

Who was Sacajawea?

Gray's Social Studies
AMT Day 2

The year was 1804. President Jefferson had asked two men to explore the lands west of the Mississippi River. On May 14, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark set out. After traveling 1,600 miles up the Missouri River, they stopped for the winter. The next step of their dangerous journey began in April of 1805. This time, they hired a French-Canadian trapper to help them speak to the Indians along the way. His 17-year-old wife was even more helpful. Her name was Sacajawea (sak-uh-juh-WEE-uh). And without her, Lewis and Clark might never have reached the Pacific Ocean.



Sacajawea was a Shoshoni, but as a young girl she had been captured by an enemy tribe. So she knew the ways of several Indian peoples. This knowledge often saved Lewis and Clark from being attacked. Sacajawea was a help in other ways, too. When food was scarce, she found roots that could be eaten. When people got ill, she found herbs to make them well. At times she even acted as a guide for the exploring party.

At the end of the Missouri River, Lewis and Clark faced the hardest part of their trip. They needed Indian guides and horses to cross the high mountains ahead. After they discovered that the chief of the nearby Shoshonis was Sacajawea's long lost brother, the tribe provided everything that they needed.

Lewis and Clark became famous, of course, and so did their Indian helper. Sacajawea was one of the bravest women in American history.

Mark the circle (○) beside the right answer.

- Sacajawea was _____.
 an old woman a Navajo Indian a Shoshoni Indian
- Which word in paragraph 2 means hard to get or not plentiful?
 young scarce ill knowledge
- Which paragraph tells about the first step of Lewis and Clark's trip?
 1 2 3 4
- A fact is something known to be true. An opinion is something thought to be true. Mark Fact or Opinion for each sentence below.
Lewis and Clark were famous explorers. Fact Opinion
Sacajawea was a help to them. Fact Opinion
Women make better guides than men. Fact Opinion
- AHEAD is to BEHIND as unknown is to _____. Think how the first two words go together. Then mark the word that goes with unknown in the same way.
 forgotten helper famous brave
- Step can have the following meanings. Mark the meaning used in paragraph 1.
 a movement of the foot part