

Westward Expansion

Expansion and Reform
(1801–1861)



Expansion

Manifest destiny

Indian removal

Mexican-American War

Thematic Icons



Economics and business



Geography and environment



Historical concepts and questions



Politics, government and citizenship



Society and culture



War, diplomacy and foreign policy

Icons: For more detailed instructions, see the *User Guide*



Flash activity (these activities are not editable)



Teacher notes included in the Notes page



By the end of this section, you will know about the following events in the history of Native American displacement in the United States:

- Tecumseh's Confederacy
- Indian Removal Act
- Trail of Tears
- Treaty of Fort Laramie.



Who owns the land?

As settlers moved westward into new U.S. territories, they encountered native peoples already living on the land.



Most Americans believed that these tribes should move further west of the U.S.'s new borders into so-called **Indian Territory**.

While some spoke against removing Native Americans from their tribal lands, these voices were largely ignored.





Some people worried that Native Americans would perish if they remained in the East due to alcoholism, poverty and disease.

However, racism was a major factor in Native American displacement.

Many believed that native peoples were uncivilized and dangerous.

Missionaries hoped to travel to Indian Territory to convert and educate native children and adults.





Native American displacement



When making land treaties, the U.S. government often promised native peoples that they would never encroach on new tribal lands. Some tribes accepted these promises and moved west. Some adopted European culture. Others were skeptical that the U.S. would ever stop expanding, and fought to protect their land. Press on the dates to read about what happened in each year. Press **start** to begin.

start





Read the following opinions about Native American displacement and discuss how much you agree or disagree with them. When you have decided, drag the marker to the appropriate place on the slider scale.

Press **start** to begin.

start





Comparison



In the first half of the 19th century, thousands of pioneers and Native Americans migrated west into unfamiliar territory. These groups were different in many ways, but they also shared some similarities.

Drag each statement to an appropriate place on the Venn diagram.

Press **start** to begin.

start

