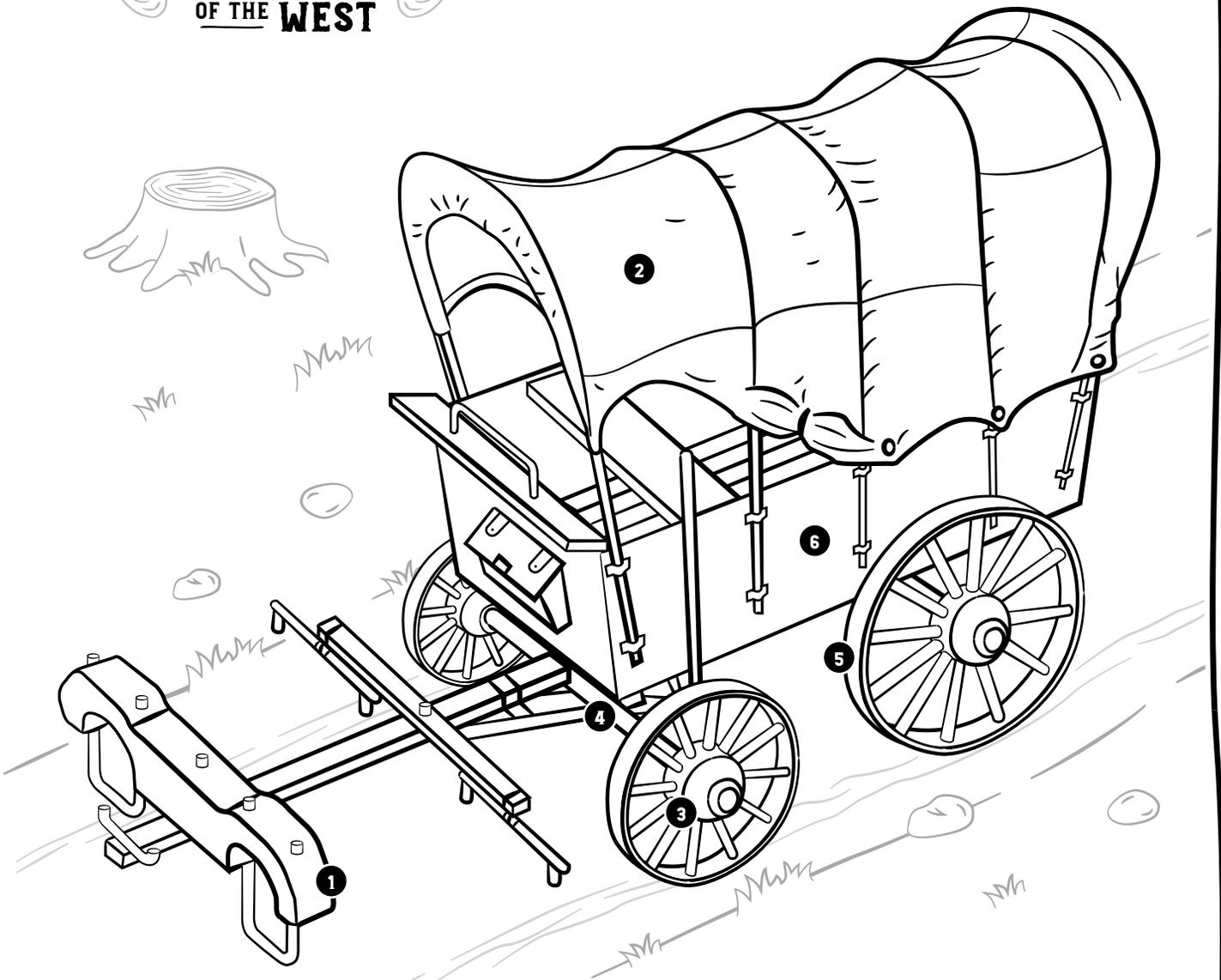
Follow along with Ezra and Lucy as they travel the Oregon Trail and learn about this great migration west!



# The PRAIRIE SCHOONER

THE  
*Original*  
MINIVAN  
OF THE WEST

Wagons were used to carry all of the food, clothing and supplies that pioneers would need for the journey and to start their new life in Oregon. The trail was so bumpy that people rarely rode in the wagons unless they were sick or injured. Get to know this important vehicle by correctly naming the parts of the Prairie Schooner wagon below.



## BONNET

The bonnet was double layered and could be pulled shut for added weather protection.

## SIDEBOARD

The wagon was water-proofed by painting or oiling it.

## WOODEN AXLE

The axle kept the wheels together. Axle grease was also used as lip balm.

## YOKE

The yoke was designed specifically for oxen because they push with their shoulders.

## WOODEN WHEEL

The front wheels were smaller so the wagon could turn more easily.

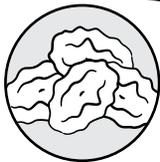
## IRON TIRE

The wooden wheels were rimmed with iron to prevent wear.

# PACKING THE WAGON



## FEATURED ITEMS



### DRIED FRUITS

These were a good source of energy and vitamins and helped to prevent scurvy. They also lasted a long time before going bad.



### EXTRA BOOTS

Shoes would wear out quickly from walking 10-15 miles a day for several months. If pioneers didn't have extra shoes, they sometimes went barefoot in the prairies to save their shoes for the rugged mountains.



### FARMING TOOLS

In addition to items for the journey, pioneers needed to bring tools to build a cabin and farm on their new land in Oregon. Sometimes they brought only the heads of tools and would carve new handles once they arrived.

Pioneers had to make some hard choices about what to bring on the trail. If they didn't bring enough supplies, they risked hunger and disease. If they brought too much, the wagon would slow down or break. Can you decide what you would take? Circle the items you want to pack, add up each column, then add your grand total at the bottom. Remember, a wagon can hold between 1,800-2,000 pounds!

ITEM	WEIGHT	ITEM	WEIGHT
<b>FOOD SUPPLIES</b>		<b>OTHER SUPPLIES</b>	
Bacon	300	Art Supplies	25
Beans	200	Axle Grease	15
Coffee	80	Bedrolls & Blankets	30
Dried Beef	100	Bolts of Fabric	50
Dried Fruits	80	Books	75
Flour	500	Candles	10
Lard	200	Extra Boots	10
Rice	200	Farming Tools	50
Salt	50	Fiddle	10
Sugar	40	Gunpowder	80
Vinegar	15	Heavy Rope	40
<b>COOKING SUPPLIES</b>		Medicine	10
Bellows for Fire	10	Mirror	15
Butter Churn	40	Rifle & Lead Shot	40
Cooking Utensils	40	Sewing Machine	100
Dish Set	20	Soap	20
Dutch Oven	10	Tent & Camp Gear	150
Fry Pan	10	Toys	15
Kettle	10	Trunk of Clothes	100
Water Barrel	10	Wagon Repair Kit	40
<b>COLUMN TOTAL</b>		<b>COLUMN TOTAL</b>	

## GRAND TOTAL

(Remember: The weight limit is between 1,800 - 2,000 pounds. Choose wisely!)

If you packed **all** of these items in your wagon, it would weigh 2,800 pounds!

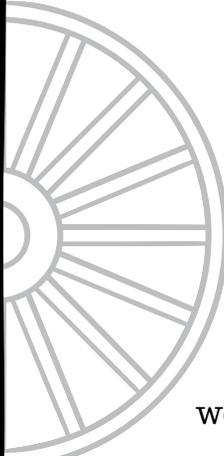
# WOULD YOU RATHER?

