



Summary

This book identifies the early life of a pioneer. It explains their journey to the west in search of a new home.

Guided Reading Level	Lexile Level	100th word	Total Word Count
G	250	and pg. 12	160

Standards:

Common Core Language Arts

- Identify the main topic and key details of a text
- Use illustrations and text details to describe key details

Social Studies

- Understands daily life in a pioneer farming community on the prairies
- Understands daily life in a pioneer farming community in the west

Lesson Focuses for Guided Reading (Select lesson focus based on Student’s needs)

Writing Craft	Comprehension	Reading Strategies Decoding, & Phonics	Academic Vocabulary
Use pronouns to engage reader Use specificity Use a variety of definition forms	Connecting text to self Using graphic features Summarizing information	Reading text features Reading on for details Locating known and unknown words	buffalo landmarks Native Americans overland trail pioneers prairie schooner

Lesson

1. Warm up for reading – Students read familiar books.
2. Introduction of **My Life as a Pioneer** – Introduce **My Life as a Pioneer** by looking at the cover photo and starting a discussion about what they already know about pioneers and their journey to the west.
Suggested questions to facilitate introductory conversation:
 - Look at the cover. Who can read the title for us?
 - What does the picture on the cover make you think of?
 - Have you ever heard of the word pioneer?
3. Skimming and Scanning **My Life as a Pioneer** – Use this time to introduce or review your lesson focus strategies and/or skills.
Suggested skimming and scanning prompts:
 - Let’s turn to pg. 3. Look at the picture. What does the picture tell you about pioneers? Let’s read this page together.
 - Where are they going? Why do you think pioneers want to find a new home?
 - I notice part of a map on pg. 4. What do you think the yellow lines represent? Does this text feature help you understand the life of a pioneer?
 - I notice several words in bold print. Where can I find out more about these words? What does the word prairie schooner mean?
 - Ask students to look at the pictures in the book and describe what is happening in each picture.
4. Reading **My Life as a Pioneer** – Students read independently or with a partner.

5. After reading **My Life as a Pioneer** – Open the conversation with a question that relates to the comprehension strategy of summarizing information. After a brief conversation about the contents of the book move to questions that support your lesson focus.
Suggested after reading content connection questions:
 - We have read about the life of a pioneer. Do you think it was easy to be a pioneer back then? Tell us about it.
 - Where you surprised to read that the pioneer’s journey was 2,000 miles and took five to six months to complete? What were some of the challenges they faced as they journeyed to the west?
 - There were several text features that had a pioneer fact throughout the book. How did this feature help you? Tell us about it.
 - What examples did the pictures show? Did they give you a better understanding of the information in the book?
 Suggested after reading lesson focus prompts:
 - I noticed (student’s name) using (reading strategy) while you were reading. Did it help you with your reading? (Repeat this question to highlight different reading strategies or skills used by students.)
 - Did you remember to read on or use the glossary when you didn’t understand what a word meant? Tell us about it.
 - Did the pictures with captions help you? Tell us how.
6. After Reading Application for **My Life as a Pioneer** – Have students complete the reproducible Descriptive Attributes.



Name: _____

Date: _____

My Life as a Pioneer

Directions: Choose one thing in the book that you learned about the life of a pioneer. In the box below, draw and label the object or person. Then, write about it using descriptive words such as color words, size words, or number words.

Draw:



Write:
