

Social Studies, Grade 8
Unit VII: Lesson B3

Journal: **Homestead Act**



Research the background and reason for the Homestead Act. Study its requirements and limitations.
Research the lifestyle and experiences of early homesteaders.

Imagine you are a pioneer making a homestead on the western prairies. Create an identity and a family for this pioneer. Keep a journal in which you describe major events during two years of your life. You might want to write about setting up a homestead, raising crops, forming a town, holding community elections, and laying roads and a railroad.

Read excerpts from your journal to the class. Add it to the class library.