**Homestead Act of 1862 – 5th Grade**

**Name(s)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Teacher\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Task:** You and your group will be researching the Homestead Act of 1862 to create an advertisement. You will use your online textbook to find the information. After you have found the answers to these questions, you will create a poster to persuade Europeans and Americans from the East Coast to move west. You may use markers or the computer to print pictures and text for your poster.

**Login to your eClass portal and click on your social studies book**

**Select: Unit 2 - An Expanding Nation  
 Go to page 139**

Who were the homesteaders and where did they live?

What are the requirements of receiving land from the government via the Homestead Act?

How much land could a homesteader receive?

How long must they live on the land before it is theirs to keep?

**Move forward to page 142 - Farmers**

**Fully** describe life on the plains during the late 1800’s.

**Move forward to page 143**

Describe the following new farming technologies.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Steel Plow – | Windmills – |
| Barbed Wire – | Dry Farming – |

**Move forward to page 149 - Ranchers**

Homesteaders could also choose to become a rancher. What is a rancher?

How did they make a living?

**Move forward to page 151 – Miners**

Another job opportunity is to become a miner. Describe the California gold rush. Include where and when it occurred.