

Chapter Seven

Social Studies Study Guide

Vocabulary:

Nomad: A person who moves from place to place

Missionary: A person who sets up a settlement to teach others about religion

Trading post: A small settlement where goods are traded

Arable: Land that is capable of growing crops

Crop rotation: Switching between two crops, growing one crop one year and the other crop the next year.

Nutrients: Substances that help plants grow

John Deere: Inventor of the steel plow

Mississippi River: The longest river in the United States

Key Points:

- ◆ The climate in the Midwest has very hot summers and very cold winters.
- ◆ Part of the Midwest is often called Tornado Alley because tornadoes are common.
- ◆ Many Midwestern cities like Chicago began along waterways as trading posts.
- ◆ The Midwest region has rich soil, level ground, enough rainfall, and a long growing season.
- ◆ In the 1700's and 1800's, many settlers moved to the Midwest to become farmers.
- ◆ Tourism and healthcare are two industries important to the Midwest today.
- ◆ Long ago, glaciers moving across the land formed deep pits. When the glaciers melted, water filled the pits and formed the Great Lakes.
- ◆ Iron ore and coal are abundant in the Midwest. Both natural resources are important to the region's economy.
- ◆ Wisconsin is famous for its milk, cheese, butter, and other dairy products.
- ◆ Thousands of pioneers came to the Midwest in the early 1800's where there was conflict with the Native Americans already living on the land.
- ◆ Trucks became a popular way of transporting goods after interstate highways were constructed.