

KEYWORDS to use in your searches:

- General and background information: *westward expansion/ inventions/ new technologies/westward movement/*
- Specific and detailed information: *name of invention/ history*

PORTAL RESOURCES to try:

- For general and background information: World Book Student (browse and skim articles such as *Western frontier life in America, Pioneer Life in America, Frontier Life in America*)
- For more specific information on a technology: World Book Student, Kids Infobits, Encyclopedia Americana

WEB SITES WORTH THE TRIP

<http://www.history.com/> (articles, video etc.)

<http://history.howstuffworks.com/29448-assignment-discovery-american-inventions-of-the-1800s-video.htm> Short video overview (Erie Canal, steamboat etc.)

www.about.com (cotton gin etc. articles and videos)

<http://www.rushcounty.org/barbedwiremuseum/> Seriously.

<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/DETOC/transport/fulton.html> (Robert Fulton's steamboat)

<https://www.timetoast.com/timelines/inventions-of-the-industrial-revolution-1800-1920> (just check this out for its awesomeness factor)

<http://www.american-historama.org/1801-1828-evolution/steamboats-of-1800s.htm> (steamboats)

<http://www.american-historama.org/1850-1860-secession-era/pony-express.htm> (pony express)

<http://www.american-historama.org/inventors-timeline.htm> (reaper, telegraph)

<http://firstindustrialrevolution.weebly.com/index.html> (reaper, telegraph, roads for wagons/coaches, steamboats, canals, railroads)