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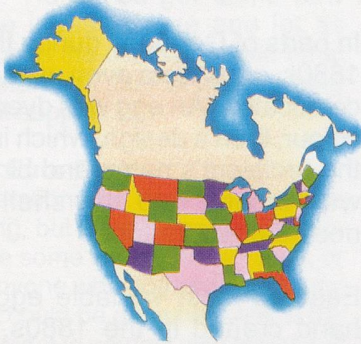
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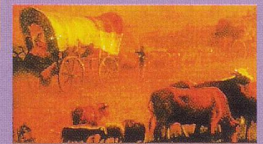
Hello Children



The United States has been called 'a nation of immigrants'. It has one of the world's most varied populations in terms of ancestry. The population includes descendants of people from every part of the world. Until the 16th century, most of what is now the United States was a land of thinly populated forests and Prairies. Small groups of Indians lived scattered over the land between the Atlantic and Pacific. Inuits (also called Eskimos) inhabited what is now Alaska, and Polynesians lived in Hawaii. People in Europe saw in this vast 'new world' a chance to build new and better lives. Small groups of Spaniards settled in what is now the southeastern and western United States in the 16th century. People from England and some other European countries began settling along and near the East Coast during the 17th century. The United States is divided into 50 states and the District of Columbia.

FACT FILE

Covered wagons were used to carry people and supplies to the west before the coming of the railroad. They were known as prairie schooners.



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