Westward Expansion

Vocab List

Output Service Service A service and a vocab quiz. (On Website) ◊ These words will go with the unit and will be beneficial for you to know. ♦ The greater a person's vocabulary, the more intelligent they are.



The Main Idea

◊ Following the Civil War, the population of the United States began to expand westward into the great untapped frontier.

Territorial Expansion of U.S.

- ◊ 1803: Louisiana Purchase
- ◊ 1845: Texas
- 1848: Mexican-American War: Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, Wyoming, California, Nevada, and Utah
 By 1850, America gains the Oregon Territory

Factors That Contributed to the Settlement of the West

- 1. Manifest Destiny
- 2. Gold Discovered in California
- 3. Homestead Act of 1862
- 4. Transcontinental Railroad
- 5. The American Dream

Manifest Destiny

The belief that it was America's mission to expand from ocean to ocean, spreading democracy and freedom

 Americans believed it was their God-given duty to conquer the Western territories and unify the Nation

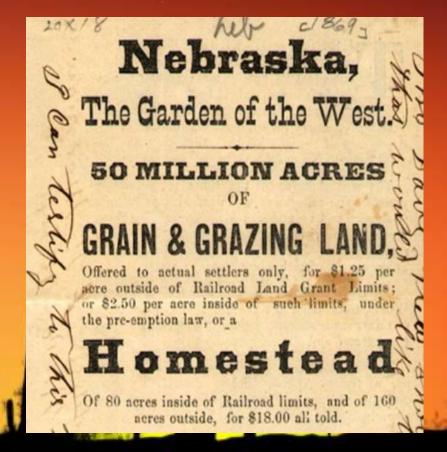
The west was viewed as the great untapped Frontier

California Gold Rush

- Gold was discovered in California in <u>1848.</u>
- West becomes the land of opportunity
- This caused many people who wanted to get rich to move west in search of a fortune.

This caused towns to pop up in the Western half of the United States.

The Homestead Act



Gave free land
in the West for
people to settle
on provided
they lived there
for five years.

Transcontinental Railroad

◊ Pacific Railway Act → 1862 → Authorized the building of the Transcontinental Railroad. Would link the economies and the country from East & West.