TOPIC 2 – RANCHING

Topic Overview
Topic 2 highlights ranching on the open range in western Dakota Territory and includes primary sources that will help you understand the people, laws, and outcomes resulting from this part of North Dakota’s history.

Topic Objectives
• As a result of the study of Topic 2, you will be able to
  o Analyze and interpret primary documents.
  o Understand how open-range ranchers of western Dakota Territory contributed to the growth of the territory and the state.
  o Understand ranching culture in Dakota Territory.

ND Content Standards
• 8.1.1
• 8.1.2
• 8.2.10
• 8.5.3
• 8.6.2

Common Core Standards
• RH 2
• RH 6
• WHST 2
• WHST 7

Topic Activities
• Learning from Historical Documents 1
• Learning from Historical Documents 2
• Organizing Data
• Creative Interpretation 1
Learning from Historical Documents 1

Between 1850 and 1890, the federal government created reservations for Indian tribes. In 1887, Congress passed the Allotment Act, which assigned Indian families 160 acres of land within the reservation for their house and farm or 320 acres for a livestock ranch. Read Section 1 of the Allotment Act of 1887 (Dawes Act).

List advantages and disadvantages of this act on the American Indians of North Dakota.

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<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Disadvantages</th>
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From your list of advantages and disadvantages, what conclusion can you draw?
Learning from Historical Documents 2

To access a photo/document/map, refer to the topic reading assignment or use the SEARCH feature to enter its name or number.

Read Theodore Roosevelt’s letter to his sister about ranching. Answer the following questions:

1. What skills did a cowboy need for his work?

2. Do you think Roosevelt was a “real cowboy”? Explain.
Organizing Data

To access a photo/document/map, refer to the topic reading assignment or use the SEARCH feature to enter its name or number.

*Sioux Cowboy Primer* is a book for young children written by Ann Clark. It was published in 1945 by the United States Indian Service. The book was written in both the English and Lakota languages. The Lakota text was written by Emil Afraid-of-Hawk. The drawings were created by Andrew Standing Soldier. The book has 48 pages; only four are reproduced here. *(SHSNS SUDOC 120.33:S17)*

The story tells of a young Lakota boy who is learning the ranching business from his father. The book also teaches language skills to the reader. In the 1940s and earlier, young Lakota children entered school knowing only the Lakota language. This storybook helped them learn English without taking away their native language skills.

Find a current piece of children’s literature that teaches another language along with English. Using a two-circle Venn diagram, label the *Sioux Cowboy Primer* in one of the circles and your own language book choice in the other circle. List the specific characteristics for each book under its correct label. Find the similarities between the two books and write those characteristics in the intersection of the circles. Discuss your findings.
Creative Interpretation 1

Ranchers allowed cattle to roam the open range of western Dakota Territory. In order to identify the cattle and help prevent theft, the ranchers branded the cattle with a brand unique to its owner. A brand is a mark, or symbol of identity, that can be displayed by letters, figures, geometric designs, symbols, or a representation of objects that can be used alone or in combinations.

Reading a brand is usually done from left to right (e.g., RB), from top to bottom (e.g., $k$ is $k$ bar), or from outside to inside when enclosed (© is Circle C). In addition, letters lying on their side are said to be “lazy” (e.g., a P on its side with a bar under it is read “lazy P bar”).

Design your own unique brand that would represent something about you that others could identify as you.