## PIONEER LIFE

### VS.

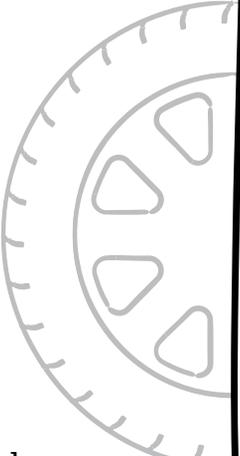
## Modern Comforts

Once they began their journey, daily life for pioneers on the Oregon Trail was very different from life today. Below are a few pioneer activities and their modern-day equivalents. For each pair of activities, circle the one you prefer to see how you might have enjoyed life on the trail.



bathe in a river  
build a log cabin  
eat bacon every day  
pet an ox  
go camping  
drink coffee  
write in a journal  
wear a straw hat or bonnet  
sing around a campfire  
cook over a fire

**OR**



take a shower  
build a pillow fort  
eat broccoli every day  
pet a dog  
sleep in your bed  
drink juice  
send a text  
wear a baseball hat  
listen to music with headphones  
microwave a meal

Now add up your total score. Give yourself **2 POINTS** for every answer in the **PIONEER LIFE** column and **1 POINT** for every answer in the **MODERN COMFORTS** column.

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

~~10~~     ~~13~~

**MAJORLY MODERN**

You're rarely spotted without your ear buds in or phone in hand. You will always choose the comfort of your modern home over the trials of pioneer life. The bad news? You may not have made it on the Oregon Trail. The good news? You don't have to!

~~14~~     ~~16~~

**BEST OF BOTH**

You're not afraid to journey off the beaten path, but you also enjoy your modern creature comforts. You find innovative ways to merge the two together - like a microwave in your Prairie Schooner! With a mix of today's technology and pioneer practicality, anything's possible.

~~17~~     ~~20~~

**PROUD PIONEER**

Pack your wagon, Pioneer! You are ready for adventure. It might look a little odd when your ox carries your backpack to school, but your appreciation for hard work and curiosity for the unknown make you a great candidate for the Oregon Trail. Keep exploring!

# HOW ARE YOUR

## Tracking Skills?

Having good tracking skills helped pioneers hunt, find fresh water and keep their families away from danger. Test your tracking skills below by matching the animals with their tracks.

1 Jackrabbit



2 Bald Eagle



3 Human



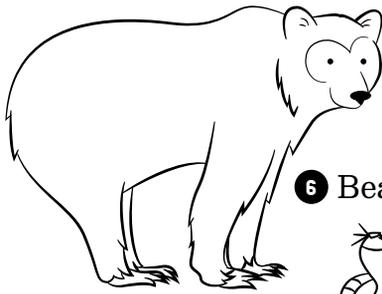
4 Raccoon



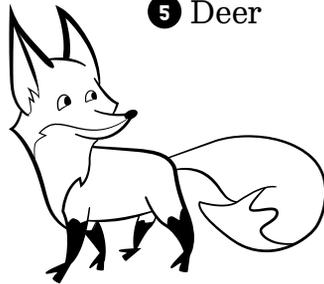
5 Deer



6 Bear



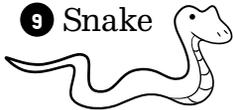
7 Fox



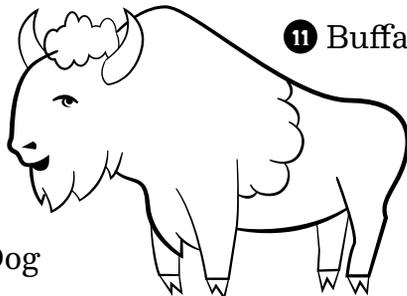
8 Cat



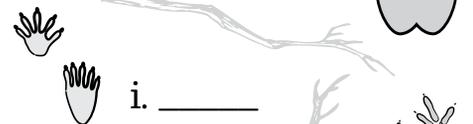
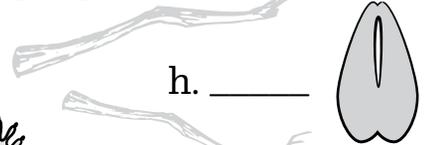
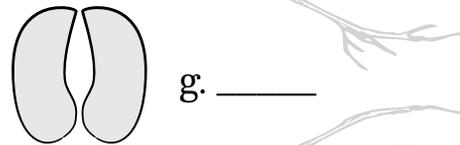
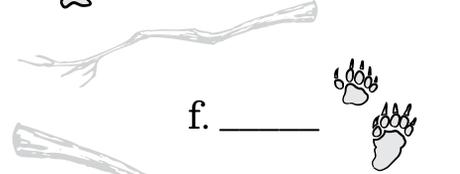
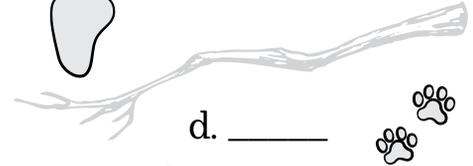
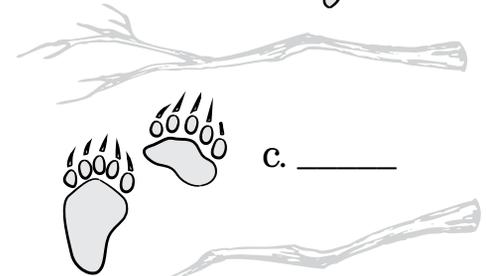
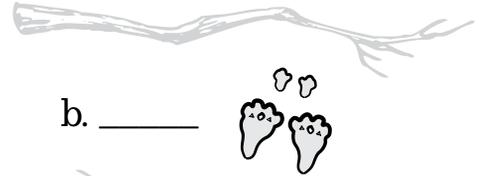
9 Snake



