COLOR THE WHITEHEAD MUSEUM

The Covered Wagon

LEARN
Before the start of the railroad, the covered wagon was the favorite type of transportation for the pioneers. There were three types of covered wagons used. The Prairie Schooner, used for traveling long distances. The Conestoga, used to carry heavy items short distances. The Chuck Wagon, used as a mobile kitchen for large groups of travelers. Covered wagons used a white canvas called a bonnet, that was meant to protect the items in the wagon from rain and dust.

IMAGINE
Do you think traveling long distances in a wagon was comfortable? All of the family’s belongings had to be packed into the wagon, leaving no room for beds. Where did pioneers sleep when traveling?

CREATE
Create your own miniature covered wagon using items from your home such as craft sticks, cardboard, shoe boxes, paper, cloth, and glue. (Parents: Do an online search for covered wagon crafts)
COVERED WAGON

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