

Study Guide for Chapter 9, Lesson 1
Exploring the West

Many immigrants and pioneers (early settlers of an area) wanted to cross the Appalachian Mountains. They searched for a gap, or low place between mountains. One way across these mountains was through the Cumberland Gap. Daniel Boone was one of the best known pioneers to cross the Appalachians. He and his group built the Wilderness Road, which became the main route to the West. Soon thousands of people lived in Kentucky, which became the 15th state in 1792.

President Thomas Jefferson more than doubled the size of the U.S. when he made an agreement with France. This agreement became known as the Louisiana Purchase.

Jefferson hired Lewis and Clark to explore the Louisiana Territory. This group was named the Corps of Discovery. They left their journey from St. Louis, Missouri and followed the Missouri River. On their expedition, they had to make many hard decisions which had important consequences for their journey. Consequences are what happen because of an action.

Sacagawea was a guide who also translated for Lewis and Clark. York, who was Clark's slave, went along too.

After Lewis and Clark's return home, Jefferson sent Zebulon Pike on an expedition to the southwest part of the Louisiana Territory.