

Ad Lib Activity - *Letter from the Trail*

One of the ways we learn about the Santa Fe Trail is by reading letters people wrote about their experiences. People who traveled the trail would often write letters to their families and friends to tell them what it was like to travel the trail.

Imagine you were traveling the Santa Fe Trail. Help us finish this letter to one of your family members.

Fill in words that match the descriptions below (don't look at the next page yet!). When you have a word for each description, fill in the blanks in the letter on the next page with the words. Then, read your completed letter!

Write a word for each description below:

Family member's name:

Number:

Temperature:

Food:

Drink:

Animal:

Adjective:

Emotion:

Number:

Food:

Food:

Verb ending in -ing:

Object:

Adjective:

Plural object:

Plural object:

Your name:

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Complete the letter below by filling in the blanks with words that fit the descriptions in parentheses from page 1.

Dear (family member's name) _____ ,

We have been travelling the Santa Fe Trail for (number) _____ days.

Today we woke at sunrise to begin our journey. It was (temperature) _____. We started by eating (food) _____ with a cup of (drink) _____. It was my favorite breakfast!

We passed through a grassy prairie today. I saw a(n) (animal) _____ for the first time! It was so (adjective) _____ ! Everyone felt (emotion) _____ when they saw it! Some people even chased after it.

After walking for (number) _____ hours, we stopped for lunch. We had some beans and a cup of coffee. As a treat, the cook gave us some (food) _____ and (food) _____ for dessert. What a tasty combination!

By evening, we were all tired from (verb ending in -ing) _____ all day. Some people slept in the wagon, but there wasn't enough room for everyone. I decided to sleep on my (object) _____ outside. I'm writing this letter now while looking up at the (adjective) _____ stars.

I can't wait to get to Santa Fe! I brought rare (plural object) _____ and (plural object) _____ to sell. I know I will make a fortune!

Love,
(your name) _____