11 Buffalo

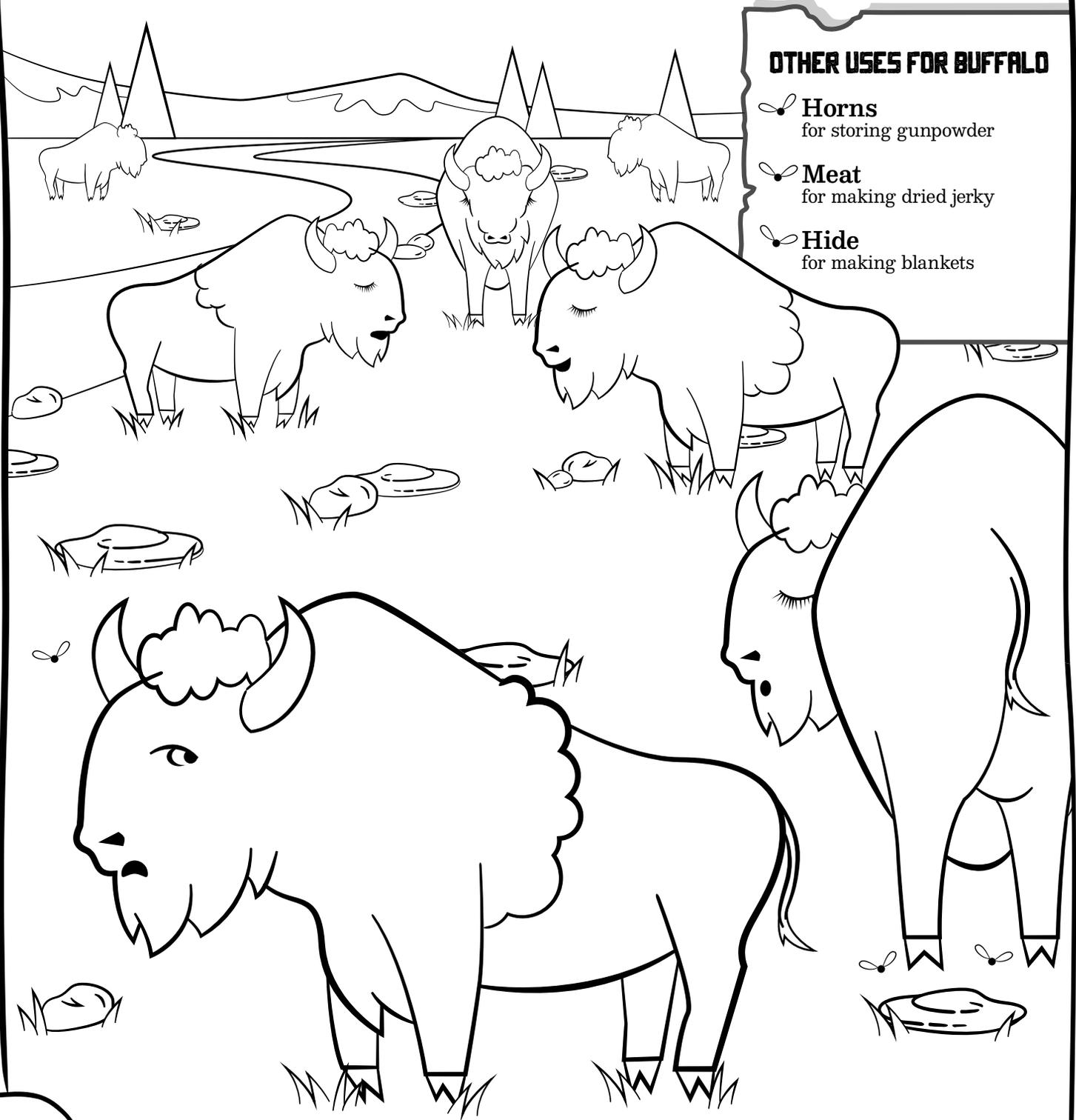


10 Prairie Dog



# Hunting FOR BUFFALO CHIPS

Buffalo produced valuable resources for pioneers on their journey, including their poop! Buffalo chips contained mostly grass, which would burn very easily, so it was gathered and used as campfire fuel. Because there were few toys on the trail, buffalo chips were also used as frisbees. How many buffalo chips can you find in this scene? (*Watch out! Don't get confused by the rocks!*)



## OTHER USES FOR BUFFALO

- **Horns**  
for storing gunpowder
- **Meat**  
for making dried jerky
- **Hide**  
for making blankets

# Campsite Cooking ON THE TRAIL

## Hardtack Biscuits

### Ingredients

2 c flour  
3/4 c water  
1 tsp salt



### Directions

Preheat oven to 350°F.

Mix the flour and salt together and add a little water at a time until it's a consistency that can be mixed by hand.

Roll out the dough with a rolling pin on a floured surface. Once the dough is 3/4 inch thick cut into 3 inch by 3 inch squares.

Arrange dough on a cookie sheet and bake for 25 minutes. Flip the biscuits over and bake for another 25-30 minutes. Biscuits will harden as they cool.

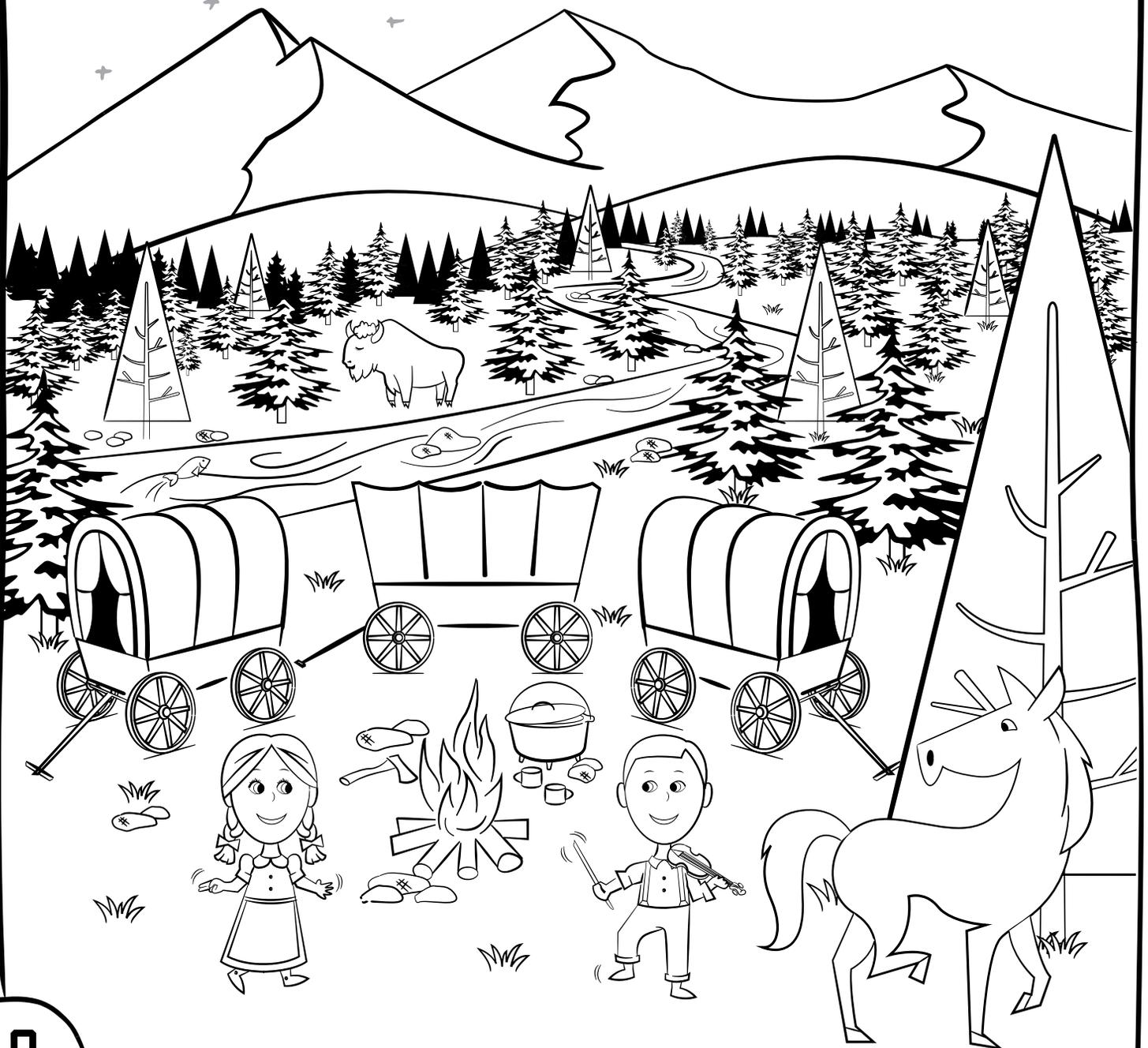


## How to Cook WITH A DUTCH OVEN

- 1 Place ingredients inside pot and place the lid on the pot.
- 2 Place dutch oven on fire.
- 3 Take hot coals from fire and place on top.
- 4 The inside becomes a hot sealed area like your oven at home.

# EVENINGS *on the* TRAIL

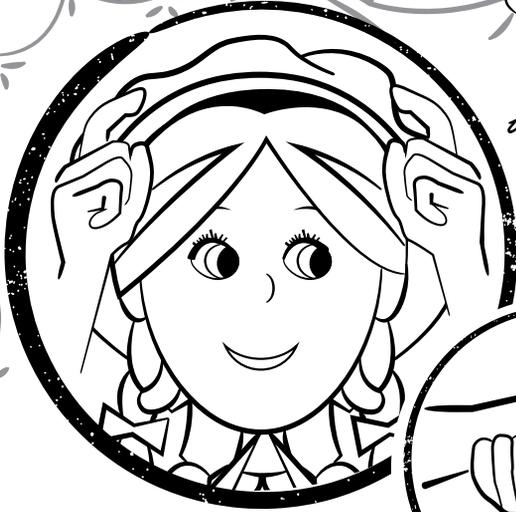
At night travelers would set up camp, typically with the wagons in a circle. There would be music, dancing, dinner, weddings and holiday celebrations. Some travelers would choose to sleep under the stars while others would empty their wagons and sleep inside.



