

**Kansas History Through Story and Song**

**Worksheet 3: A Time To Reflect**

Major events are often topics in stories and songs about Kansas. Centennial celebrations have been popular topics in Kansas. These anniversaries are a time to reflect on things from our past and to celebrate the future. You can read it as a poem.

**Back To Kansas!**



This song was written in 1954, probably for the centennial of Kansas Territory. It was also sung in Kansas classrooms in the 1960s when Kansas and many towns celebrated their 100<sup>th</sup> year.

*I am coming back to Kansas, where the prairie sunset glow  
Adds a touch of Heaven's grandeur to a grand spot here below.  
Where the neighbor folk are friendly, just like neighbors used to be.  
I am coming back to Kansas, ever Home Sweet Home to me.*

*I am coming back to Kansas, where the meadowlark is gay,  
As he warbles Yankee Doodle in his cock-a-doodle-way.  
Where the breezes woo the tree-ses and caress the new mown hay,  
I am coming back to Kansas, in the heart of U.S.A.!*

*I am coming back to Kansas, Back to Kansas here I come!  
All the way my heart is singing, Tra la la la Te de dum!  
She's that Land of Milk and Honey and I'm not just passing through.  
I am coming back to Kansas, what a place to come back to!*

*[chorus]  
Back to Kansas, Howdy do!*

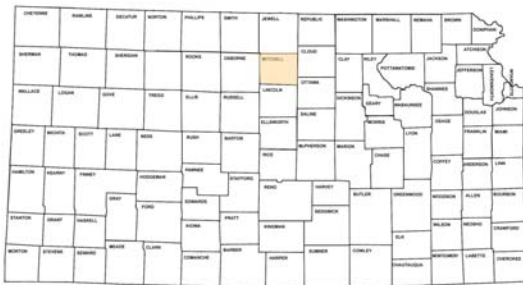




*Hi there, Neighbor, how are you?  
How's the wife and her folk too?  
How's Jim and Jane, and Bill and Sue?*

*Back to Kansas! Hail to thee!  
Back to Kansas! Here's I'll be,  
Till that trumpet sounds for me!  
Dear Kansas Land!*

### **Back to Mitchell County Too!**



This verse was added to the song above by a teacher in Mitchell County. It helped make the song more personal for her students.

*I am coming back to Kansas, Back to Mitchell County too  
To help the friends and neighbors celebrate a woop-dee-doo.  
We are thankful for all towns here, There is Beloit County seat  
There is Tipton and Glen Elder, Where the birds go tweet, tweet, tweet.  
There is Gilbert, Simpson, Hunter, Scottsville, Cawker, Asherville  
All still have that back home feeling, and for me they always will!*

### **Kansas Counties**

Find the name of a Kansas county in each sentence below. The first word of the name is capitalized to give you a clue!

Example: The silver **bEll** is tarnished. [Ellis]

1. When driving on ice, Go very slow.
2. When we were walking many people waved at us.
3. My Uncle CarlOs ages well.
4. ARe public schools expensive here?
5. Frank lingered too long at the water fountain.

