

4-5.1 What major expeditions played a role in Westward Expansion?

The explorations of **Daniel Boone**, **Lewis and Clark**, and **Zebulon Pike** did **not** bring **slavery** to the new western lands. However, they opened these lands to further **settlement**, which would eventually raise the **issue of expanding slavery** into the **western** territories. Their published reports made the land they explored known to American people who would often follow the trails they blazed and later settle the area.

Daniel Boone

Daniel Boone crossed the **Appalachian Mountains** through the **Cumberland Gap** to **Kentucky**. This created the **Wilderness Trail**, which later became the first National Road. These trails expanded on the original Native American trails. Daniel Boone established the **first U.S. settlement west of the Appalachian Mountains**. He eventually purchased much of the land in Kentucky that was taken from the Cherokee Native Americans.



Lewis and Clark

Meriwether Lewis and **William Clark**, with the help of Native American guides such as **Sacajawea**, documented the land that was soon included in the **Louisiana Purchase**. They also claimed land for the United States in the **Pacific Northwest**, then known as **Oregon Country**. President **Thomas Jefferson** supported their expedition. He wanted **Lewis and Clark** to explore and map the land across the continent to the Pacific Ocean



for two reasons: 1) Jefferson was secretly negotiating the **purchase** of the **Louisiana Territory** from France, 2) Americans and others were still looking for water route connecting northeastern part of North America to the northwestern part, called the **Northwest Passage** (but today we know it doesn't exist.) The **Louisiana Territory** stretched from the **mouth** of the **Mississippi River** in Louisiana, to present-day **Idaho**, and as far north as **Canada**. During their travels, Lewis and Clark also passed through the **Oregon Territory** and claimed the land for the United States. In addition to mapping the areas they visited in the northern part of the Louisiana Territory, Lewis and Clark brought back **information** about the **Native Americans** who lived in these regions. They tried to establish **peaceful relationships** with the Native Americans along their expedition. Their expedition also provided **scientific information** about different **plants** and **animals** they found.

Zebulon Pike

Zebulon Pike located and explored the **upper regions** of the **Mississippi River**. Pike made **treaties** with the **Native Americans**. He mapped and claimed lands for the United States into uncharted territories that stretched to the **Pacific Ocean** and up to the **Oregon Country**. Because of his further explorations of the **southwest** in **Spanish** territory, **Pike's Peak**, in present-day Colorado, is named in his honor.



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Westward Expansion Expeditions

On your map:

- Make a line across the Appalachian Mountains from West Virginia to Kentucky and label it “Daniel Boone/Wilderness Trail.”
- Outline the Louisiana Territory and label it “Lewis & Clark/Louisiana Territory”
- Outline the Mississippi River and label it “Mississippi River”
- Outline Oregon Country and label it “Pike”
- Draw a star in Colorado and label it “Pike’s Peak”



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Explorer	Where did he explore?	What did he do/discover?
Daniel Boone		
Lewis and Clark		
Zebulon Pike		

Do you think slavery will be an issue in the new western territories? Why or why not?