



LESSON 4

The Impact of the Expedition

Newspapers in Education is celebrating *The Monumental Return of Lewis & Clark* with Explore St. Louis in this four-part classroom series.

FUN FACT #4: The expedition discovered and cataloged 178 new plants and 122 new species and subspecies of animals. Among the animals cataloged for the first time were big horn sheep, mule deer, grizzly bears, prairie dogs and pronghorn antelope.

Watch Episode 4 – Re-Entry (explorestlouis.com/lewisandclark)

ACTIVITY: After watching the final episode, have students recall their writing activities, maps and class discussions. Ask students to formulate theories about the Lewis and Clark expedition. Some questions you might ask are:

- What was the purpose of the expedition?
- Was it successful?
- What was the greatest accomplishment of Lewis and Clark?
- How did the expedition change America?

ACTIVITY EXTENSION: Have small groups look at towns along the Lewis and Clark trail today and compare the towns in the years 1800, 1900 and today. Have students present their findings to the class and how these towns have changed over time in population, industry, transportation, etc.

WRITING CONNECTION: Have student write a position paper taking a specific position on the Lewis and Clark expedition. Remind students that their positions should not be based solely on opinion. They will need to include facts they have discovered in their research and they can include quotes, excerpts from journals, portions of maps, etc. to enhance their writing.

SOME POSSIBLE TOPICS ARE:

- The expedition's discovery of natural resources
- Impact on Native American tribes
- Relationships between the Corps and Native Americans
- Acquisition and settling of the Louisiana Territory
- Map creation/discovery of unknown regions

For additional videos on Lewis and Clark, please visit STLtoday.com/NIE for a fun twist on their journey!

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