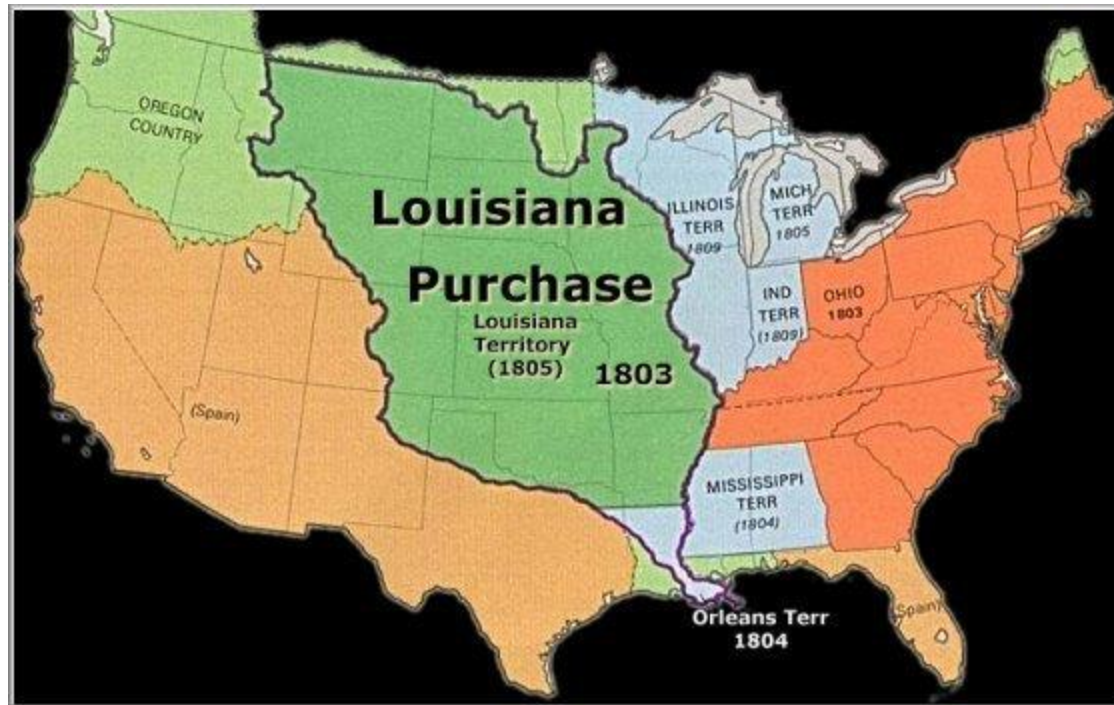
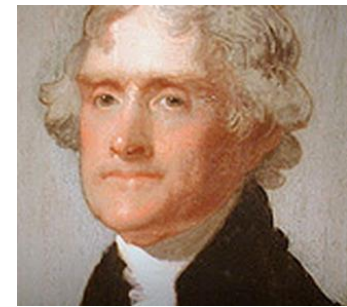


Lewis and Clark Expedition

To find a water route from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean



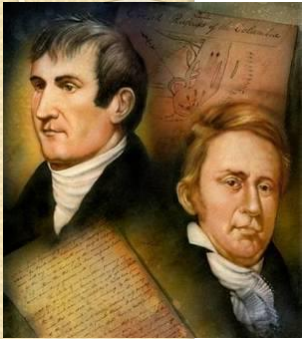
Louisiana Purchase



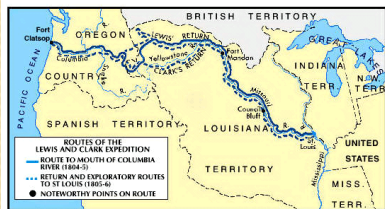
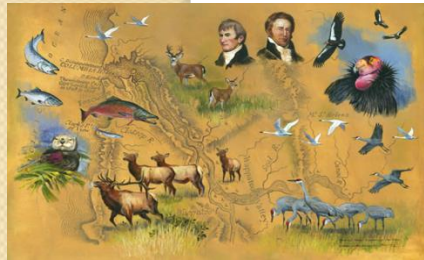
- In 1803 James Monroe and Robert Livingston, under the direction of President Jefferson, approached France to buy New Orleans.
- They left having bought the entire Louisiana Territory for \$15 million.
- Congress approved the Louisiana Purchase “Treaty”.
- President Jefferson selected Meriwether Lewis to lead an expedition to explore this new land.



Corps of Discovery



- Meriwether Lewis asked his good friend William Clark to co-lead the expedition.
- Their job was to:
 - Find a water route from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean.
 - Record all information about plants, animals, and Native Americans that they could find.
 - Map the territory as they crossed it.
- Lewis (and his dog Seaman) and Clark (and his slave York) chose about 40 other men to join them on their journey. Their group was named the Corps of Discovery.
- Their journey started at the Missouri River.



