

Suggestions for the Study Journals

The study journal is a small notebook the students will use to collect information about the Westward Expansion. The students can decorate their study journal to show that it is special. For example, cardstock paper or construction paper can be used for the cover and the students can use pencils, pastels, collage, or photographs to add a study-related illustration.

The study journal will contain student notes, student-created maps and drawings, along with materials (e.g., maps), you will give them. Additionally, you may choose to have the students trim some of their worksheets (e.g., trip sheet), to paste into their notebook.

The study journal can also be divided into sections (example below):

	Section	Purpose	Pages (front & back)										
1.	Notes & Reflections	For research notes, reactions to meetings, questions to prepare for meetings, thoughts on a topic	20										
2.	Maps, Diagrams, Sketches	Maps, diagrams, or sketches that the student has created or the teacher has distributed.	10										
3.	Nonfiction Writing Information	Notes on nonfiction writing	8										
4.	Glossary	Important words and their definitions <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tbody> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table>											4

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The PBL folder holds readings and other information that does not easily fit in the study notebook. This helps to keep the students' work organized and all in one place. The folder and journal become a portfolio of the process and products of the study.

Students will use the journal as both a finished product in which to do their work as well as a resource for future projects within the study.