# Communications

with

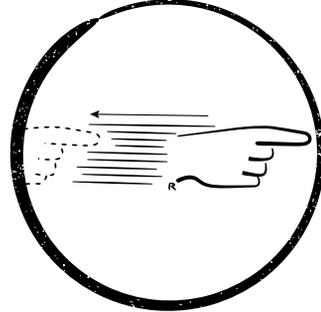
# NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES



**BUFFALO**



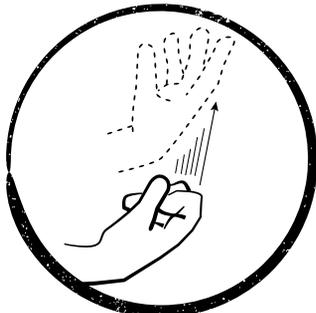
**PEACE**



**RIVER**



**HORSE**



**FIRE**



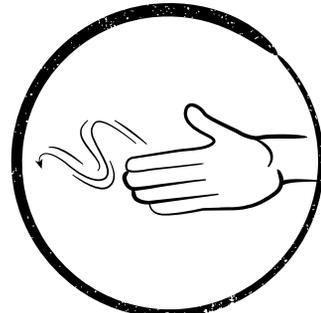
**FRIEND**



**CAMP**



**AXE**



**FISH**

Pioneers heading west on the trail would encounter many different Native American tribes along the way. Since nearly all of the tribes had their own unique languages, communication was difficult. Trading and guidance was often provided through hand gestures. Try communicating using some of these signs and see if you can point some of them out on the page to the left.



**SOMETHING ISN'T QUITE RIGHT AT THE TRADING POST!**

Can you spot the differences between these two scenes? Color in the drawings and circle all 30 differences as Lucy and Ezra shop for supplies.



(1) one skillet, (2) snake, (3) fish, (4) pickaxe, (5) missing scoop, (6) missing barrel bands, (7) mouse, (8) closed sign, (9) door panels, (10) boy in window, (11) lollipop, (12) football, (13) curtains open, (14) Trading Spot, (15) ruler, (16) leaves missing from tree, (17) missing drawer, (18) envelope, (19) sausage links, (20) pencils, (21) empty cash drawer, (22) onion on shelf, (23) missing vinegar jug, (24) celery, (25) fabric missing stripes, (26) tea kettle steaming, (27) soup label, (28) mop, (29) cheese wedge, (30) beard.

# KEEP YOUR TRAVEL BUDDIES HEALTHY

Pioneers often faced the threat of serious illness throughout their journey. Help Lucy and Ezra avoid common Oregon Trail ailments and make it to Oregon without getting sick.

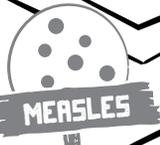


Airborne bacteria that caused skin lesions, respiratory problems and in severe cases a gray material covering airways and uncontrollable drooling.

START



Most deadly illness on the Oregon Trail. Caused by polluted water, it led to diarrhea, vomiting and pain. Victims often died within 12 hours of the first symptoms.



A viral disease that was very contagious, causing high fever and dehydration.



Drastic weather changes caused this respiratory sickness.



Inflammation of the intestines caused by unsanitary conditions. Could lead to extreme dehydration and sometimes death.



Used to refer to several types of high fever and headache including typhoid fever and scarlet fever. Usually not fatal.



Lack of Vitamin C on the Oregon Trail could lead to weakness and tiredness. Malnutrition could be prevented by bringing dried fruits or citrus oils on the trail.

WELCOME TO OREGON!

Near the end of the journey, the trail forked, and pioneers were faced with a difficult decision: river or mountain? Floating down the Columbia River was faster, but pioneers risked drowning and losing all of their possessions. The safer route was around Mt. Hood on the Barlow Road, the most challenging terrain of the journey. Which way would you choose?

# MOUNTAIN VS. RAPIDS

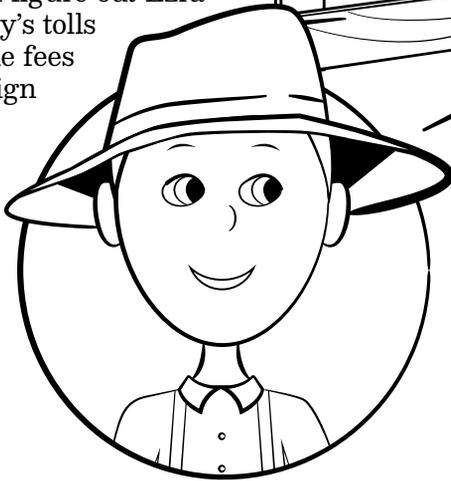


# The BARLOW ROAD

## TOLLGATE



Travelers had to pay a toll to use the Barlow Road. Can you figure out Ezra and Lucy's tolls using the fees on the sign above?

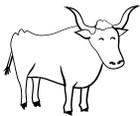


WAGONS .....



$$3 \times \$5 = \square$$

HEAD OF LIVESTOCK .....



$$8 \times \$.10 = \square$$

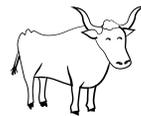
EZRA'S TOLL:

WAGONS .....



$$5 \times \$5 = \square$$

HEAD OF LIVESTOCK .....



$$11 \times \$.10 = \square$$

LUCY'S TOLL:

**FUN FACT:**

MULTIPLY THE FEES BY 25 TO SEE HOW MUCH THE TOLL WOULD COST TODAY.

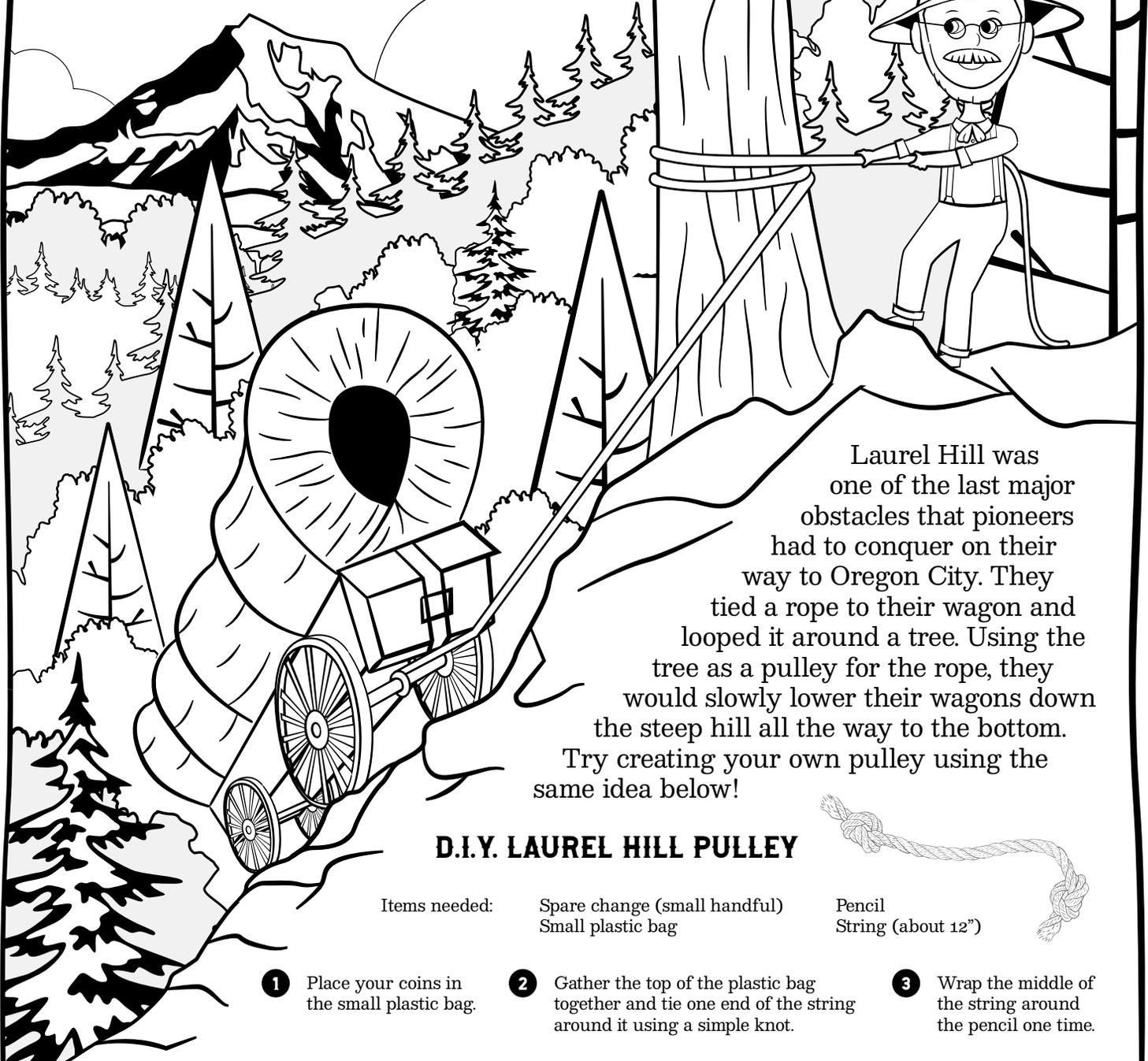
# HUCKLEBERRY HUNT

AT Summit Meadow

Pioneers would forage for naturally growing food all along their journey. Huckleberries at Summit Meadow were a great source of nutrition and energy. How many huckleberries can you find?



# Conquering LAUREL HILL



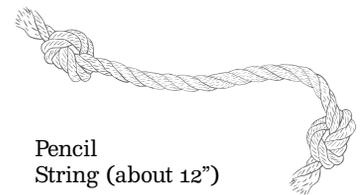
Laurel Hill was one of the last major obstacles that pioneers had to conquer on their way to Oregon City. They tied a rope to their wagon and looped it around a tree. Using the tree as a pulley for the rope, they would slowly lower their wagons down the steep hill all the way to the bottom. Try creating your own pulley using the same idea below!

## D.I.Y. LAUREL HILL PULLEY

Items needed:

Spare change (small handful)  
Small plastic bag

Pencil  
String (about 12")



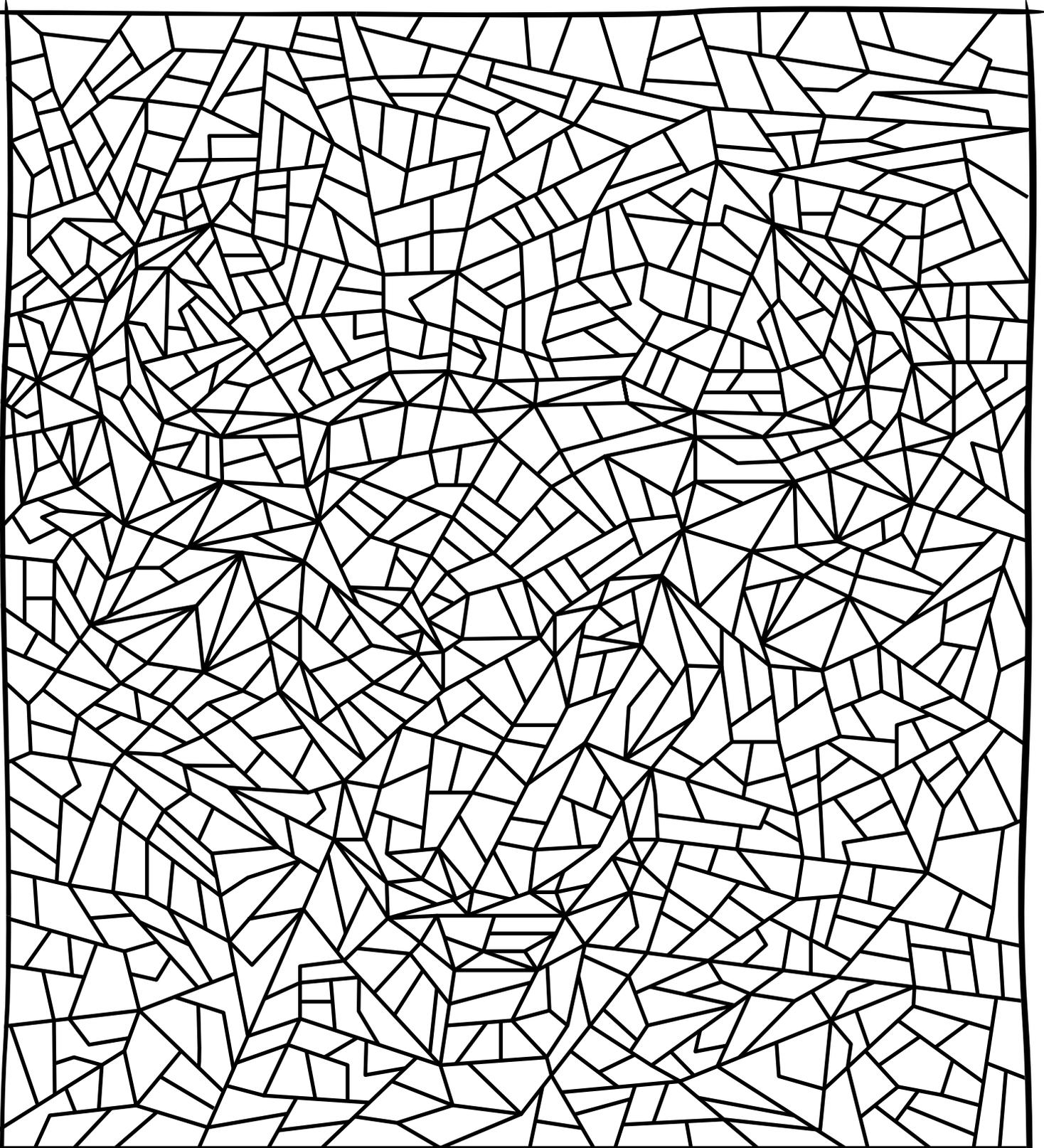
- 1 Place your coins in the small plastic bag.
- 2 Gather the top of the plastic bag together and tie one end of the string around it using a simple knot.
- 3 Wrap the middle of the string around the pencil one time.
- 4 Hold the pencil in front of you horizontally with your left hand and the loose end of the string with your right hand.
- 5 Pull back on the string and see your bag of coins raise up. Next, loosen your tension on the string and let the weight of the bag pull itself down.
- 6 Ta-dah! This is how the basic Laurel Hill pulley worked. Pioneers could use the friction of the rope against the tree to slow down or stop the wagon as it descended the steep hill.

**MT. HOOD**

**JONSRUD**

*Viewpoint*





*Discover*  
THE  
**HIDDEN  
IMAGE**

Every day was full of exploration and discovery for pioneers that headed west on the Oregon Trail. Imagine seeing giant rock formations, huge snow-capped mountains and new trees, plants and animals for the first time! Get into the spirit of discovery by coloring in all of the shapes that only have **three sides** in the image above.

# Experience

## The OREGON TRAIL

# FOR Yourself!

### 1 CAMP ALONG THE OREGON TRAIL

Experience a night on the trail at **Farewell Bend State Recreation Area**. Pioneers enjoyed this last night spent on the Snake River before they began to tackle the difficult terrain of Oregon.



### 2 READY YOUR WAGON

Take a hike through the **National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center's** trails that take you by authentic wagon ruts and remnants of a former gold mine and wagon encampment.



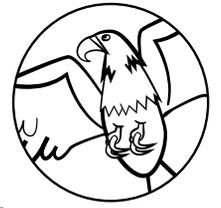
### 3 LEARN ABOUT NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES

Visit the **Tamástlikt Cultural Institute**, the only museum on the Oregon Trail that documents how the arrival of the pioneers forever changed tribal life.



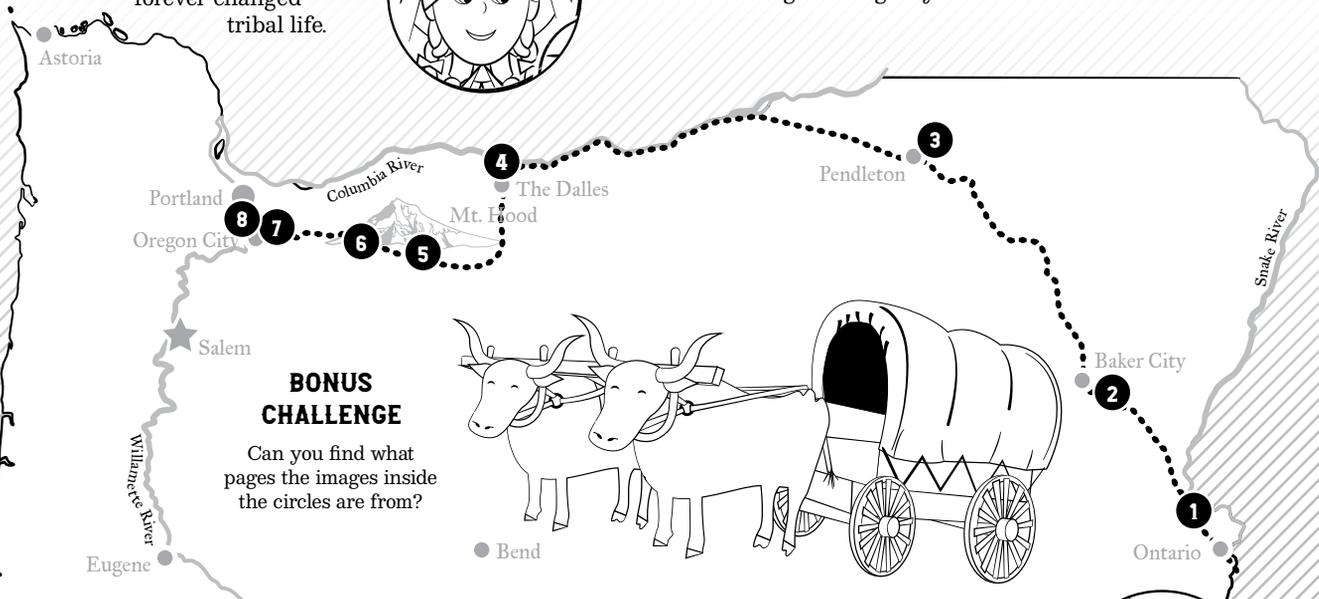
### 4 ENCOUNTER THE ANIMALS OF THE OREGON TRAIL

Head to the **Columbia Gorge Discovery Center & Museum** to learn about the animals that live along the Oregon Trail. Be sure to check out their Raptor Center for up-close encounters with live birds of prey.



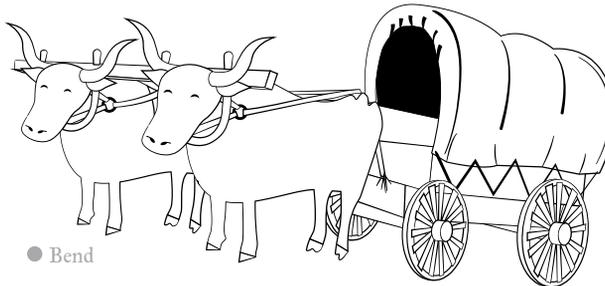
### 5 TRAVEL THE BARLOW ROAD

Want to learn more about the Oregon Trail? Download the **Mt. Hood Territory Heritage Trail app** ([mthoodterritory.com/heritage-trail](http://mthoodterritory.com/heritage-trail)) to hear about the rich history at numerous sites along the Barlow Road, including an original tollgate you can visit.



#### BONUS CHALLENGE

Can you find what pages the images inside the circles are from?



### 6 WALK IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF PIONEERS

**Wildwood Recreation Site** has miles of wooded trails, some of which follow routes the pioneers traveled.

Look for swales from their wagons that are still visible today. While you're there, visit the Cascade Streamwatch underwater fish viewing window.



### 7 BUILD A LOG CABIN

Visit **Philip Foster Farm**, the preserved historic home of an early pioneer family, where you can try your hand at pioneer activities like grinding corn or building a log cabin.



### 8 HURRAY! THE END OF THE OREGON TRAIL!

The **End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center** brings history to life with modern pioneers who will teach you skills like candle making or butter churning. Snap a photo at the official end of the Oregon Trail - you made it!





# Build Your HOMESTEAD

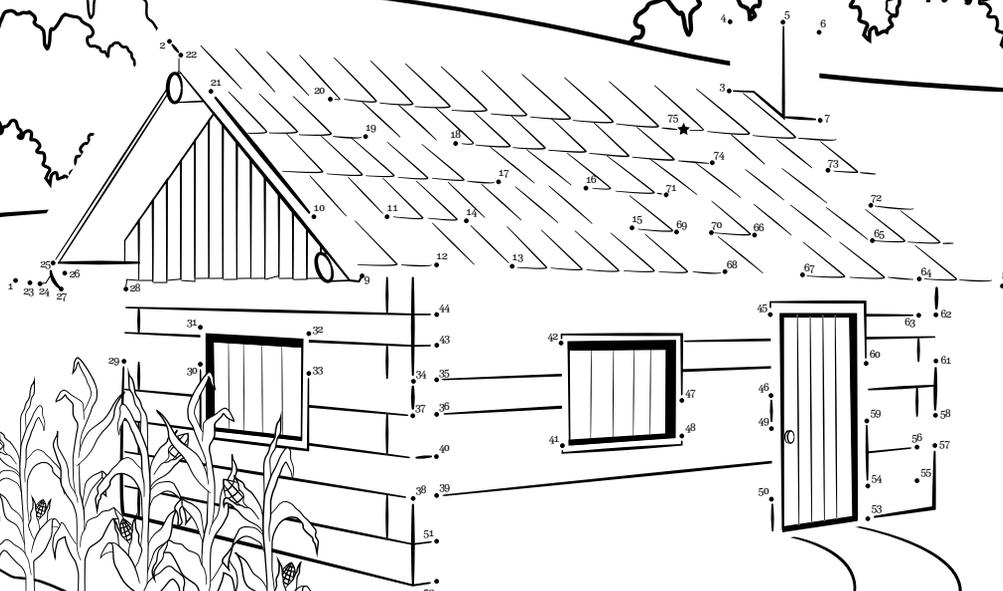
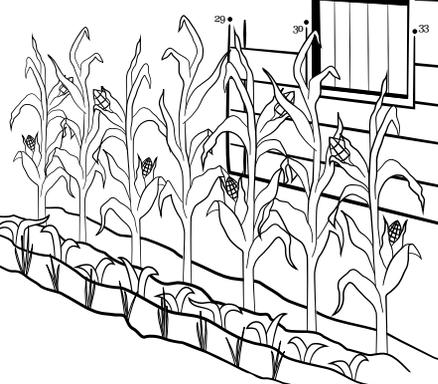


Congratulations! You made it all the way to your Oregon settlement. Connect the dots below to build your new cabin. Welcome home!



### FUN FACT!

Seeds were brought on the trail to plant on homesteads. Some families put seeds in a stuffed animal to store them safely for the kids to carry along the Oregon Trail.

