Chapter 1 – Joe Leaves Home
Joe Meek grew up on a Virginia tobacco farm. He and his stepmother did not get along, so when he was 18, Joe ran away from home. He reached St. Louis where he met Captain Bill, who worked for the Rocky Mountain Fur Company. At first Captain Bill thought Joe was too young and inexperienced, but Joe finally talked his way into a job.

Chapter 2 – On the Trail
Since Joe was the youngest man in the party, he had all the worst jobs, getting up at four a.m., letting the animals out to graze, and starting fires. In Independence, Missouri, the party bought supplies, and Joe’s friend Pete said goodbye and left. Just when Joe thought they would never reach the mountains, the captain pointed ahead – and there they were!

Chapter 3 – In Camp
Joe had to collect wood, build fires, care for the animals, and stand guard. He envied the trappers. One day, a bunch of Indians rode up. The men raised their guns, but the Indians were peaceful and let them continue on their way. Abe Moss was with the group. He saw that Joe’s rifle was dirty and deducted $5 from his paycheck for having it cleaned by someone else.

Chapter 4 – Standing Guard
One cold night, Joe and a man named Reese were standing guard. Both went to sleep at their outposts. They were almost caught when the captain made his rounds, but Reese used his wits. He pretended they did not answer the captain’s call because Indians were nearby. A close call, and it made them temporary heroes.

Chapter 5 – Trapper at Last
When Captain Bill decided Joe was ready to trap, he sent him out with a man name Fitz, who taught Joe the many steps he needed to know to trap beavers. Fitz also taught him how to get rid of lice by laying his clothes on an ant hill. (The ants ate the lice.) Back at camp, five horses were stolen in an Indian raid.

Chapter 6 – The Bear
One day, Joe was out trapping with a man named Craig. Suddenly they came face to face with a huge bear. Joe climbed a tall pine tree, but Craig was not so lucky. He found a smaller, less sturdy tree. The bear tried over and over to grab him, but finally gave up and ran into the woods.

Chapter 7 – Winter and Springtime
Joe could not go back to camp because Indians were nearby. For six days he wandered alone and lost in the mountains. Starving, he was reduced to eating ants and roasting crickets. He finally shot a mountain sheep and had a good meal. Instead of hiding, he joined some Indians who had taken over his camp site.
Chapter 8 – Found at Last
On day six, Joe climbed a mountain. He couldn’t believe his eyes as he beheld land that was smoking and boiling, water and gases shooting into the air. He discovered a spring and took a warm bath. When he heard gunshots, he followed the sound and stumbled upon Reese and Craig. Found at last!

**VOCABULARY**
gurgled reckoned listened supplies
Nez Perce complained usually laughed
tobacco prairie expensive soothing

**FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES**
Students will research and discuss:
• When and how horses first came to this country
• Cultures in which people eat insects like ants and crickets, and why
• What causes geysers and hot springs
WORD PUZZLE
Hidden in the puzzle are 15 words that can be found in Joe Meek. Some letters are part of more than one word. Draw a circle around the word when you find it. The 15 words to look for are listed below the puzzle.

trappers   together   tall      party      horse
elk        get        west      wagon      town
mountain    last       reckon    prize      settlers
FILL IN THE BLANKS

Read the words from *Joe Meek Becomes a Mountain Man* below. Then choose the correct word to complete each sentence. Write it in the blank.

- stepmother
- Virginia
- bear
- worst
- lice
- rifle
- Yellowstone
- days
- geysers
- Indians
- supplies
- fall

