

History	
1	<b>Who were the pioneers and how did they cross the Western frontier?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discovery, early settlement and birth of the United States</li> <li>- Where was the Western frontier and why cross it?</li> <li>- Describing the journey across the Plains in a prairie schooner</li> </ul>
2	<b>Who were the Native Americans and how did they live their lives?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organisation of different tribes and where in America they lived</li> <li>- Life for prairie Indians - homes, buffalo hunting and uses, beliefs, jobs of men, women and children</li> </ul>
3	<b>How were the Native Americans affected by the new settlers?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Disruption of the Indian way of life</li> <li>- Battles between Indians and US army (inc. Little Bighorn)</li> <li>- Ultimate defeat of Indians and loss of their way of life</li> </ul>
4	<b>Who were the homesteaders and how did they live on the Great Plains?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Homestead Act of 1862 &amp; pressure from railroad companies</li> <li>- Difficulties of living on the Plains</li> <li>- How difficulties were overcome</li> </ul>
5	<b>Who were cowboys and what did they do?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Romantic vs realistic view of cowboys</li> <li>- The "long drive": what a cowboy had to do</li> <li>- What a cowboy wore and why</li> <li>- Activities at the end of the trail</li> </ul>

Geography	
1	<b>How can I find American and the Great Plains on a map?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Where is America on the map?</li> <li>- Definition and location of the Great Plains within America</li> <li>- Exploring the 50 states - which today are on the Great Plains?</li> </ul>
2	<b>What are the Great Plains like geographically?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Using pictures to describe the landscape</li> <li>- Investigating climate, seasons, rainfall, soil, etc.</li> </ul>

Design & Technology	
1	<b>Designing, making and evaluating a prairie schooner.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Investigating the different parts of a prairie schooner</li> <li>- Ideas for materials/techniques for making a prairie schooner</li> <li>- Designing, making and evaluating a prairie schooner</li> </ul>
2	<b>Designing, making and evaluating a patchwork quilt.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reasons behind patchwork quilts (art and necessity)</li> <li>- Examining examples and patterns</li> <li>- Designing and making a patchwork square for a class quilt</li> </ul>



Art	
1	<b>Making a Native American dreamcatcher.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What is a dreamcatcher and where did they originate?</li> <li>- Looking at examples - what do you think of them?</li> <li>- Designing and making a dreamcatcher</li> </ul>
2	<b>Creating an Iroquois false face mask.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What is a false face mask and why did the Iroquois use them?</li> <li>- Looking at examples - what do you think of them?</li> <li>- Designing and making a false face mask</li> </ul>

Science	
1	<b>What kinds of plants and animals live on the Great Plains?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What are mammals, amphibians, birds, reptiles, insects?</li> <li>- Looking at examples of animals and plants and identifying characteristics</li> </ul>
2	<b>How can I classify the plants and animals that live on the Great Plains?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organising animals and plants into groups based on varying criteria</li> </ul>
3	<b>How are animals and plants on the Great Plains linked together by food chains?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Definition of a food chain and terms such as producer and consumer</li> <li>- Studying examples of food chains of animals of the Plains</li> <li>- Ordering animals of the Plains into food chains</li> </ul>

RE	
1	<b>What is Christianity and what do Christians believe?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What do you already know about Christianity?</li> <li>- Basic beliefs: one supreme God, Jesus as son of God, death and resurrection</li> <li>- What is the Bible and how is it organised?</li> <li>- Ten Commandments</li> </ul>
2	<b>How did Christianity impact on the lives of the pioneers?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How would rules of Ten Commandments have guided the pioneers as they set up new homes?</li> <li>- How would teachings in the Bible support pioneers in tough times? Examine scenarios</li> <li>- How communities were brought together by the church</li> </ul>
3	<b>Why did pioneers try to convert Native Americans to Christianity?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What is a missionary?</li> <li>- Reasons behind trying to convert Indians</li> <li>- Were they right in trying to convert people who had an entirely different set of beliefs?</li> </ul>

## Further suggestions:

Music	
1	Listen to a range of traditional cowboy songs. Focus on one to learn as a class (e.g. Home on the Range). If you do not have the music, use a karaoke version from YouTube or similar.

PE	
1	Watch videos of traditional Native American dances and explore what the dances were for. Children to choreograph their own dance in the style of Native Americans.

ICT	
1	Create a branching database to classify animals and plants of the plains.
2	Use repeating patterns and tessellation to create a patchwork quilt design.

### Understanding English, communication and language

- Using anagrams to explore the names of the 50 states of America.
- Using adjectives and answering questions about what the journey across the Plains in a prairie schooner would have been like.
- Asking and answering questions about the Wild West.
- Debate on 'Should native Americans be allowed to live and hunt across America?' from a given character's point of view.
- Writing a historical story or playscript about a pioneer family settling on the Plains.
- Creating a glossary of cowboy terms.
- Debating whether or not Christian missionaries should have tried to convert the native Americans.
- Writing letters as a Christian missionary to a native American tribe.
- Using role-play to demonstrate food chains.

### Understanding physical development, health and well-being

- Understanding how Christian beliefs of pioneers impacted on their lifestyle and behaviour.
- Investigating the conflict between native Americans and European settlers from different points of view.

### Historical, geographical and social understanding

- Locating America and the Great Plains on a map.
- Using maps to explore the 50 states and which the Great Plains were located on.
- Finding out about the discovery and early settlement of America by Europeans, and the expansion of the USA from 13 to 50 states.
- Using a variety of sources (texts, pictures, photographs) to find out about the lifestyle of Plains Indians and homesteaders.
- Examining the advantages and disadvantages of being a homesteader.
- Examining the portrayal of cowboys in media vs real-life experiences.
- Using sources of information to create a cowboy quiz.

## Wild West Topic Overview



### Scientific and technological understanding

- Investigating the different parts of a prairie schooner and how they work.
- Designing, making and evaluating a moving prairie schooner.
- Exploring the flora and fauna of the Great Plains.
- Classifying animals into mammals, amphibians, reptiles, birds and insects.
- Using own criteria to sort animals into different groups.
- Matching animals of the Great Plains to their correct descriptions.
- Exploring how animals in an eco-system are linked by food chains.
- Creating food chains with animals and plants of the Great Plains.

### Mathematical understanding

- Using Carroll diagrams to organise animals of the Great Plains.

### Understanding the arts

- Finding out why dreamcatchers were made by the Ojibwa tribe.
- Studying examples of native American dreamcatchers.
- Designing and making a dreamcatcher.
- Investigating the uses of false face masks by the Iroquois tribe
- Looking at how colour and design of false face masks served a particular purpose.
- Designing and making a false face mask.
- Investigating the role of patchwork quilts, looking at necessity versus art.