Paths Through Oregon

Trace how movement shaped early communities

4.G.7 "Identify migration patterns into and out of the state and explain how they contributed to the early development and cultural structures of communities."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the places people traveled from and to. Then number the moves into Oregon, out of Oregon, and back to Oregon in the order they happened.

People on the Move

1. In the 1840s, families from Missouri and states farther east traveled west on the Oregon Trail. Many entered the Oregon Country and settled in the Willamette Valley. They cleared land and planted farms. Families brought ways of cooking, worshiping, and celebrating from their old homes. As neighbors met, they built schools and churches. These places helped new communities share skills and make decisions together.

2. Portland began as a small settlement beside the Willamette River in the 1840s. Farmers from the valley brought crops there to sell or ship. Newcomers opened stores and worked at the river docks. A town grew where travelers, farmers, and workers met. Stores and docks gave people places to trade. As Portland grew, schools and churches gave families places to learn and gather.

3. When gold was found in California in 1848, some people left Oregon and traveled south to mine it. Their trip took workers away from Oregon farms and towns for a time. Some miners later returned with gold and spent it in Oregon stores or started businesses. As people moved into Oregon, out to California, and back again, they changed where people worked and how communities grew.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Where did families travel from to reach the Willamette Valley, and what did they build after settling there?

2. How did people moving from the valley into Portland help the town grow?

3. Where did some people go after leaving Oregon in 1848, and how did their trip affect Oregon for a time?

4. How did some miners change Oregon communities when they returned from California?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a family moving from a state east of Oregon into Oregon in the 1840s. Write three sentences that tell where they came from, where one family member travels after 1848, and one new way that person could help an Oregon community after returning.

ANSWER KEY

Paths Through Oregon

GRADE 4 · 4.G.7

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the places people traveled from and to. Then number the moves into Oregon, out of Oregon, and back to Oregon in the order they happened. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Where did families travel from to reach the Willamette Valley, and what did they build after settling there?	**They traveled from Missouri and states farther east. After settling in the valley, they built schools and churches.**
2	How did people moving from the valley into Portland help the town grow?	**Farmers brought crops to sell or ship, bringing trade to Portland.**
3	Where did some people go after leaving Oregon in 1848, and how did their trip affect Oregon for a time?	**They went to California to mine gold, which took workers away from Oregon farms and towns for a time.**
4	How did some miners change Oregon communities when they returned from California?	**They spent gold in Oregon stores or started businesses.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

My family travels from Illinois to Oregon and settles near Portland. In 1849, my aunt travels from Oregon to California to look for gold. When she returns, she helps open a reading room where neighbors share books and stories.

Accept answers that correctly trace the moves and connect each move to a community change stated in the passage. For Your Turn, accept a plausible new community contribution rather than a copied passage example.