1. Joe grew up on a tobacco farm in _______________.

2. Joe and his _______________ did not get along.

3. Joe got the _______________ jobs in camp.

4. The trapping party bought _______________ in Independence, Missouri.

5. Captain Bill smoked a peace pipe with the _______________.

6. Joe was fined $5 for a dirty _______________.

7. Fitz showed Joe how to get rid of _______________.

8. Joe and Craig climbed trees to get away from a _______________.

9. The best trapping seasons were spring and _______________.

10. Joe was lost in the mountains for six _______________.

11. Joe was astonished by the hot springs and _______________.

12. John Colter was the first man to see _______________.

**UNSCRAMBLE THE LETTERS**

Unscramble the letters to form words from *Joe Meek*. Write the words in the spaces on the right. As a hint, the first letter of each word has already been used.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 1 | N  | C  | R  | O  |   | C  | ___ | ___ | ___ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 2 | U  | F  | S  | R  |   | F  | ___ | ___ | ___ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 3 | H  | O  | T  | S  |   | S  | ___ | ___ | ___ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 4 | A  | C  | P  | M  |   | C  | ___ | ___ | ___ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 5 | R  | F  | E  | I  |   | F  | ___ | ___ | ___ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 6 | U  | R  | O  | H  |   | H  | ___ | ___ | ___ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 7 | A  | E  | R  | F  |   | F  | ___ | ___ | ___ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 8 | N  | E  | I  | P  |   | P  | ___ | ___ | ___ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 9 | R  | E  | D  | E  |   | D  | ___ | ___ | ___ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|10 | M  | R  | A  | W  |   | W  | ___ | ___ | ___ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|11 | O  | H  | E  | S  |   | S  | ___ | ___ | ___ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|12 | K  | S  | N  | I  |   | S  | ___ | ___ | ___ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|13 | E  | A  | M  | N  |   | N  | ___ | ___ | ___ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|14 | E  | T  | A  | M  |   | M  | ___ | ___ | ___ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|15 | T  | A  | W  | R  | E  | W  | ___ | ___ | ___ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
Chapter 1 – Getting Started
After they were orphaned, Jim Bridger and his sister lived with an aunt. First, he farmed, and then he ran a ferry on the Mississippi River. Later, he worked as a blacksmith’s helper. It was here that he met Tom Fitzpatrick (“Fitz”), who suggested he work for the Rocky Mountain Fur Company and learn to trap beavers in the Rocky Mountains.

Chapter 2 – The Prairie Dog
The company had hard luck. One of its ships sank in the Missouri River. Some of the men grew sick. One died. While traveling through the Great Plains, they saw thousands of buffalo. Each man ate as much as eight pounds of buffalo meat every day. They also learned to catch and eat prairie dogs.

Chapter 3 – Deserters
The party wintered near the Yellowstone River where they traded with Indians. In the spring, they rode horses into the Rocky Mountains and trapped beavers. In July, twenty men led by a man named Weeb deserted. Wounded, Weeb came back after an Indian attack. It was then that Bridger decided he would rather live and hunt alone.

Chapter 4 – The Arrow Head
For the next four years Bridger led trapping parties into the mountains, sometimes with Fitz. One spring day, Fitz and some of the men got into a fight with Indians. Another fight broke out when Bridger tried to intercede. Fitz managed to get one arrow out of Bridger’s back, but part of another remained because it was in so deep.

Chapter 5 – The Mountain Men’s Last Days
After Bridger married in 1835, he left his wife to continue trapping. When a friend, Joe Meek, was captured by Indians, he showed them where Bridger and his party were camped. Bridger talked with the Indians and hugged them, as was their custom. He and the chief smoked a peace pipe and made a truce.

Chapter 6 – Fort Bridger
The price of a beaver fur had fallen, and after one more season, Bridger decided on a new endeavor. He built a fort on the Green River in Wyoming to serve wagon trains heading west. A group of Mormons led by Brigham Young stopped at the fort, and Bridger warned them about the Ute Indians.

Chapter 7 – Staying in the Mountains
Bridger’s wife died shortly after the birth of their daughter. He left the child with family and became an army guide. After two years he returned to Fort Bridger. Relations with the Mormons were not good and came to a climax when a Mormon posse ravaged the fort. Bridger had already left for Kansas City to visit his daughter in school there. She was not especially pleased to see him.
Chapter 8 – Colonel Carr
When he was 62, Bridger was hired by Colonel Carr as a scout to help build a wagon road to Montana. There was continuing serious trouble with the Cheyennes, and 15 of Carr’s men were killed. With Bridger’s help, the U.S. finally got a treaty with the Cheyenne Indians.

Chapter 9 – Retirement
At 70 and almost blind, Bridger settled on a small farm in Missouri. One day he had a surprise visit from his daughter and her husband. She had forgiven him his neglect, and they had come to take care of him. Bridger died in 1881, the last of the mountain men.

