

Teacher Instructions

Borderland Lesson

QUESTIONS: What is a political border? Can borders change or move? What causes borders to change?

Students color how the United States as we know it was divided among different colonial powers as well as the fledgling United States. See sample of final product.

NOTE: *DO NOT* have students completely color over the new territory, have them add the second color in a new pattern (stripes, polka dots, etc.) so that some of the old color still shines through. People living in the area were unlikely to move because the territory changed hands. The overlapping colors visualize this concept.

- 1) Slide 1 – Introduction
 - a. ACTION: Have students outline Colorado on the map with a dark border. This will help them see how Colorado was a borderland.
- 2) Slide 2 - 1800
 - a. ACTION: Lightly color the United States in 1800. U.S. (Blue), Britain (green), France (red) and Spain (yellow). Color in the key along the bottom of the map to match.
 - b. NOTE: Spain is the most important color to match because it will be colored over the most.
- 3) Slide 3 – 1803
 - a. In 1803 the United States purchases the Louisiana Purchase from France.
 - b. ACTION: Students write “Louisiana Purchase” next to the 1803 date along the timeline on the bottom. Color over the red with blue lines.
 - c. QUESTIONS: What happened to everyone living in the territory? Did they have to move to France? Were they still French citizens?
 - d. REMEMBER: Have students look at Colorado Territory. If you have done the primary source lesson, the Louisiana Purchase led to those expeditions because the new territory needed to be mapped.
 - e. LOOK FOR: Many places in this area of Colorado use French names. The Cache La Poudre River is an example; it translates to ‘a place to hide powder’, gun powder in this example. The towns of Louisville, Lyons and Lafayette are other examples.
- 4) Slide 4 - 1819
 - a. In 1819 the United States signs a treaty with Spain which gives us Florida and formalizes the border with new Spain.
 - b. ACTION: Write “Adams-Onís Treaty” on timeline. Color over Florida in blue lines.
- 5) Slide 5 – 1822
 - a. In 1822 Mexico declares independence from Spain, so all remaining

Spanish territory becomes Mexico (orange).

- b. ACTION: Write "Mexican Independence" on timeline. Add Orange to the color key and color over yellow with orange lines.

6) Slide 6 - 1845

- a. In 1845 Texas declared independence from Mexico and then was quickly annexed (or taken in) by the United States. The United States and Mexico fought a war (the U.S.-Mexican War) over the disputed border and the U.S. won. This gave them the area that Texas had claimed.
- b. ACTION: Write "Texas annexed" on timeline. Color over area in blue lines.

7) Slide 7 – 1846 - 1853

- a. At the end of the U.S.-Mexican War in 1848, Mexico ceded their remaining territory in what we think of in the United States today. This was achieved through the treaty of Guadalupe-Hildago and the Gadsden Purchase in 1853.
- b. ACTION: Color over all orange with blue lines.
- c. The United States purchased the Oregon territory from Great Britain in 1846. So by 1853 the United States is complete, from east coast to west coast.
- d. ACTION: Color over green with blue lines.