



Fort Hays State Historic Site  
1472 Hwy 183 Alt • Hays KS 67601-9212

**REAL PEOPLE. REAL STORIES.**

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## Old West Quiz

How well do you know Fort Hays State Historic Site?

Print off this quiz and bring it with you when you visit! If you can answer correctly, you might be named an official Fort Hays Trooper and receive a U.S. Cavalry pin!

Answers to all these questions can be found by reading and looking at our exhibits. Take the tour with your parents and answer each question (your parents can help you find the answers). After your tour, give your completed quiz to a staff person at the Visitor Center to receive your gifts.

1. In earlier days, people lighted their homes with kerosene or oil lamps or candles. Often, people made their own candles using a candle mold. There are several of these molds in the pantry of the officers' home. How many candles could be made using one of the molds?
2. What do you do for entertainment? Perhaps you go to movies, talk on the cell phone, play video games or watch TV. None of these things were available at the time of Fort Hays so children and adults had different forms of entertainment than we have today. By looking carefully in the married officers parlor, can you identify three forms of entertainment?
3. At the time of Fort Hays, children were often not allowed to play with a toy on Sunday unless it taught a lesson from the Bible. In the bedroom upstairs in the officers' home, there is one of these Sabbath Toys on the floor. It is a long building with animals outside. What Bible story does this toy illustrate?
4. The Western United States was a new and different place in the 1800s and there were all sorts of strange and exotic animals roaming the plains. Often times, soldiers would go on hunting expeditions and have some of the animals they shot mounted in a process called taxidermy. There is one such animal mounted in the bachelor's parlor in the officers' home. There were once millions of them roaming the plains and they were hunted almost to extinction but fortunately, they have made a comeback. What is this animal called?

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5. Native Americans living in Kansas at the time of Fort Hays were members of the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes. They hunted the bison and there is a display in the visitor center showing how they used the various parts of the animal. One part of the display shows a stomach used as a pot for boiling water. Rocks would be heated in a fire and placed in the water until it boiled. What was used as fuel for the fire?

6. Fort Hays was a supply depot for other forts and had a large number of mules that were used to pull the wagons. Harnesses and saddles needed to be repaired using a special bench. One of these is located in the blockhouse. What is this bench called?

7. When Fort Hays was founded, Kansas was a battleground with soldiers and American Indians fighting each other over control of the land. The soldiers thought they would be attacked at any time and so the blockhouse, the fort's first structure, was built with special holes in the walls so that the soldiers could shoot through them. What are these holes called?

8. Fort Hays was named after a general in the army during the Civil War. What was his name?

9. The flag of the United States in 1867 was a little different than our modern flag. There were fewer states in the Union then, and so the flag we have flying on our big, wooden flagpole has fewer stars in the blue field. How many stars does it have? (Hint: If you can't see all the stars on the flag outside, there is a smaller flag on a six-foot pole in the Visitor Center.)

10. The guardhouse is a long building made of limestone rocks. What was the purpose of the guardhouse?

(Valid for children ages six through 12. Children eight and under need only complete five questions correctly. Children nine through 12 need to complete all 10 questions. Not valid with school groups. Offer good June 1 - August 31, 2008.)

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