

PIONEER PERIOD OF SOUTHERN INDIANA, 1800-1850

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GRADE LEVEL - ELEMENTARY



Lesson Plans for the January, 1991  
Teaching Seminar for "Indiana"  
and the New Nation" Institute

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Content Overview Outline of the Pioneer Period  
of Southern Indiana: 1800-1850

The purpose of this brief outline is to provide you with  
some basic facts based on the research of the pioneer settlers  
of Indiana. If any of the

Lesson: A concluding activity for Indiana's pioneer and early settlement period.

Project: A travel journal of a pioneer family traveling through Indiana in the period of 1816 to 1850.

Project Development: The travel journal may either be a group

or an individual project in conjunction with the classroom textbook material and/or special activities based on the pioneer settlement period of Indiana history.

Introduce the project early in the unit so that students can be gathering material. It might be helpful to focus on one pioneer family's movement while learning about early settlers. Included in this packet is a timeline for the Thomas Lincoln family. You may have a story about a local family that would

work as well.

Instructions for the Travel Journal:

Students will need background information in these areas. Not all areas need to be covered in your unit, but resources should be available for research.

A. Overland: vehicles and early trails, traces, and roads  
B. Water routes: vehicles and location of rivers, creeks, lakes, and canals used by travelers

II. Natural resources

A. Heavily timbered land of the southern areas  
B. Wild game and plants for food

Materials Needed:

1. Indiana road map for each student
2. Blank Indiana outline map
3. Major lakes and rivers map
4. Indiana county maps; original 15 and current
5. Transportation routes map- 1835-1850
6. Instructions for making a "copy book" to write the Journal in
7. "Create Your Own General Store" handout for purchasing supplies
8. Optional: Quills and Berry Ink handout to use in making Ink

Guidelines for the Travel Journal:

1. Students will be traveling in Indiana in the first part of the 19th century.

Timeline for Thomas Lincoln and his Family

1778 or 1776 Thomas Lincoln born in Rockingham County,  
Virginia.  
1780's He moved to Kentucky with his family.  
1790

## Indiana Travel Journal Project

### 1. Guidelines for the Travel Journal Project

You will be taking a Journey in Indiana in the early to mid-19th century, 1816-1850. You may choose the year and the month for your Journey. You will map a route of approximately 150 miles. You will be traveling with a family, so you can decide what your family will be. You will record your adventures as daily entries in a Journal.

From what we have studied and what you can find in research, your daily, dated journal entries should include the following:

2. clothing you would be wearing at this time period
3. methods of transportation available to you
4. food you would eat

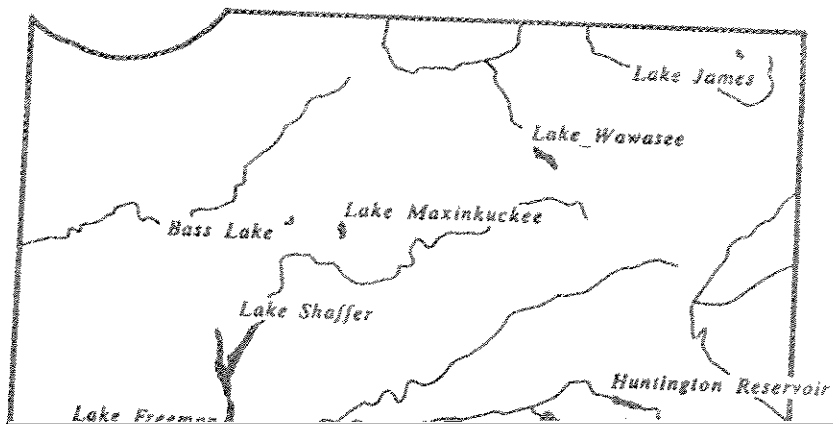




# MAJOR LAKES AND RESERVOIRS

## NATURAL LAKES

- Bass Lake
- Lake James
- Lake Maxinkuckee
- Lake Wawasee

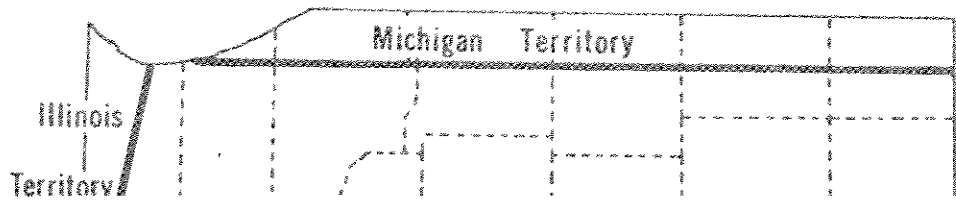


# TRANSPORTATION ROUTES

CIRCA MAJOR 1835 - 1850

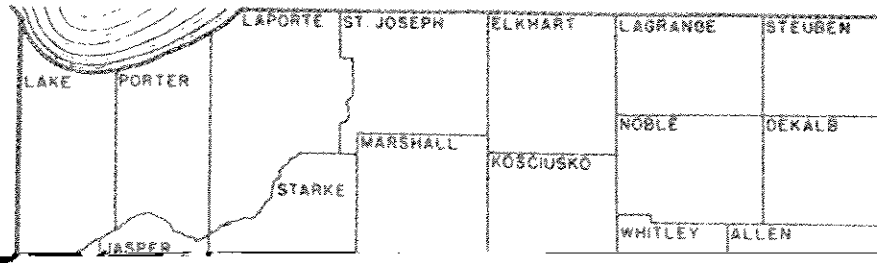


*(Boundaries of present-day  
counties shown by dashed lines)*



Outline Map with Present Counties

BROADSIDES  
Indiana, The Early Years  
Maps



## MAKE YOUR OWN COPY BOOK

Many times children were required to make their own copy books to use in school. Children would copy every lesson they learned into their copy book. When a copy book was filled it would look much like a textbook containing all of the lessons learned by the student

Here is a way to make your own copy book:

### MATERIALS:

- A piece of construction paper for the cover

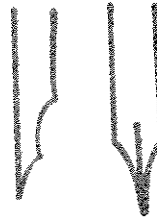
- 2 pieces of writing paper the same size as the cover

- Meet starting tail and knot firmly
- Trim thread

## QUILLS

If you are able to obtain quills you may trim them as below to use with your copy book:

### BERRY INK



$\frac{1}{2}$  cup ripe berries ( blueberries, blackberries, raspberries)

$\frac{1}{4}$ t. salt

$\frac{1}{4}$ t. vinegar

### UTENSILS:

measuring cup and spoons

strainer

bowl

wooden spoon

small jar with tight fitting lid

### DIRECTIONS:

Crush berries through strainer using wooden spoon.

CREATE YOUR OWN GENERAL STORE

Mr. Whitaker keeps the general store in Prairietown. In his

Sources for student packet maps and materials:

Blank Indiana outline map, major lakes and rivers map,  
transportation routes map: Indiana: A Handbook for  
U.S. History Teachers, ed. Evelyn M. Sayers, Indiana  
Department of Education.

Create Your Own General State Geography Packet

and quills and berry ink handouts: Teacher packet  
created by Conner Prairie Museum, 13400 Allisonville  
Road, Noblesville IN 46060

Indiana county maps; Indiana: the Early Years (Broadside)  
Indiana Historical Bureau, State of Indiana, Room 408  
140 North Senate Avenue, Indianapolis, 46204



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