

Name _____

A Long, Hard Journey

Fluency: Read with Purpose and Understanding Practice

If you choose this fluency passage, print this page. Read the passage silently to yourself. Then practice reading the passage aloud. When you are ready, read the passage aloud to a partner. Focus on reading with purpose and understanding by asking yourself the following questions:

- What is the topic of the selection?
- What is the purpose of the selection?
- How will the topic and purpose influence the way I read?

A Long, Hard Journey

“Adventure is calling!” my father blared.
The time had come to move out west,
Where the healthful climate beckoned us—
To the green, enticing land of Oregon!

A rocking wagon bore us along;
At night by the fire we listened to songs,
Thought about what we had left behind
And what lay ahead of us: mysterious, faraway Oregon!

Excitement wore off as the journey prolonged;
Our rocking wagon still bore us along,
But even when my parents fell ill,
The refrain played on in my head: Oregon!

Part 3 READING: FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

3.2 Fluency

Name _____

Times got harder and harder, no doubt,
Our strength of will nearly gave out,
But toward our goal we trudged on and on,
To the land of hope and a future: Oregon!

Our spirits were low, but then one day
We finally reached the place we would stay.
Now here we are, and here we'll remain,
In the breathtaking green land of Oregon!