

**U.S./ Mexican
 Conflict**

I. Key terms:

- 1. Ranch**
- 2. Rancho**
- 3. Californios**
- 4. Cede**

II. New Mexico Territory

A. First Controlled by Spain; then Mexico won their independence

1. Spanish, then Mexican missions were started in California

a. Missions were abandoned in 1833

(1) President Polk twice offered to buy California and New Mexico from Mexico during the mid-1840s, but was turned down

(a) U.S./ Mexican War

i) The United States placed the border at the Rio Grande, while Mexico claimed it was at the Nueces River

(1) The United States offered Mexico \$30 million for California and New Mexico if Mexico would accept the Rio Grande as the boundary of Texas

(a) In response the United States sent troops under General Zachary Taylor across the disputed

territory between the Nueces and the Rio Grande.

i) Mexican soldiers attacked some of Taylor's troops in this disputed area of Palo Alto on April 24, 1846

(1) Many Americans turned their anger on Mexico, and on May 11, Congress declared war on Mexico

(a) Polk had a three-part plan to win the war with Mexico

i) By January 1847 California was fully under the control of the United States

(1) In September 1847 American forces under the command of General Winfield Scott captured Mexico City

(a) The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended the war with Mexico in February 1848

i) In what is called the Mexican Cession, Mexico...

(1) gave up all claims to Texas and fixed the Texas border at the Rio Grande

(a) also gave California and New Mexico to the United States in return for \$15 million

i) the United States paid Mexico an additional \$10 million for a strip of land along the southern edge of present-day Arizona and New Mexico, called the Gadsden Purchase

(1) With the Gadsden Purchase, the adjoining 48 states of the mainland reached its present size

ii) First, drive Mexican troops out of the disputed territory in Texas north of the Nueces River and secure the Texas border

(1) Second, seize New Mexico and California

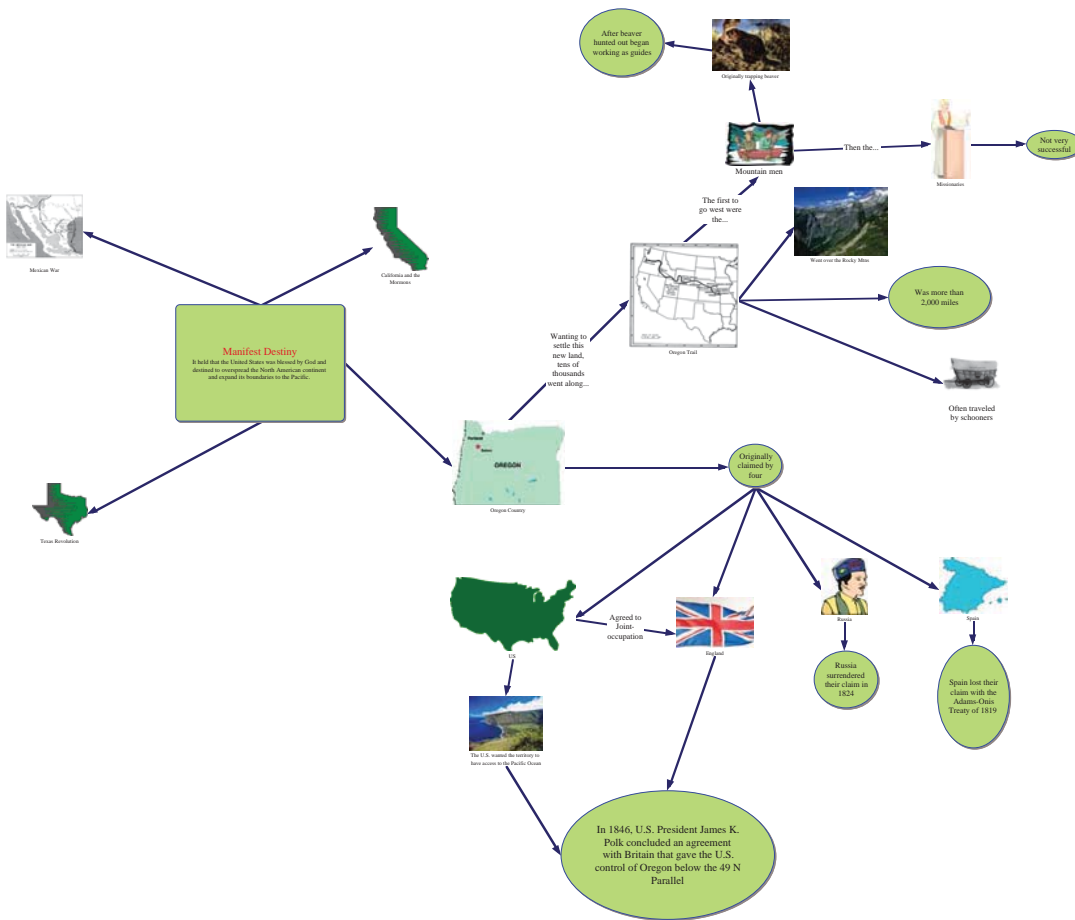
(a) **Third, capture Mexico's capital, Mexico City**

B. American traders, such as William Becknell, sought new trading opportunities

1. As the idea of **Manifest Destiny took hold, many**

Americans thought the United States should acquire New Mexico.

a. In the 1840s American families began to settle in California



Manifest Destiny

It held that the United States was blessed by God and destined to overspread the North American continent and expand its boundaries to the Pacific.

I. Oregon Country

A. Originally claimed by four

1. England

a. In 1846, U.S. President James K. Polk concluded an agreement with Britain that gave the U.S. control of Oregon below the 49 N Parallel

2. Russia

a. Russia surrendered their claim in 1824

3. US

a. The U.S. wanted the territory to have access to the Pacific Ocean

4. Spain

a. Spain lost their claim with the Adams-Onís Treaty of 1819

Document of External Origin

B. Oregon Trail

1. Mountain men

a. Missionaries

(1) Not very successful

b. Originally trapping beaver

(1) After beaver hunted out began working as guides

2. Went over the Rocky Mtns

3. Was more than 2,000 miles

4. Often traveled by schooners

II. Texas Revolution

III. Mexican War

IV. California and the Mormons

Days Five, Six, and Seven: Mini-D.B.Q lesson ("Was the United States Justified in Going to War with Mexico?"

Evaluation/Assessment:

Vocabulary

Worksheets

D.B.Q. mini-lesson

Resources:

Two pie pans

Two tubs

Soil and rocks

Pyrite

Worksheets

Mini-D.B.Q. lesson