Essential Question: **How did settlers on the Great Plains create new communities and unique political groups?**

Main Idea 1:
Many Americans started new lives on the Great Plains.

- Two important ______________ acts helped ______________ the ______________ to ______________ in 1862.
  - The ______________ ______________ gave ______________ land to ______________, including ______________.
  - The ______________ ______________ gave federal ______________ to ______________ to ______________ in order to fund ______________ to teach ______________ and ______________.
- People who made new ______________ in the ______________ included ______________, immigrants, and ______________ ______________.
  - ______________ of southern ______________ ______________, known as Exodusters, moved to ______________.

New Lives in the West

**Farming**

- Breaking up tough ______________ on the ______________ earned ______________ the nickname “______________.”
- 1880s—______________ farming was becoming ______________.
- 1890s—Farmers began dry ______________, growing ______________ crops such as red ______________.
- Crops were ______________ east by ______________ and then ______________; the ______________ ______________ became ______________ as the ______________ of the ______________.

**Building Communities**

- ______________ were an important ______________ in ______________ the ______________.
  - ______________ ______________, a founder of ______________, California, supported many ______________ causes, including women’s ______________.
- Harsh ______________ on remote ______________ led farmers to form ______________, creating ______________ and ______________.
- ______________ helped with many ______________ on the ______________.
Main Idea 2: Economic challenges led to the creation of farmers’ political groups.

- The ___________ ___________ was ___________ during the period 1860-1900.
  - The ___________ more than ___________.
  - The ___________ of ___________ tripled.
  - Farmers could ___________ a bushel of wheat ___________ times faster in ___________ than in ___________.
- Farm ___________ fell.
  - More ___________ and greater ___________ led to ___________, which led to ___________ prices.
  - Consumers ___________, because the more wheat farmers ___________ the ___________ it cost ___________ at the ___________.
  - Many ___________ lost their ___________ and ___________ and became ___________ farmers.
  - By 1880, ___________ of all farms were ___________ by tenants.
- ___________ formed associations to ___________ their ___________.

The National Grange and the Railroads

- The National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry was a ___________ and ___________ organization for ___________.
  - Some people in the ___________ insisted that the government ___________ railroads.
    - Railroads were ___________, or could ___________, unfair rates for a ___________ that individual rail companies ___________.
    - The ___________ called for ___________ to ___________ railroad ___________.
  - The ___________ ___________ ruled:
    - in 1877 that the ___________ could ___________ railroads
    - in 1886 that ___________ could ___________ only ___________ doing business across ___________ lines
  - Congress passed the ___________ ___________ ___________ in 1887 to provide national ___________ for ___________, but could not ___________ them.

Free Silver Debate and the Populist Party

Free Silver Debate

- The U.S. had been on the ___________ standard since 1873, ___________ in ___________.
- Many ___________ supported the ___________ coining of ___________ and the ___________ of ___________ currency with ___________.
- Congress passed the Sherman Silver Purchase Act to ___________ the amount of ___________ purchased for ___________, but it did not help ___________ much.
Populist Party

• The Farmers’ ______________ formed the ______________ ______________ to have ______________ and a ______________ that would ______________ them.
• It supported ______________ ownership of ______________ and ______________ systems, free ______________, and labor ______________.
• The ______________ ______________ led more people to ______________ Populist’s call for economic ______________
• The ______________ ______________ tried to gain ______________ votes.
  • The ______________ ______________ backed limits on ______________.
  • Populists believed that ______________ who joined the ______________ force competed with ______________ workers for ______________.
  • One lasting ______________ made by the Populist Party is the ______________ work day.
• It supported ______________ ______________ ______________ in the election of 1896, but his ______________ marked the ______________ of the Farmers’ Alliance and the ______________ Party.

William Jennings Bryan

• Politician from ______________; served in ______________
• ______________ free ______________ coinage
• Populist
• Influential ______________ and newspaper ______________
• Democratic ______________ for ______________ in 1896
• ______________ supported ______________ instead of ______________ the silver ______________.

Main Idea 3: By the 1890s, the western frontier had come to an end.

• Only small ______________ of the ______________ ______________ remained unsettled by 1870.
• U.S. officials allowed ______________ to settle the ______________ territory in what is now ______________ in 1889.
  • ______________ claimed more than ______________ million acres of former ______________ land in the ______________ land rush, the last great ______________ to ______________ the ______________.
• The frontier had ______________ to ______________ in the ______________ ______________ ______________ by the early ______________.
A horse-drawn reaper harvests the farm’s wheat and oat crops. The mechanical reaper, adopted by farmers during the mid-nineteenth century, was the most important technological improvement of the era. By harnessing the muscle power of horses, the reaper replaced many human harvesters who had previously cut the crop by hand, thus allowing farmers to produce far larger grain crops.