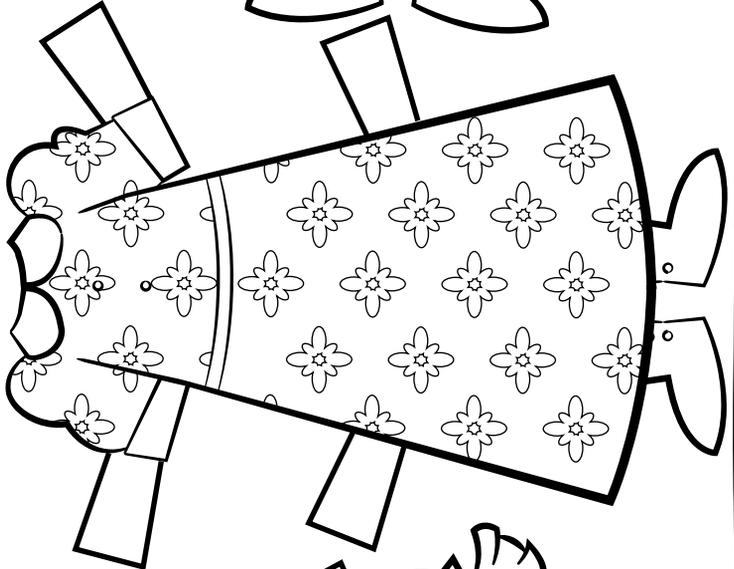
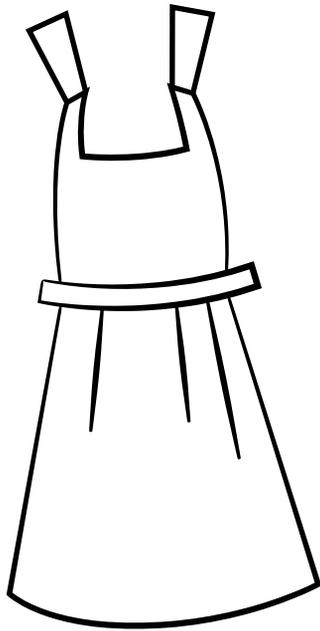
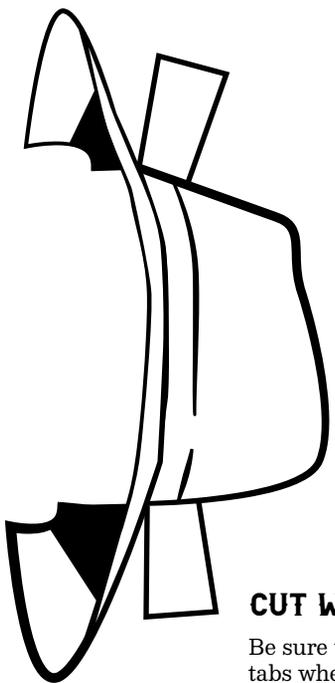
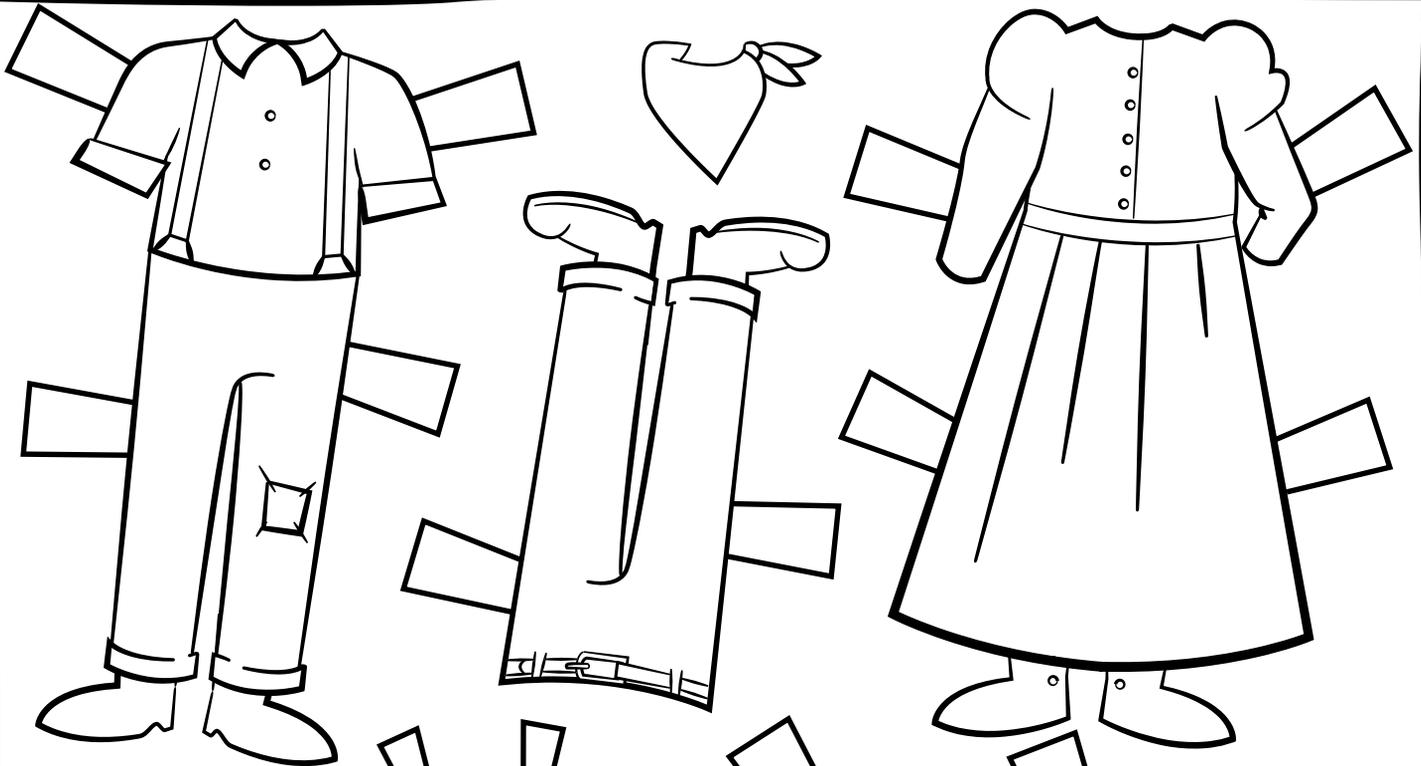


### FUN FACT!

Pioneers lived out of their wagon for the first winter in Oregon because they couldn't build in the snow. They would start building their cabin in the spring when the weather improved.

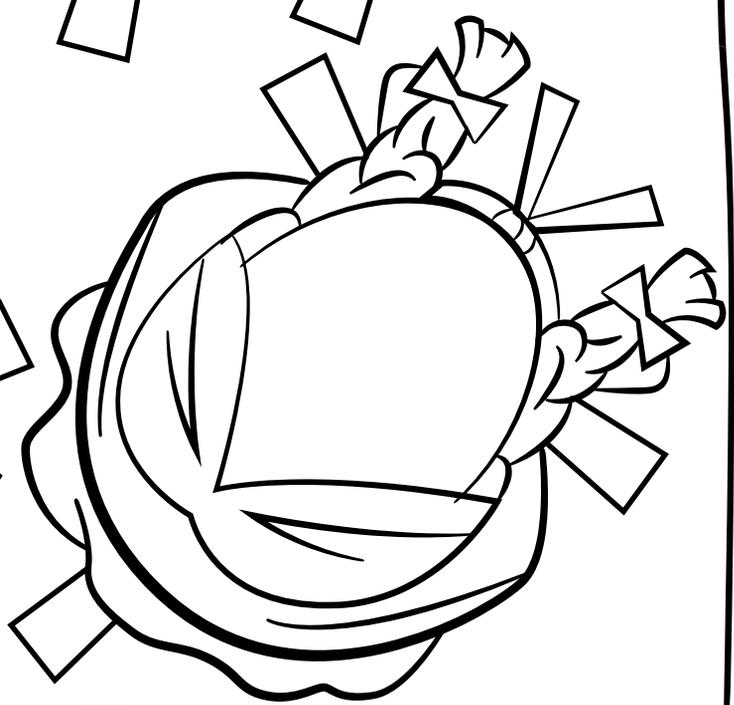
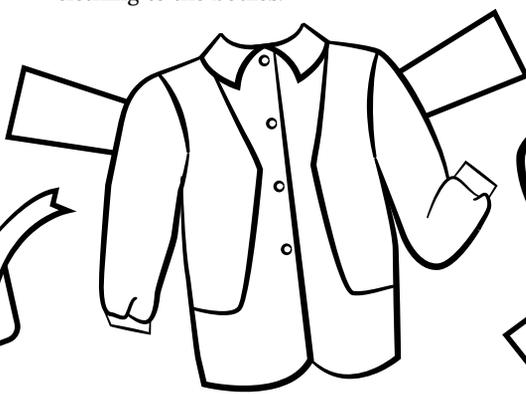


The U.S. Bureau of Land Management invites you to visit Wildwood Recreation Site. Walk in the footsteps of pioneers in the forest along a portion of the Oregon Trail, relax in a river they once forded and picnic at the remnants of an old settlement.