VOCABULARY

Superior  moccasin  Virginia  boulder
emigrants  Mormon  Missouri  daughter
humid  posse  stomach  squirrel

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

Students will research and discuss:

• Any two Indian tribes discussed in the book
• Why wearing furs is not as popular as it once was
• Kinds of supplies settlers would bring for their trip west
• Why the buffalo disappeared from the Great Plains
MULTIPLE CHOICE

Complete each sentence by drawing a circle around the correct word or words.

1. Jim got a job as a
   - cowboy
   - blacksmith
   - salesman

2. Jim learned to make his own
   - canoe
   - saddle
   - clothes

3. Trappers for the Rocky Mountain Fur Company trapped
   - beavers
   - bears
   - wolves

4. One Indian custom Bridger often used when meeting Indians was to
   - dance
   - hug
   - trade

5. Every year trappers gathered together in the
   - spring
   - winter
   - summer

6. The Army hired Bridger to find a
   - river
   - route
   - mine

7. When Bridger grew tired of trapping, he built a
   - boat
   - fort
   - tunnel

8. Bridger was wounded by
   - an arrow
   - a gun
   - a knife

9. Captain Carr's party had trouble with the
   - Cheyenne
   - Ute
   - Crow

10. When Bridger retired, he went to live
    - on a farm
    - in a fort
    - on a mountain
VOCABULARY

Circle the word in each line that doesn’t belong.

1. farm ranch river fort
2. sister corn brother father
3. west east south shoes
4. buffalo bear boat wolf
5. rain stomach hail snow
6. river evening lake ocean
7. boulder rock herd stone
8. month sky year week
9. winter prairie spring fall
10. horse donkey contract mule
11. yards father feet inches
12. cities fur towns villages
**VOCABULARY**

All of the words below can be found in *Jim Bridger – The Last Mountain Man*. Read across and circle the correctly spelled word in each line.

1. mountain  mountin  mountan  montain
2. mocasin  mockasin  moccasin  moccasan
3. praire  prairie  prarie  prairi
4. Cheyenne  Cheyene  Cheyenn  Chenney
5. emigrunt  emigrant  emigrint  emigrent
6. dawter  daughtur  daughtter  daughter
7. hewmid  humid  humed  hummid
8. squirrel  squirel  squirril  squrrel
9. stomach  stomach  stomac  stomak
10. bufalo  buffalow  buffalo  buffulo
11. people  peeple  peopel  poeple
12. languge  language  languag  langauge
Chapter 1 – To the Mountains
When Abe Moss first rode into the Rocky Mountains, his lack of experience made life very difficult. His beaver traps were empty. Game was scarce. He tried unsuccessfully to catch fish with his hands. One Indian wandered by without speaking, and Abe spotted a single wolf. Then after two months of silence, he heard a voice.

Chapter 2 – Bear Claw Jones
An old man came from behind the trees. Bear Claw Jones hunted grizzly bears and collected their claws. He showed Abe a necklace made of more than a hundred claws. He took Abe to his log cabin and cooked the hungry man a good meal of elk meat. Then he offered to help Abe become a true mountain man.

Chapter 3 – The Crow
Bear Claw taught Abe a lot about hunting, fishing, and Indians. One day they encountered a tribe of Crows. The chief demanded Abe’s elk hide and in return gave Abe his daughter for a wife. Bear Claw advised him to take her even though he didn’t really want a wife. That night Abe packed his gear, bid Bear Claw goodbye, and started walking.

Chapter 4 – The Storm
Winter was coming to the Rocky Mountains, and Abe feared he might have stayed there too long. It began to rain, and thick clouds forecast snow. As he hiked through a heavy fog, Abe began to look for shelter and continued to wish he had left the mountains.

Chapter 5 – The Cave
Behind a huge stone in a field, Abe found a small cave. Once inside, he immediately built a fire pit edged with stones to help keep out the wind. Starting a fire with a flint stone and a steel bar was difficult, but at last a small flame flickered. He gathered wet wood and placed it near his fire to dry. Wolves howled, snow drifted, but Abe was safe.

Chapter 6 – The Wolves
The wolves seemed to be closer. Abe blocked the cave opening with logs. The storm grew worse. Abe melted snow for tea and ate dried deer meat. Suddenly a wolf crashed into the log barrier. Abe could see his fangs. He fired his gun, and the wolf ran off followed by the rest of the pack. Abe spent a restless night.