The Journey Begins



- Spring 1804 the Corps departed from St. Louis and traveled northwest along the Missouri river toward the Pacific Ocean.
- In July the Corps met up with the Otoe and Missouri tribes.
- Lewis spoke to the tribes about U.S. control of Louisiana and the need for peace.
- The Corps meet the Yankton Sioux at Calumet Bluff on August 30th. They did not show the aggression they had been warned about.

The Corps continued to travel by keelboat stopping to hunt and explore.



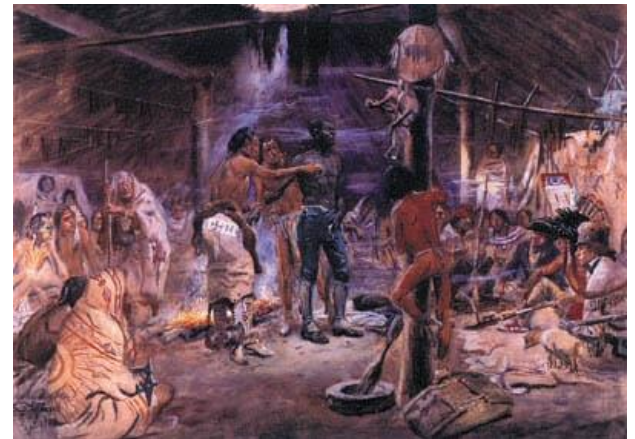
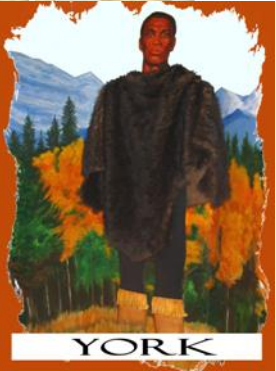
Teton Sioux and Winter Camp

- The Corp approached another Sioux camp which turned out to be less than peaceful.
- Lewis tried to begin a council but was met with suspicion. The Teton Sioux did not want these white men in their territory.
- They managed to keep their cool and prevented a fight with the tribe.
- The weather turned cold and they needed to build a winter camp.
- They wintered with the Mandan tribe in North Dakota after building a log fort called Fort Mandan which was finished on December 24, 1804.
- They learned a lot about trading from the Mandan's.



York

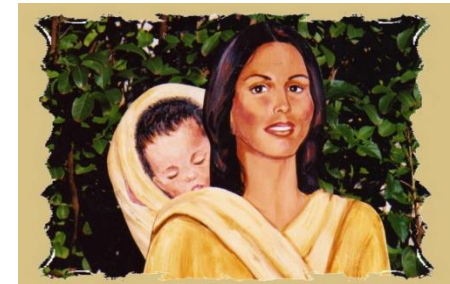
- Clark also brought his slave named York.
- The Native Americans were fascinated with York as they had never seen black skin. They would rub his skin to see if the color would come off.
- He was seen as powerful and was given the nickname “Strong Medicine”.
- York was treated as an equal member of the Corps of Discovery.



Sacagawea



- While in the Mandan camp Lewis and Clark met a French trapper named Toussaint Charbonneau.
- He was married to two women one was a Shoshone girl named Sacagawea.
- Sacagawea had been kidnapped from the Shoshone when she was 12 years old.
- She gave birth to a son just before joining the Corps. Her husband had been hired to guide the expedition.



The Journey Continues

- Sacagawea worked as a translator for the Corps of Discovery.
 - Sacagawea spoke Shoshone and translated to Hidatsa for Charbonneau who would translate to French for a French Corp member who would translate to English for Lewis and Clark.

On April 7th, 1805 Lewis and Clark continued west. Along the journey the Corps discovered many unusual animals like the mountain sheep, mule deer and grizzly bear. They drew pictures and wrote extensive descriptions of all they saw.



The Shoshone



Lewis and Clark weren't sure how they were going to cross the Rocky Mountains.

Luckily, they ran into the Shoshone and learned that Sacagawea's brother was the chief.

- He offered advice on the best routes to cross the mountains, gave them horses and even sent a couple braves to help guide them.
- As they crossed the Rockies they noticed that the flow of the rivers had changed from East to West. They had crossed the Continental Divide.



Nez Perce



- As they continued down the Rocky Mountains, starving and weak, they met the Nez Perce tribe who fed them and allowed them to rest.

On October 16th they entered the Columbia river, rushing toward the Pacific Ocean.

They finally reached the Pacific Ocean in November 1805 where they wrote on a tree “By land from the U. States in 1804 & 5.”

- The Corps built Fort Clatsop in Oregon for the winter. On March 23, 1806 the Corps of Discovery began the journey home.
- The return trip took one year and the Corps were treated as heroes throughout the United States.

