



Royal Rangers

Merit Requirements: [Blue-Bordered Merit](#)

PIONEER LORE

1. Read a book on the history of the early settlers in your area (city, county, or state).
2. Write a 200-word report on the life (lifestyle, homes, clothing, etc.) of the early settlers in your area.
3. List at least two American Indian tribes that once lived in your state.
4. List the major nationalities and/or ethnic groups that were represented by the early settlers in your area. Also list any unique reasons why they settled in your area.
5. Choose two of the following trails. Complete the written work listed below the choices.
 - a. Oregon Trail
 - b. Wilderness Road
 - c. Santa Fe Trail

Write a report covering the following things:

- a. Show major river crossings and locate at least two landmarks.
 - b. Locate the areas occupied by various American Indian tribes along the trail.
 - c. Record the years when the trail was most heavily used by pioneers.
 - d. Discuss what time of year travel needed to begin and why.
 - e. On a map, trace the trail.
 - f. Record what year the trail was blazed.
 - g. List some of the dangers that existed along the trail.
 - h. Compare the length of time it takes to travel today with how long it took in covered wagons in the 1800s for the Oregon and Santa Fe Trails, or on foot for the Wilderness Road. Determine time based upon fifteen miles per day for the pioneer and sixty miles per hour for today's traveler.
6. Write a 100-word report explaining the means of finding your way through a wilderness area. Choose one of the trails in Requirement 5 when discussing this topic.
 7. Explain in writing how the pioneers provided for food and water for a long journey.
 8. List the three main types of wagons used by pioneers, and explain what type was best for long trails like the Oregon Trail.
 9. Visit a historical museum or a pioneer history web site. Write a 250-word report on what you saw or found. Include pictures or a brochure from the museum.