Chapter 7 – The Leader of the Pack
It snowed for three weeks. One day when Abe was dragging logs, six wolves appeared. He fired, and all but one ran away. His gun jammed twice when he fired at that one, so he swung at it with his gun barrel. The wolf leaped. This time the gun worked. The wolf fell dead, but more wolves moved in. Abe killed two of them. Although hurt, he managed to skin the animals and bury the meat.
Chapter 8 – Abe’s Escape
Abe’s wounds healed slowly. A week later he found a dead deer. The smell of roasting venison drew the wolves, so Abe tossed them the inedible deer parts. To keep busy, he roasted strips of venison and built a sled. The snow stopped. He packed his gear on the sled. For two days he trudged through the snow and finally reached the foothills. Would he ever come back? He did not know.

VOCABULARY

hatchet hungry languages taught
warrior necklace daughter meadow
Laramie questions thought wounds

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

Students will research and discuss:

• Why and how wolves are sometimes relocated
• Well-known caves in the United States (example: Mammoth Caves in Kentucky)
• Characteristics of a blizzard vs. a snowfall
• A time when they have been very hungry
MULTIPLE CHOICE

Find the right answer. Put an “X” on the line in front of it.

1. Abe went into the mountains to hunt
   _____ bears
   _____ wolves
   _____ beavers

2. Bear Claw took Abe to a
   _____ fort
   _____ cabin
   _____ store

3. Bear Claw and Abe met some
   _____ Crow Indians
   _____ Ute Indians
   _____ Cheyenne Indians

4. The first thing Abe did in the cave was
   _____ chop wood
   _____ cook food
   _____ write a letter

5. Abe blocked the cave opening with
   _____ bricks
   _____ logs
   _____ stones

6. Abe made a bed of
   _____ leaves
   _____ grass
   _____ pine needles
7. Abe’s rifle did not fire because of
   _____ ice
   _____ rust
   _____ dirt

ANTONYMS, HOMONYMS, AND SYNONYMS

I. Connect the words that mean the opposite of each other (antonyms).
   before    last
   first     soft
   west      fast
   hard      after
   wet       enemy
   slow      young
   friend    dry
   old       east

II. Connect the words that sound the same but mean different things (homonyms).
   deer       no
   through    dear
   two        knot
   toe        too
   know       daze
   days       bare
   not        tow
   bear       threw
III. Connect the words that mean the same or almost the same (synonyms).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>trail</th>
<th>noise</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>friend</td>
<td>grin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sound</td>
<td>path</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>big</td>
<td>creep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>smile</td>
<td>fright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crawl</td>
<td>near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>panic</td>
<td>large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>close</td>
<td>pal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COMPOUND WORDS

I. Circle the 14 compound words from *Abe Moss – Winter in the Rockies* in the list below.

- everywhere
- questions
- eyebrows
- people
- mountain
- afternoon
- squirrel
- feather
- snowflake
- language
- cabin
- someone
- outside

- country
- snowshoes
- rifle
- foothills
- shelter
- Flatheads
- everything
- minute
- himself
- backpack
- powder
- necklace
- anyone

II. See if you can think of four compound words not in the list above.

1. ________________  2. ________________
2. ________________  3. ________________
4. ________________  4. ________________
Chapter 1 – Starting Out
John Colter was a Kentucky farm boy who had always wanted to see the mountains and the Pacific Ocean. He heard about the Lewis and Clark expedition and decided to join it. He promised the girl he was going to marry he would be gone only one year.

Chapter 2 – Starting West
Lewis and Clark tested all of the men who wished to join them. They made them shoot, hunt, paddle boats, and tie knots. John, who was strong and healthy, was hired. They camped for the winter near St. Louis where they trained hard and packed their boats.

Chapter 3 – Departure
In May 1804, the expedition started up the Missouri River in one keel boat and three canoes. There were many problems with sandbars and floating logs, and some of the men had to be disciplined. After three months, near Omaha, Nebraska, they met a tribe of Oto Indians, who expected gifts and were given mirrors and blue beads.

Chapter 4 – Mandan Winter
That freezing winter the men built Fort Mandan near the Mandan Indians, who hospitably shared rations and advice on handling the sub-zero weather. In the spring the expedition left with Sacagawea, a Shoshone woman, who would help in buying horses from the Shoshone tribe. She soon gave birth to a baby boy whom she carried on her back. At Great Falls they had to carry their boats for 18 rough miles. It took 24 days.

