

Lesson Outline: Westward Expansion and the Northwest Territory

I. Introduction: The Push Westward

- Post-independence population growth in the U.S.
- Scarcity of land in the East
- Migration westward beyond the Appalachian Mountains

II. Early Westward Expansion: Daniel Boone & the Cumberland Gap

- Daniel Boone's early life and love for exploration
- Boone's encounter with Native Americans and learning survival skills
- John Finley's stories about Kentucky
- Discovery and use of the Warrior's Path and the Cumberland Gap

III. Kentucky Exploration and Settlement

- Boone's 1769 expedition into Kentucky
- Rich wildlife and natural resources in the region
- Discovery of Big Bone Lick and the importance of salt for food preservation
- Establishment of the Wilderness Road (1775)

IV. Conflicts with Native Tribes and the Founding of Boonesboro

- Tensions between settlers and Native Americans
- Daniel Boone's preference for peace, but the need for protection
- Construction of Fort Boonesboro
- Growth of settlements through the Cumberland Gap

V. Cultural Influences and Statehood

- Diverse European backgrounds of settlers (English, German, Dutch, Scots-Irish)
- Religious influence, revivals, and church planting in Kentucky and Tennessee
- Kentucky's statehood in 1792 (first western state)
- Tennessee's statehood in 1796
- Population growth in the region (300,000 by 1800)

VI. The Northwest Territory and Land Policies

- Land won from Britain in the Revolutionary War
- Definition and states formed from the Northwest Territory (Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and part of Minnesota)
- Land Ordinance of 1785:
 - Systematic land surveys
 - Division into six-square-mile townships
 - Public education land set aside
 - Land sold at auction to private individuals

VII. The Northwest Ordinance of 1787

- Governance structure for new territories

- Appointment of a governor and judges by Congress
- Milestones for self-governance:
 - 5,000 adult males → Elect a representative assembly
 - 60,000 total population → Apply for statehood
- Equal standing of new states with the original 13 colonies
- Provisions for religious liberty, free speech, and trial by jury
- Prohibition of slavery
- Encouragement for public education with religious instruction

VIII. Resistance and the Battle of Fallen Timbers (1794)

- Native American resistance and formation of the Western Confederacy
- General Anthony Wayne's victory at the Battle of Fallen Timbers
- Treaty of Greenville (1795):
 - Redefined boundary lines between settlers and Native lands
 - Opened more land to American settlers

IX. Ohio's Statehood and the Legacy of Expansion

- Ohio's population growth and qualification for statehood (1803)
- Systematic settlement and state formation process

X. Conclusion

- The orderly and structured expansion of the U.S.
- Role of pioneers like Daniel Boone in settling the frontier
- Influence of the Northwest Ordinance on future statehood processes