



Lesson Six

Why Do People Move?

Goal: The students will recognize that some of the same reasons people have for moving today are very similar to the reasons why people moved in the 1800's.

Objectives:

- state three or four reasons why people move today
- state three or four reasons why people moved in the 1800's
- compare and contrast past and present movement patterns
- relate your emotions about moving in story form

Colorado Model Content Standards Addressed:

Geography: K- 8 (4.1, 4.4, 5.1, 5.2, 6.1)

Reading: K- 8 (2, 3, 4)

History: K- 8 (3.1, 4.1, 4.2)

Materials Needed:

writing paper

Activity One:

This activity is designed to help the students understand the patterns of movement throughout history, including modern day. Divide the students into groups of three or four. Have each group find out if anyone in the group has ever moved and discuss the reasons for moving. Make a list and be prepared to share your ideas with the entire class. If no one in your group has moved, then talk about what could possibly make someone move. Bring the focus back to the entire group and have them share their reasons for moving. Have the students volunteer their ideas and compile a list on the board. Don't reuse previous ideas. Now ask the class to think about their ancestors. Why do you think they moved? Are the reasons similar or different than modern day? How did they move from place to place? Some things in history change and some remain the same. This activity reinforces the importance of studying history.

Activity Two:

Pretend you are living in the 1800's. You have been offered a chance to join a wagon train and move out West.

*The wagons are rolling and I **want** to go.

*The wagons are rolling and I **don't want** to go.

Pick one of the above statements. Write a story about your decision to travel out West. Be convincing and include details and emotion in your story so the reader can understand how you feel about moving or not moving, and why you feel the way you do.