Chapter 5 – The Shoshones
Sacagawea helped the expedition get horses from the Shoshones. Soon the members of the expedition were riding over the Continental Divide. It took them 11 days to get down to the flatlands. They were starving. They stayed three weeks with the Nez Perce Indians, who fed them and showed them how to make the canoes that would take them to the Pacific Ocean.

Chapter 6 – “Look, the Ocean!”
At last they reached the Columbia River. When its water grew salty, they knew they were near the Pacific Ocean. One foggy morning, there it was! After five miserable, rainy days, the men built a log fort where they spent a hard winter. In March they started home. On the way, they stayed a month with the Nez Perce. In June, the party crossed the mountains into Montana.

Chapter 7 – The Blackfeet
When they first encountered some Blackfeet Indians, they thought the Indians were friendly, but that night one of the Blackfeet Indians tried to steal a rifle. Colter saw his friend Jim Fields chasing two of them. Shots were fired, and Fields stabbed one of the Indians. Now two Indians were dead. Expecting real trouble, the men jumped on their horses and rode fast for 24 hours.
Chapter 8 – After the Expedition
On the way home they met two Americans who hired Colter to help them trap beaver. He stayed in the mountains a year, the first American man in the Rockies. He was just about to go home when he met Manuel Lisa. Lisa hired him for his trapping company, and on this job Colter explored places only Indians had ever seen. Later, when he talked about petrified forests, hot springs, and water shooting into the air, people laughed.

Chapter 9 – Still Trapping
Five years later, while still trapping beaver, Colter was captured by Blackfeet Indians. The only way he could get his freedom was to win a race. Somehow near the end of the race he escaped and ended up, exhausted, at Lisa’s fort. Lisa told him to go home and marry the girl who was still waiting for him, and that’s exactly what he did.

VOCABULARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nez</th>
<th>Perce</th>
<th>Louisiana</th>
<th>excited</th>
<th>Shoshone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>petrified</td>
<td>territory</td>
<td>expedition</td>
<td>continental</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>courted</td>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>compasses</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sacagawea</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

Students will research:

- The Louisiana Purchase
- The lives of Lewis and Clark after the expedition
- The life of Sacagawea
- One Indian tribe mentioned in the book
SEQUENCING

Put the facts in the correct order. Number them 1-10.

____ Colter’s father takes him to see the Atlantic Ocean.

____ The expedition buys horses from the Shoshone Indians.

____ The expedition meets with the Oto Indians near Omaha, Nebraska.

____ Two Blackfeet Indians are killed.

____ Colter becomes a guide for beaver trappers.

____ Colter joins the Lewis and Clark expedition.

____ Colter is captured by Blackfeet Indians.

____ The men of the expedition build Fort Mandan.

____ The expedition reaches the Pacific Ocean.

____ The expedition starts out on the Missouri River.
**REMOVE A LETTER**

Many words can be changed into new words by subtracting a letter. (Example: change *bold* into *old* by removing the letter *b.*) Remove a letter from each of the following words and write the new word on the line.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old Word</th>
<th>Letter Subtracted</th>
<th>New Word</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. world</td>
<td>___________</td>
<td>___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. farm</td>
<td>___________</td>
<td>___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. hunt</td>
<td>___________</td>
<td>___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. never</td>
<td>___________</td>
<td>___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. west</td>
<td>___________</td>
<td>___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. heart</td>
<td>___________</td>
<td>___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. camp</td>
<td>___________</td>
<td>___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. there</td>
<td>___________</td>
<td>___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. spoke</td>
<td>___________</td>
<td>___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. start</td>
<td>___________</td>
<td>___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. bring</td>
<td>___________</td>
<td>___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. snow</td>
<td>___________</td>
<td>___________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SYLLABLES

I. 1. Pronounce each word.
   2. Draw a circle around each one-syllable word.
   3. Draw a square around each two-syllable word.
   4. Put a check next to each four-syllable word.

   years       magic       rope
   duty      chance       pole
   explorer   mirror      degree
   world      potato      petrified
   farm       boats       month
   captain    elephants   different
   buffalo    food        river
   day        telescope   territory
   waterfall  expedition  animals
   medals     tree        stars
   magnet     buckskin   winter

II. How many one-syllable words did you find? _______
    How many two-syllable words did you find? _______
    How many three-syllable words did you find? _______
    How many four-syllable words did you find? _______
Chapter 1 – A Young Man’s Dreams
Jed Smith had wanted to explore the mountains since he first read about them. He made his wish come true. He had many adventures as a guide and a mountaineer. One day he realized he wanted to go to California. Two men, Rob and Will, decided to go with him.

Chapter 2 – The Desert
First, the trio built a boat and floated down the Colorado River. Then they started walking through the desert with only 8 quarts of water. The water was soon gone. Luckily, they found a stream. That night they endured a terrible storm. They were swept away in a flash flood and eventually tossed onto land, where they dried their clothes and started out again.

Chapter 3 – The Mountain
The next morning, Jed awoke before the others, climbed a hill, and spotted a mountain about 50 or 60 miles away. He did not tell Rob and Will about this. That day they walked through miles of hot, flat land. After a rest they walked at night when it was cooler. They wrapped Will in blankets when he began to shake violently. Jed began a letter to Ann, a girl he knew back home.

Chapter 4 – Will Lies Down
The next day, Jed spotted a huge turtle but decided not to kill it. Back in camp he wrote to Ann about their misery. They rested through the day and planned to walk at night, but Will could not go on. They left him a rifle and some deer meat. In a few hours, they found a creek, and Jed started back for Will, carrying water.

Chapter 5 – Will Revives
Jed found Will unconscious under a small tree. He dribbled water on Will’s lips until Will awoke. Before long, Will felt strong enough to walk to the creek.

Chapter 6 – The Tipi
While they rested by the creek, Jed continued his letter to Ann. The next day they encountered a friendly Indian family who shared their food with the three men. After a day, they said goodbye to their new friends.

Chapter 7 – The Raft
When they reached a river, the men made a raft of grass tied into bundles. Jack tied one end of a rope to the raft and put the other end in his mouth so he could pull the raft. They put their gear and supplies in the raft. Rob and Will swam behind the raft. The strong current swept all three men away. Later they found one another along the river bank. The next day they left the flatlands, and Jed shot a deer.
Chapter 8 – California
A week later the men reached the Pacific Ocean. Later they found a mission. At first, the
governor thought they might be unfriendly. He gave them horses and sent them on their way.
When they got to the Sierra Nevada Mountains, they made a vow – no more deserts!

VOCABULARY

Cheyenne  explorer  promise  tobacco
governor  current  Joshua  California
Sierra  wilderness  typical  disappeared

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

Students will research:

• How long human beings can live without water
• How desert plants, for example, types of cactus, store and use water
• The highest mountains in the world, and in the United States, and how tall they are
• The first person to climb Mt. Everest, and how he did it differently from climbers today
TRUE OR FALSE

If the sentence is true, write a “T” in front of it.
If the sentence is false, write an “F” in front of it.

1. _____ As a young man, Jed became interested in oceans.
2. _____ Jed Smith discovered South Pass.
3. _____ Jed’s family and friends wanted him to stay home.
4. _____ Jed and two friends decided to go to Florida.
5. _____ The men went into the desert with only 8 quarts of water.
6. _____ Nights in the desert are very hot.
7. _____ Jed, Rob, and Will were swept away in a flash flood.
8. _____ Clothes dry quickly in the desert.
9. _____ Some Joshua trees grow to a height of 30 feet.
10. _____ Jed found a turtle and killed it.
11. _____ The Indian family the men met was unfriendly.
12. _____ During rest periods, Jed wrote to Ann.
## SYNONYMS

All the words below can be found in *Jed Smith – California the Hard Way*. Look at the first word in each line. Find another word in the line that means almost the same thing. Connect the two words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>story</th>
<th>miles</th>
<th>tale</th>
<th>sand</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>desert</td>
<td>talents</td>
<td>hours</td>
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<td>doves</td>
<td>water</td>
<td>find</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>sea</td>
<td>sun</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>rifle</td>
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<td>ship</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>rocks</td>
<td>deer</td>
<td>stones</td>
<td>lips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>quit</td>
<td>cloth</td>
<td>stop</td>
<td>kettle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>sound</td>
<td>creek</td>
<td>joke</td>
<td>noise</td>
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<td>small</td>
<td>thirst</td>
<td>hills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>disappear</td>
<td>dirt</td>
<td>brush</td>
<td>vanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>sick</td>
<td>friend</td>
<td>ill</td>
<td>grass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RHYMING WORDS