**CUT WITH CARE!**

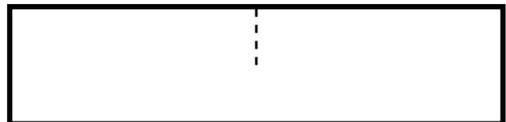
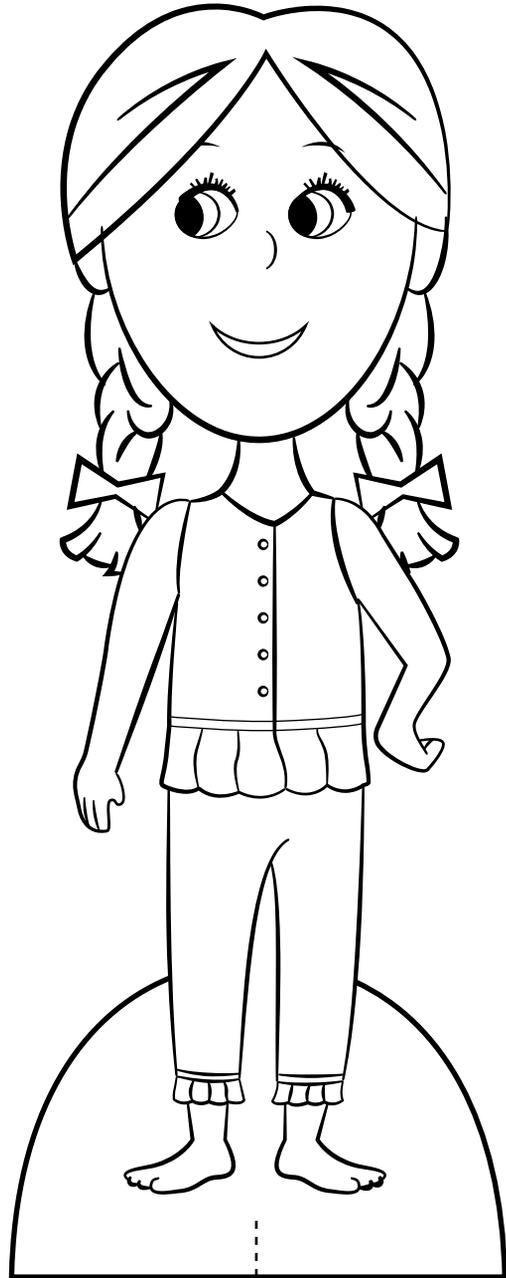
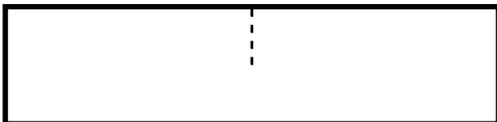
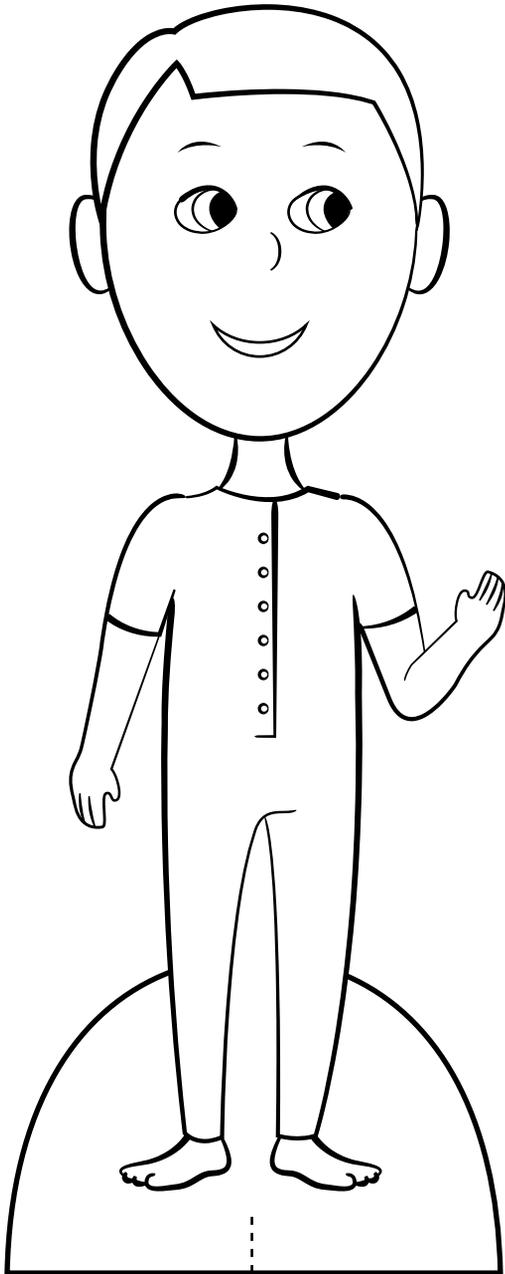
Be sure to include the clothing tabs when you cut out each piece. The tabs will allow you to secure clothing to the bodies.



# PIONEER

## PAPER DOLLS

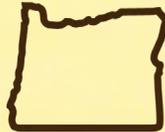
Help Ezra and Lucy get dressed for their journey on the trail. Cut out the characters below and cut a slit on the dotted lines. Then, slip the two slits together to form a crossed base. Next, color and cut all the clothes and accessories on page 20 to mix and match their outfits.



THIS ADVENTURE IS PROUDLY PRESENTED TO YOU BY:



TRAVEL



OREGON



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**Q: What is a pioneer's favorite sport?**

**A: Cross-country.**

**Q: Why couldn't the tree travel the Oregon Trail?**

**A: Nothing fit in its trunk.**

**Q: If you brought 15 cows and 5 goats on your journey, what would you have?**

**A: Plenty of milk!**

**EXPLORE  
MORE *at***

**[mthoodterritory.com/oregon-trail](http://mthoodterritory.com/oregon-trail)**

**Land Claim Document *of the*  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

*Greetings, Pioneer! The Surveyor General of the Public Lands in Oregon hereby awards the donation of One Section of Land of Clackamas County, then Oregon Territory, to*

\_\_\_\_\_, aged \_\_\_\_\_,  
First Name Last Name Age

*who has made the journey to this new land from*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code

*I, Abraham Lincoln, 16<sup>th</sup> President of the United States of America, do grant and give this land forever to the aforementioned and their heirs. Given on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year One Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-One.*



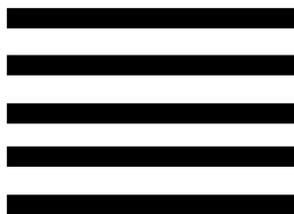
..... **Not an official document** .....

Your special reward for completing the Oregon Trail Activity Book will be mailed to the address provided above. If you would like to receive more information about travel and events in Mt. Hood Territory, please also provide an adult's name and email address below.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_



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**Q: Why did the pioneers cross the country in covered wagons?**

**A: Because they didn't want to wait 40 years for the train.**

**Q: What did the buffalo say to his son as he left for college?**

**A: Bye, son.**

**Q: Where do fish keep their money?**

**A: River banks.**