

Trail Trivia – Fun Facts

1. How many trails are related to the Kansas City Area?
2. Which trail was specific to being the only “water route” to the West?
3. How large was the city of Independence, Mo. in 1849?
4. What type of city was Independence, Mo. in 1849?
5. How many people headed west between 1840 and 1870?
6. How many wagons left Council Bluffs, Iowa making it to Salt Lake in 1847?
7. Cholera, typhoid and diphtheria were diseases often encountered on the trails. In what year were these diseases identified?
8. Though it was cheaper to go overland, what was another way that immigrants could go?
9. Who is known as the “Father of the Santa Fe Trail”?
10. In the early 1900’s what organization marked the route of the Santa Fe Trail?
11. Which state are most of these markers located in?
12. Founded on the Missouri River in 1827, this town became an important outfitting point for the trail travelers and traders?
13. In the 1840’s this bustling Missouri community was also the outfitting point for wagons bound for what two other western destinations?
14. The Santa Fe, Oregon and California Trails that trekked across the now Kansas City Metro area, split off to each their own trails at what location?
15. At what park in Kansas City can you go and stand in actual trail ruts?

ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS

1. 5 – California, Oregon, Santa Fe, Military Route and Lewis and Clark
2. Lewis and Clark
3. 3 square miles.
4. A tent city
5. It is estimated - more than 500,000.
6. 2,500 wagons
7. 1880
8. By sailboat around the Horn, also known as Panama
9. William Becknell
10. The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)
11. Kansas
12. Independence, MO
13. Oregon and California
14. Gardner Junction (now Gardner, KS area)
15. Minor Park