GLOSSARY

**Abandon** leave

**Adapted** changed to fit new conditions

**Allies** friends

**Allotment** portion

**Allotment policy** dividing Indian reservations into separate farms for each family

**Amber** yellow

**Ancestors** family members who lived long ago

**Ancient** very old

**Archaeologists** scientists who study the past by analyzing objects people have left behind

**Artifacts** objects created by people

**Assimilate/assimilation** to be absorbed into the majority culture, in this case, the white American culture

**Atlatl** a spear thrower

**Bacteriology** the study of bacteria

**Badlands** an area created by erosion of rocks and hills with little vegetation

**Band** group

**Bison** buffalo

**Boom** time of great prosperity or rapid growth

**Capotes** coats made from thick wool blankets

**Chinook** a warm wind that blows down the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains

**Claim** take for their own

**Climate** typical weather condition

**Communal** group

**Constitution** document that sets the rules for government
**Continent** one of the main areas of land on earth

**Continental Divide** a mountain ridge that separates North America and determines whether water flows east to the Atlantic Ocean or west to the Pacific Ocean

**Culture** a shared system of behavior, attitudes, and understandings; language, customs, and ideas

**Descendants** a person's children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, etc.

**Discrimination** treating a group of people unfairly

**Disease** sickness

**Distinct** separate

**Diversity** variety

**Drought** lack of rain

**Economy** businesses and jobs

**Environment** land, water, climate

**Epidemic** rapid spread of disease

**Erosion** the process by which rock or soil is gradually taken away by wind, rain, or water

**Essential** most important

**Extinct** gone

**Extinction** death of a species

**Fell** cut down trees

**Fertile** good for growing things

**Foothills** hills at the edge of a mountain range

**Geography** where things are, the study of particular places

**Geologists** scientists who study the earth

**Geology** minerals, rocks, and soil and the study of these things

**Great Plains** the flat land region west of the Mississippi River and east of the Rocky Mountains

**Homesteader** someone who received land from the U.S. government in exchange for farming that land
**Immigrant** someone who moves to a new country to live

**Immigrate** move from one country to another

**Indian agent** a person (usually non-Indian) who the government put in charge of a reservation

**Industries** types of businesses

**Leased** rented

**Lumber** wood for building

**Mechanization** using machines to do the work that people once did

**Natural resources** things found in nature and used by people

**Negotiate** discuss to come to an agreement

**Northern Divide** landform that separates water that flows north from water that flows south

**Opportunities** chances for something better

**Oral histories** important stories people pass down

**Pacifist** someone who believes that problems cannot be solved by fighting

**Pelts** skins

**Plains** flat land

**Poultry** birds raised on farms, like chickens and turkeys

**Poverty** being poor

**Prairies** flat grasslands

**Precipitation** rain and snow

**Predate** come before

**Prospectors** people looking for gold or other precious metals

**Published** printed

**Pull factors** things that make people want to move to a new place

**Push factors** things that make people want to leave their homes
**Push-pull factors** things that influence immigration (that push you out of your home country and pull you to another place)

**Reservation** an area of land that a tribe or tribes reserved (kept) for their own use

**Reserved** kept

**Residents** people who live in a place

**Resilience** strength

**Resourceful** good at figuring things out

**Resources** useful things

**Sovereign** self-governing

**Sovereignty** self-rule

**Spacious** large

**Specific** exact

**Strike** gold discovery

**Suffrage** vote

**Suffrage activist** someone working to win women the right to vote

**Surplus** extra

**Taxes** money people pay the government so the government can provide services

**Timber** wood for building

**Time immemorial** as long as anyone can remember

**Toxic** poisonous

**Traditional** old

**Transcontinental** all the way across the continent

**Transport** move

**Treasurer** the person who keeps track of an organization's money

**Treaty** agreement between nations

**Union** an organization that stands up for workers' rights and fights for better pay

**Unique** not the same as any other