

## PIONEER LIFE

### What was Pioneer Life Like in the 1700's and the 1800's?

Pioneers depended upon the environment for their food, clothing, and shelter.

#### Food

One source of food for the pioneers was fish. Pioneer farmers grew their own food. Roots and berries were gathered from the forest. Deer, bison, squirrels, and birds were hunted for food. The Native Americans taught the pioneers how to make maple syrup from maple sap to sweeten their food. Rivers, lakes, and streams provided water for drinking.



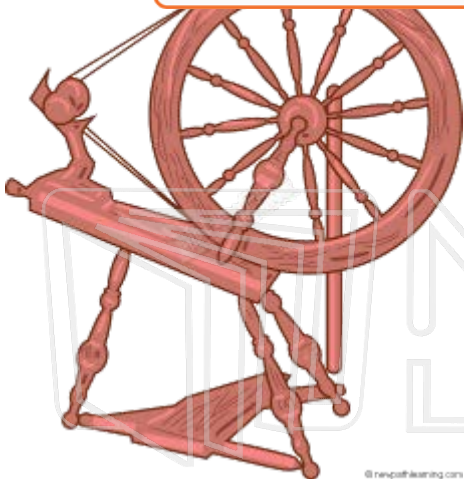
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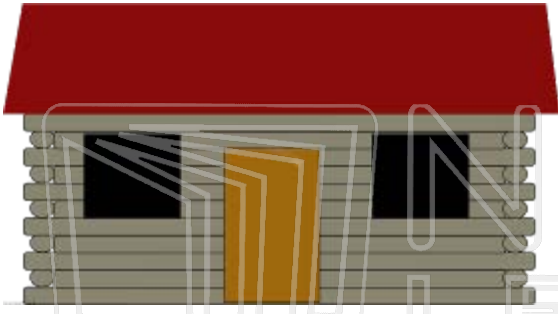
#### Clothing

A plant called cotton was taken from the soil to make clothing.

Wool is spun wool source of clothing.



## Shelter



Pioneers on the prairies built houses of earth known as sod houses. Pioneers in forested areas built houses called log cabins. Pioneers in hilly areas cut homes into the sides of hills. These homes were called dugouts.

## Trails



**The Wilderness Road:** a trail westward built in 1775 by Daniel Boone and his men

**The National Road:** a road built by the government in 1811 to join the East with the Northwest Territory

**The Oregon Trail:** the 2000-mile long road that ended in Oregon

**The Santa Fe Trail:** the road that ran from Independence, Missouri to Santa Fe, New Mexico

**The California Trail:** the trail that ran from Idaho to California

**The Mormon Trail:** the trail used by the Mormons to reach Utah

## Transportation

- **Conestoga wagons** were wagons used by pioneer families to carry their belongings westward. They were nicknamed prairie schooners because their canvas tops looked like the sails on a sailboat.



- **Stagecoaches** (early 1800's) were wagons for passengers pulled by horses.



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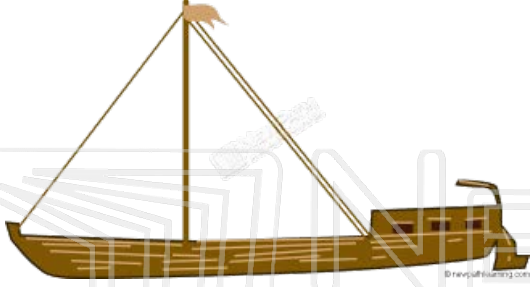
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- The **Erie Canal** (1825) was dug in New York State.



- **Keelboats** were boats with large hulls moved by oars or poles.



- **Flatboats** were boats with flat bottoms and square ends that were used to carry goods on calm waterways.



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