

Name: _____

“Reading” Historical Images

Kansas Kaleidoscope Worksheet 1

Images, such as paintings and photographs, can be valuable keys to understanding historical events. Historians try to answer many kinds of questions by studying different types of images. You can practice “reading” a historical image by completing the exercise below.

Study the painting *Independence Creek* by Michael Haynes on page two of the bicentennial issue of *Kansas Kaleidoscope*. Answer the following questions based on your observations.

1. What emotions are being expressed by the characters in the picture? Why are they expressing these feelings?

2. What objects did the artist include in this painting? How were these things used by the Corps of Discovery?

3. How did the explorers celebrate the Fourth of July? How is this like or not like the ways you celebrate this holiday?

4. What did the artist have to know about this subject before painting “Independence Creek”? Why do you think he painted this scene?



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Study the painting *Independence Creek* by Michael Haynes on page two of the bicentennial issue of *Kansas Kaleidoscope*. Answer the following questions based on your observations.

1. What emotions are being expressed by the characters in the picture? Why are they expressing these feelings?

- Happiness, excitement, patriotism, pride, etc.
- Because they are celebrating the Fourth of July, and a special Fourth at that—the first Independence Day celebrated in the West.

2. What objects did the artist include in this painting? How were these things used by the Corps of Discovery?

- Journal—to record their discoveries
- Boat—for transportation
- Tent—for shelter
- Guns/weapons—for hunting, protection and celebration
- Uniforms—to identify themselves as military men

3. How did the explorers celebrate the Fourth of July? How is this like or not like the ways you celebrate this holiday?

- They wore their dress uniforms for the morning and evening ceremonies. They fired the keelboat’s bow gun.
- Some people wear patriotic clothing in celebration of the Fourth of July. Fireworks, like the firing of the bow gun, commemorate the battles of the Revolutionary War.

4. What did the artist have to know about this subject before painting “Independence Creek”? Why do you think he painted this scene?

- He had to know how the Corps celebrated, what their supplies looked like, and what the landscape was like near present-day Atchison.
- Because this scene is important to both Kansas and United States history.



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Reading Comprehension

Kansas Kaleidoscope Worksheet 2

Read the article “Lewis and Clark in Kansas” on page nine of the bicentennial issue of *Kansas Kaleidoscope* and answer the questions below.

1. How many miles long was Lewis and Clark’s trail in Kansas?
2. Which two rivers meet at Kaw Point?
3. Why did the Corps of Discovery have difficulty traveling up the Missouri River?
4. Why did Lewis and Clark keep careful notes of their discoveries? What types of things did they see along the trail?
5. How did the Corps of Discovery celebrate the first Independence Day west of the Mississippi River? What are the names of the two creeks they named on July 4, 1804?
6. What is the name of the last specimen collected and recorded by Lewis on the journey?



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Reading Comprehension

Kansas Kaleidoscope Worksheet 2

Read the article "Lewis and Clark in Kansas" on page nine of the bicentennial issue of *Kansas Kaleidoscope* and answer the questions below.

1. How many miles long was Lewis and Clark's trail in Kansas?

123 miles

2. Which two rivers meet at Kaw Point?

The Missouri and Kansas Rivers

3. Why did the Corps of Discovery have difficulty traveling up the Missouri River?

Because they were going against the current.

4. Why did Lewis and Clark keep careful notes of their discoveries? What types of things did they see along the trail?

President Jefferson wanted them to keep careful notes as information for future settlers. They saw animals and plants (grapes and raspberries, deer and turkeys.)

5. How did the Corps of Discovery celebrate the first Independence Day west of the Mississippi River? What are the names of the two creeks they named on July 4, 1804?

They wore their dress uniforms for the morning and evening ceremonies and fired the keelboat's bow gun. The named Independence Creek and Fourth of July 1804 Creek

6. What is the name of the last specimen collected and recorded by Lewis on the journey?

Raccoon Grape leaf



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Compare and Contrast

Kansas Kaleidoscope Worksheet 3

Meriwether Lewis and William Clark were the leaders of the Corps of Discovery. Although they worked together and were good friends, Lewis and Clark were still unique individuals. In the exercise below, list some of the ways these two men were alike and how they were different.

Meriwether Lewis

William Clark

How were they alike?

How were they different?



Compare and Contrast

Kansas Kaleidoscope Worksheet 3

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Meriwether Lewis

William Clark

How were they alike?

They were both in the army.
They were members of the Corps of Discovery.
They were explorers.
They kept journals

How were they different?

- Jefferson's personal secretary.
- Was shot on the trip.
- Had a dog.

- Cartographer of the expedition.
- Lead boatman.
- Owned a slave.



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Lewis and Clark Acrostic Poem

Kansas Kaleidoscope Worksheet 4

An acrostic poem is one where you choose a word or name and use each letter in the name as the beginning of a word or line that tells something about that person or topic.

Example: An acrostic poem using the word "west."

Wild animals run free

Everywhere for your eyes to

See. Many rivers and

Trees on the prairie.

Now it's your turn! Write an acrostic poem using the words below.

L _____

C _____

E _____

L _____

W _____

A _____

I _____

R _____

S _____

K _____

