

## Following the Lewis and Clark Trail

### **Background Information**

The Lewis and Clark Expedition is probably the most thoroughly documented exploration in American history. The many campsites along the journey both going west and returning to St. Louis are highlighted in the following website:

<http://lewisclark.geog.missouri.edu/index.html>. These sites are listed with bright red stars and give the name of the location and the date that the Expedition was there. The site also has beautiful virtual landmark pictures marked by the same bright red stars. Other links are also available for gathering more information.

### **Overview of Activity**

Students will visit the above website to learn information of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Students will also visit virtual landmarks to see what Lewis and Clark saw. Students may explore other links to gather additional information. A worksheet will be completed by students stating the information found.

### **Purpose**

Students will work with computers to find out specific locations and dates of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Students will use higher level thinking skills to read information and gather additional facts about the Expedition.

### **Materials Needed**

- computers with Internet access
- Smartboard (if available)
- Attached worksheet
- Pencil

### **Advanced Preparation**

The teacher should visit the above website to become familiar with how the bright red stars link to the dates and locations of the Expedition. The teacher should also visit the virtual landmarks. Investigating various links would also be helpful.

### **Implementation**

1. Have the students enter the above web address to begin the activity. A Smartboard would be a good teaching medium so the students could see exactly what is being done. Direct the students about clicking on the bright red stars for campsite information and landmark information. Show the students how the

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- additional links work to gather other facts about the Lewis and Clark Expedition.
2. Discuss the attached worksheet with the students. There are two different campsite settings-one for the journey out west 1803-1804 and one for the return journey in 1806. Ask the students to find three different campsites and the dates that the Expedition was there by clicking on three different bright red stars. Show the students how to go to the virtual landmarks. While students are asked to find the date and location of only three landmarks, this is a favorite of many students and they like to look at many bright red star locations. Finally, ask the students to click on any of the additional links and list another fact about the Lewis and Clark Expedition. This fact should be written in a complete sentence.
  3. Students should be allowed time to research the website and fill out the worksheet.

**Follow-Up Activity**

1. After students have completed the assignment, allow time for some discussion about what additional facts were found and campsite locations.
2. A grade may be taken on the worksheet.

**Lewis and Clark Website**  
<http://lewisclark.geog.missouri.edu/index/html>

The Campsites

1803-1804 Campsites will be the journey out west.

1806 Campsites will be the journey back to St. Louis.

- Click on 3 different bright red stars and find the date and location of the campsite. When a bright red star is clicked, a small yellow box pops up. In this yellow box is the date and location of the campsite that needs to be recorded.

1.

2.

3.

Virtual Landmarks

- Click on 3 different bright red stars to visit various landmarks along the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Again, a yellow box pops up. The date and location are listed in the yellow box.

1.

2.

3.

Other Internet Links

- Click on any other Lewis and Clark link. Read the information provided and find one additional fact about the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Write the fact in a complete sentence.

1.

