

Missouri: Gateway to the West

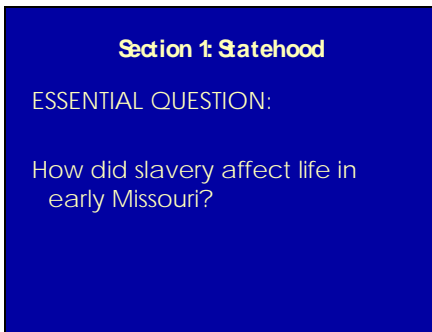
Chapter 7: The New State of Missouri

Study Guide & Student Notes

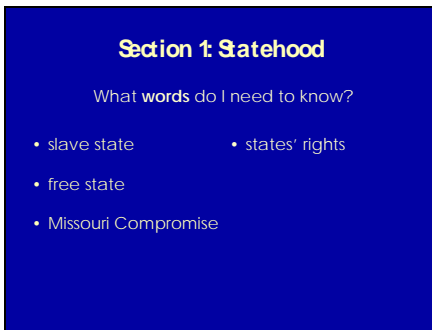
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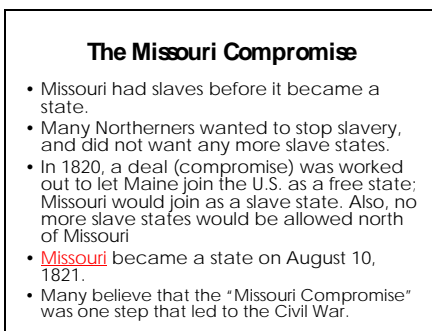
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Choosing a Capital

- The constitution required the capital to be in the center of the state.
- An area of high ground on the south side of the Missouri River was chosen.
- **Jefferson City** was named in honor of Thomas Jefferson.
- State government moved to the new capital from St. Charles in 1826.

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Section 2: Life in the New State

ESSENTIAL QUESTION:

What was it like to live in Missouri when it was a young state?

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Section 2: Life in the New State

What words do I need to know?

• frontier	• flatboat
• Santa Fe Trail	• keelboat
• Oregon Trail	• steamboat
• stagecoach	• railroad

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Agriculture

- Most Missourians were **farmers** in 1821.
- Most lived in small, log cabins.
- Farmers cleared their own land to make room to plant crops.
- Farmers owned cows, mules, pigs, etc. and grew corn, wheat, or oats.
- Farmers hunted to add to their food supply.



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Early Businesses

- Fur trappers and traders worked in Missouri, too.
- General Stores sold goods that farmers could not make for themselves.
- Blacksmiths made metal tools.
- Most manufactured goods came from factories on the east coast.

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Getting Around

- Horseback and wagons were important ways to move people and goods.
- Missouri's rivers made travel by boat an excellent choice for moving people and goods.

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Early Trails

- Native Americans, explorers, and fur traders followed trails across Missouri.
- Paths turned to roads because of settlers' wagons and animals.
- Roads turned muddy when it rained.
- A few roads were paved with planks, stones, or bricks.
- The **Santa Fe Trail** led settlers toward Mexico.
- The **Oregon Trail** started at Independence Missouri and headed toward California and Oregon.
- **Stagecoaches** were another choice but they were rough and uncomfortable.

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River Travel

- Wooden **flatboats** and **keelboats** were used to move larger shipments of goods.
- To move upstream, men pushed with poles, pulled from the shore on ropes, and sometimes used sails.
- Boats could move upstream at 10 miles per day.
- The trip from New Orleans to St. Louis took three months.
- **Steamboats** speeded travel on water.



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The Coming of the Railroad

- **Locomotives** moved people and goods more quickly than steamboats.
- The Pacific Railroad started in St. Louis in 1852.
- The Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad was the first to cross the state in 1859.
- Rail construction was stopped by the Civil War.

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New and Growing Towns

- Railroad companies encouraged people to move to Missouri.
- Farmers living along the tracks could ship their crops and livestock to markets.
- Some riverboat towns also became important railroad towns (St. Louis, Hannibal).
- Kansas City became an important railroad center and remains one today.

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Section 3: The Civil War

ESSENTIAL QUESTION:

How did the Civil War affect life in Missouri?

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Section 3: The Civil War

What words do I need to know?

- Underground Railroad
- abolitionist
- secede
- Confederate States of America
- border state
- Bushwhacker



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Slavery

- Native Americans often made slaves of prisoners captured in battle.
- African slaves were brought to Missouri by the French to work in mines.
- When it became a state in 1821, there were about 10,000 slaves in Missouri.

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Life as a Slave

- Slaves in Missouri worked mostly on small farms.
- Some worked in towns as servants or laborers.
- Slaves worked 6 days per week, sunup to sundown.
- Children born in slavery were put to work as soon as possible. They were not allowed to learn to read or write.
- Slaves were **bought and sold** in the same way as livestock.

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Free Blacks

- Free blacks in Missouri worked for little pay.
- They lived in poor conditions and were not allowed to buy or rent good housing.
- It was illegal to teach a black person to read or write.
- One route of the Underground Railroad went through Missouri. Slaves were helped across the Mississippi River to the free state of Illinois.

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The Antislavery Movement

- In the 1850s, more people began to argue against slavery.
- Missourians with roots in the north and immigrants from Europe tended to be abolitionists.
- Those with roots in the south tended to believe that people had the right to own slaves.
- **Kansas and Nebraska** wanted to join the U.S. as states.
- This caused more arguments and stress in Missouri because people were unsure if the new states would be free or slave.



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Secession

- After the election of Abraham Lincoln, several states seceded from the Union and formed the Confederate States of America.
- The first battle of the Civil War occurred on April 12, 1861 in [Charleston, SC](#).
- Most Missourians wanted to stay in the Union, but the governor supported the Confederates.
- The governor and state leaders fled to Neosho and voted to secede.
- Federal troops controlled the capital and St. Louis.
- They set up a government supportive of the Union.
- Missouri became a border state – a slave state that stayed in the Union.

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Fighting in Missouri

- The biggest battle in Missouri was the Battle of [Wilson's Creek](#) in August 1861.
- Many other [major battles](#) took place in the state.
- The Union was able to push the Confederates out of Missouri.
- Fighting continued among small groups of rebels (bushwhackers) and Union soldiers.
- The bushwhackers were able to scare off many settlers.

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Life in the Army

- Soldiers often had little food and clothing.
- Hardtack (hard crackers) was often the only food that soldiers could get.
- Confederate soldiers usually had a more difficult time than Union soldiers.
- Most people who died in the war died from sickness not from battle wounds.

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Last Chance

- Gen. Sterling Price made one last attempt to take Missouri for the Confederacy in 1864.
- The Battles of Pilot Knob and Westport were losses for the Confederates and ended the major fighting in Missouri.
- The war ended on April 9, 1865 when the confederate general Robert E. Lee [surrendered](#).
- In all, there were 1,100 battles and skirmishes in Missouri; more than 20,000 Missourians died.
- Many farms and towns were looted or destroyed.
- It took many years for the state to recover.

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