

# Answer Key: Cattle and Cowboys

## Warm-up

- Responses will vary

## Lesson

### Grade Level and Foundations

#### Station 1: The Rise of the Beef Industry

1. T - *Ranches were small, beef was not yet a popular meat, and livestock was mostly used for tallow.*
2. F - *Most Texas ranchers left their ranches to fight in the war.*
3. F - *There was a shortage in the North, but an abundance in Texas.*
4. T - *The price of a cow in Texas was about \$4, while in the North it could be \$40*
5. F - *Texas cowboys drove their herds to Northern states where prices for cattle were much higher.*
6. T - *Large ranches closed off the Plains, making it difficult for cowboys to drive cattle*

#### Station 2: Cattle Drive Trails

1. The Shawnee (and Sedalia trails)
  - a. Terminate: Missouri
  - b. Railroads: The Missouri Pacific Railroad
2. The Chisholm trail
  - a. Terminate: Kansas
  - b. Railroads: Santa Fe and Kansas Pacific Railroads
3. The Western trail
  - a. Terminate: Nebraska
  - b. Railroads: Santa Fe and Union Pacific Railroads
4. The Goodnight-Loving Trail
  - a. Terminate: Wyoming
  - b. Railroads: Santa Fe, Kansas Pacific, and Union Pacific Railroads

#### Station 3: Texas Cattle Fever

1. Texas Fever was a disease carried by ticks that affected cattle.
2. Northern cattle got sick and died from the disease. Cattle drive trails moved into western Texas to avoid more populated areas to the northeast. Kansas outlawed Texas herds within its state borders.

## Answer Key: Cattle and Cowboys

### Station 4: Life as a Cowboy

1. B
2. Receiving very low pay, working long hours, difficult and dangerous work

### Station 5: Mega Ranches

1. A
2. The (B) XIT ranch was the largest ranch established during this period. This ranch was established (F) Investors from Chicago and England. The Texas government (H) sold the land to pay for a new capitol

### Station 6: Innovations

#### Windmills:

1. B
2. A

#### Barbed Wire

1. D
2. *Glidden's barbed wire used 2 strands, making it stronger than other brands of barbed wire.*
3. *Ranchers in Texas used barbed wire to fence in their large ranches which ended the cattle drives by closing the Plains.*

# Answer Key: Cattle and Cowboys

## Advanced

### Station 1: The Rise of the Beef Industry

1. Before the Civil War, the cattle industry in Texas was mostly small farms raising cattle for hides and tallow, not for beef.
2. Texas ranchers left their ranches to fight in the war, and the cattle trade with Northern states ended due to the war. As a result, the Texas cattle population grew significantly. When the war ended, cattle were abundant in Texas and there was a shortage in the North, creating a high demand for Texas cattle.
3. Cattle drives were how cowboys moved Texas cattle to Northern markets. There were many cattle drives after the Civil War because Texas cowboys and cattlemen wanted to bring their cows to Northern markets where they would be paid more for their cattle.
4. Large ranches were established on the Plains as a result of the success of the cattle and beef industry in Texas. Ranchers fenced in their property, closing off the Plains to cattle drives.

### Station 2: Cattle Drive Trails

1. The Shawnee (and Sedalia trails)
  - a. Terminate: Missouri
  - b. Railroads: The Missouri Pacific Railroad
2. The Chisholm trail
  - a. Terminate: Kansas
  - b. Railroads: Santa Fe and Kansas Pacific Railroads
3. The Western trail
  - a. Terminate: Nebraska
  - b. Railroads: Santa Fe and Union Pacific Railroads
4. The Goodnight-Loving Trail
  - a. Terminate: Wyoming
  - b. Railroads: Santa Fe, Kansas Pacific, and Union Pacific Railroads

### Station 3: Texas Cattle Fever

1. Texas fever was a disease that affected and killed cattle during this time. It was caused by ticks that carried the disease.
2. Texas fever negatively affected the cattle industry in and around Texas by killing many herds in Northern states where cattle had not been exposed to the disease before, it slowed the transportation of cattle to Northern markets, and it pushed many of the trails in east Texas farther to the west.

## Answer Key: Cattle and Cowboys

### Station 4: Life as a Cowboy

1. Cowboys in Texas originated in the 1500s with the Spanish *vaqueros*.
2. Life as a cowboy was challenging. Three challenges that affected cowboys were low pay, and working long hours doing difficult and dangerous work

### Station 5: Mega Ranches

1. The cattle industry grew rapidly due to the abundance of Texas cattle, and the demand for cattle in the North.
2. The majority of mega ranches were established in the Great Plains region. Ranches were most likely established in this region because of the abundance of grasslands for grazing cattle.
3. The XIT ranch was the largest ranch established during this period. The ranch was established by investors from Chicago and England. The Texas government sold them the land in order to pay for the construction of a new capitol building after the previous building was destroyed by fire.

### Station 6: Innovations

#### Windmills:

1. Windmills brought water to the livestock and crops on ranches and farms.
2. Windmills allowed ranches and farms to be built in more arid regions of Texas like the Great Plains.

#### Barbed Wire

1. A patent is an official license stating that no one else can make or reproduce your product or idea.
2. An Illinois farmer named Joseph Glidden received the first patent for barbed wire. His barbed wire was special because it used two strands twisted together, making it stronger.
3. Barbed wire allowed ranchers to fence in their property. This prevented cowboys from freely grazing their herds or accessing water resources, which largely ended cattle drives.

### Exit Ticket

1. A