**Westward Expansion**

* The east became more populated 🡪 Settlers crossed the **Appalachians** and built settlements
* People traveled in small **wagons** or along the **Ohio River** in **flatboats**
  + Travel was uncomfortable, dangerous, and difficult
* **Manifest Destiny** – The belief that the United States should spread across the entire North American continent, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean

**Louisiana Purchase**

* **President Thomas Jefferson** purchased the **Louisiana Territory** from France 🡪 Doubled the size of the United States
* The **Lewis and Clark** expedition explored the western part of the continent starting in 1804
  + Gathered information about landforms, plants and animals, American Indian cultures
  + Traveled with the **Corps of Discovery** – made up of 30 people, mostly soldiers
  + **Sacagawea** helped Lewis and Clark by serving as an interpreter, collecting plants for food and medicine, helped make peace with the American Indian groups they met
  + Explored the **Missouri River** and **Columbia River** – Traveled up Missouri River, over the Rocky Mountains, and down the Columbia River to the Pacific Ocean
  + Kept detailed journals about their experiences – Today we use these **primary sources** to learn about their journey

**War of 1812**

* Conflicts with Great Britain increased in the early 1800s
  + **Impressment** – British sailors captured American sailors and forced them to serve in the British navy
  + Americans believed the British were supplying weapons to the American Indians
  + **War Hawks** – group in Congress who wanted to declare war against Britain
* During the war, British invaded Washington D.C. and burned the Capitol and the White House
  + Dolley Madison saved important documents and a portrait of George Washington
* **Francis Scott Key** wrote a poem describing the American flag at the battle at Ft. McHenry
  + Poem later became "The Star-Spangled Banner"
  + The words show America’s willingness to fight for freedom
* After the War of 1812, Americans developed a sense of **nationalism** and **prosperity**

**Acquisition of Texas and The Mexican War**

* At one point, Texas was a part of Mexico
  + Americans moved to Texas in search of inexpensive land – Eventually, there were more Americans than Mexicans living in Texas!
  + **Americans living in Texas were against Mexican laws** – especially laws that made it illegal to own slaves
  + Some Mexicans were also against laws made by the Mexican President
* Texans fought for independence from Mexico
  + The **Battle of the Alamo** was an important battle that led to the independence of Texas
  + The President of Mexico agreed to give Texas its independence
* Texas became a state in 1854 (**Annexation** – the act of joining two countries of pieces of land)
  + Mexico and the United States could not agree about where the boundary between the two countries should be 🡪 The United States declared war on Mexico
* After the United States captured Mexico City, a peace treaty was signed
  + The United States gained California and nearly all of present day American Southwest (Nevada, Arizona, Utah, parts of New Mexico and Colorado) from the **Mexican Cession**
  + **Cession –** something that is given up

**Oregon Trail and Gold Rush**

* Thousands of pioneers moved westward in search of **farm land**, **religious freedom**, and **gold**
  + Many traveled by wagon train on the **Oregon Trail** – endured many hardships on trail
  + The Oregon Trail left from **Independence, Missouri**
* The discovery of gold in 1848 in California led to the **California Gold Rush**
  + Many towns in California grew as people moved westward
  + Because of the Gold Rush, California had enough people to become a state

**Conflicts with American Indians**

* When settlers moved into areas where American Indians lived, there were conflicts
  + American Indians did not believe that land could be bought or sold
* Andrew Jackson enforced the **Indian Removal Act**
  + **Trail of Tears** – The United States government forced American Indians to move from their native lands to newly acquired land in the Louisiana Purchase

**Industrial Revolution**

* **Industrial Revolution** changed life in the United States
  + Changed the way people worked
  + Changed the goods that were produced in the United States
* New roads, canals (**The Erie Canal**), **steamboats**, and **steam locomotives** made travel and shipping cheaper and faster
* The **telegraph** improved communications