I. Connect the words that rhyme.

place  rice  near
nice  bell  tire
fire  round  fall
hear  race  sand
stream  tall  dream
yell  fear  found
sound  cave  gave
wall  beam  face
wave  band  fell
land  hire  mice

II. Connect these harder words that rhyme.

would  tower
night  raft
hour  hood
word  feet
laughed  loop
meat  heard
soup  mud
flood  bite
Joe Meek Becomes a Mountain Man

WORD PUZZLE

FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. Virginia
2. stepmother
3. worst
4. supplies
5. Indians
6. rifle
7. lice
8. bear
9. fall
10. days
11. geysers
12. Yellowstone

UNSCRAMBLE THE LETTERS

1. corn
2. furs
3. shot
4. camp
5. fire
6. hour
7. fear
8. pine
9. deer
10. warm
11. shoe
12. skin
13. name
14. meat
15. water
**COMPLETE THE SENTENCE**

1. blacksmith  
2. clothes  
3. beavers  
4. hug  
5. summer  
6. route  
7. fort  
8. an arrow  
9. Cheyenne  
10. on a farm

**VOCABULARY**

1. river  
2. corn  
3. shoes  
4. boat  
5. stomach  
6. evening  
7. herd  
8. sky  
9. prairie  
10. contract  
11. father  
12. fur

**VOCABULARY**

1. mountain  
2. moccasin  
3. prairie  
4. Cheyenne  
5. emigrant  
6. daughter  
7. humid  
8. squirrel  
9. stomach  
10. buffalo  
11. people  
12. language
MULTIPLE CHOICE
1. beavers
2. cabin
3. Crow Indians
4. chop wood
5. logs
6. pine needles
7. ice

I. ANTONYMS
before — last
first — soft
west — fast
hard — after
wet — enemy
slow — young
friend — dry
old — east

II. HOMONYMS
deer — no
through — dear
two — knot
toe — too
know — daze
days — bare
not — tow
bear — threw

III. SYNONYMS
trail — noise
friend — grin
sound — path
big — creep
smile — fright
crawl — near
panic — large
close — pal

COMPOUND WORDS
everywhere
snowshoes
eyebrows
two
through
bear

afternoon
foothills
Flatheads
everything
someone
outside
himselt
backpack
necklace
anyone

John Colter – The First Mountain Man

SEQUENCING
1. Colter’s father takes him to see the Atlantic Ocean.
6. The expedition buys horses from the Shoshone Indians.
4. The expedition meets with the Oto Indians near Omaha, Nebraska.
8. Two Blackfeet Indians are killed.
2. Colter joins the Lewis and Clark expedition.
10. Colter is captured by Blackfeet Indians.
5. The men of the expedition build Fort Mandan.
7. The expedition reaches the Pacific Ocean.
3. The expedition starts out on the Missouri River.

REMOVE A LETTER
1. world l word 7. camp m cap
2. farm m, f far, arm 8. there t here
3. hunt n hut 9. spoke s poke
4. never n ever 10. start s, t tart, star
5. west s wet 11. bring b ring
6. heart r, t heat, hear 12. snow s, n now, sow

SYLLABLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One-syllable words</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Three-syllable words</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four-syllable words</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Jed Smith – California the Hard Way

TRUE OR FALSE
1. T 7. T
2. T 8. T
3. T 9. T
4. F 10. F
5. T 11. F
6. F 12. T

SYNONYMS
1. story – tale 7. rocks – stones
2. hard – difficult 8. quit – stop
3. skills – talents 9. sound – noise
4. discover – find 10. tiny – small
5. ocean – sea 11. disappear – vanish
6. boat – ship 12. sick – ill

RHYMING WORDS

I. place rice near
   nice bell tire
   fire round fall
   hear race sand
   stream tall dream
   yell fear found
   sound cave gave
   wall beam face
   wave band fell
   land hire mice

II. would tower
   night raft
   hour hood
   word feet
   laughed loop
   meat heard
   soup mud
   flood bite