ESSENTIAL QUESTION: What impact did the Louisiana Purchase have on America?  
Focus areas:  
- Lewis & Clark  
- Spanish, French & Native Americans  
- Constitutionality of the Louisiana Purchase

PROCEDURES:  
1. THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE mapped out. Read the introduction to the Louisiana Purchase and locate the territory on the map. Color in or label the territory that was purchased in the Louisiana Purchase on the map. Using available resources to you, list at least 6 current states that make up this territory. Next, label the location of the Mississippi River on the map.  
2. Read the passages and answer the questions that follow.  
3. ANALYZING POLITICAL CARTOONS. Study the political cartoon and then answer the questions below.  
4. Define the VOCABULARY words with words from the Word Bank.  
5. SYNTHESIS. Design a character to serve as a mascot for the Lewis and Clark Expedition. You can either draw a picture OR describe your character in writing.

WORK TO BE RETURNED:  
1. LOUISIANA PURCHASE map labeled.  
2. Completed answers to the reading passages.  
3. Completed answers to the POLITICAL CARTOON.  
4. Definitions to the VOCABULARY.  
5. A drawing or description of your character for Lewis & Clark's expedition.  
6. A one paragraph journal entry.

RESOURCES:  
Louisiana Purchase Map  
"Under My Wings Every Thing Prospers" by New Orleans artist J. L. Bouquito de Woiseri

TIME ALLOCATED: One (60) minute lesson.

The Louisiana Purchase  
The Louisiana Purchase is considered the greatest real estate deal in history. The United States purchased the Louisiana Territory from France at a price of $15 million, (approximately four cents an acre). The ratification of the Louisiana Purchase treaty, doubled the size of the United States, and gave the United States control over the Mississippi River. This new vast territory gained by the United States, now provided opportunity for westward expansion.

Directions:
1.) Color in or label the territory that was purchased in the Louisiana Purchase on the map below.
   a. List (6) current states that make up this territory.
2.) Label the location of the Mississippi River on the map below.

Directions: Read the passages below and answer the questions that follow.

LOUISIANA PURCHASE: BACKGROUND

Beginning in the 17th century, France explored the Mississippi River valley and established scattered settlements in the region. By the middle of the 18th century, France controlled more of the present-day United States than any other European power. In 1762, during the French and Indian War, France surrendered French Louisiana west of the Mississippi River to Spain. Spain, no longer a dominant European power, did little to develop Louisiana during the next three decades.

Since the late 1780s, Americans had been moving westward into the Ohio River and Tennessee River valleys, and these settlers and farmers were highly dependent on free access to the Mississippi River and the strategic port of New Orleans. The Mississippi was essential for trade for many Americans. U.S. officials feared that France, growing under the leadership of Napoleon Bonaparte, would soon seek to dominate the Mississippi River and access to the Gulf of Mexico. Robert Livingston, U.S minister to France, was ordered to negotiate with French minister Charles Maurice de Talleyrand for the purchase of New Orleans. Negotiations moved swiftly, and at the end of April the U.S. agreed to pay $15,000,000 for the Louisiana Territory.

WAS THE PURCHASE CONSTITUTIONAL?

Jefferson welcomed the news from France. Still he was not sure whether the President had the power to purchase Louisiana. He had always insisted that the federal government had only those powers spelled out in the Constitution. The document said nothing about a President having the power to buy land. In the end, Jefferson decided that he did have the authority to buy Louisiana. The Constitution, he reasoned, allowed for the President to make treaties.
Lewis and Clark Expedition (1804-1806)

Meriwether Lewis and William Clark were chosen by Thomas Jefferson to lead an important expedition to explore the new territory that lay west of the Mississippi River to find out about the land, people, rivers, and anything else of interest in the new, vast, unknown region. Many Americans believed in **manifest destiny** which is the belief that the United States and its settlers are destined to expand west and throughout the continent.

The **primary purpose or goal of the expedition** was to explore and map out the newly acquired territory, find a practical route across the Western half of the continent, and establish an American presence in the territory. **The campaign’s second goal was scientific and economic: to study the area’s plants, animal life, and geography, and establish trade with local Native American tribes.**

**A third goal of the expedition was to find out about the Native Americans living in the newly purchased Louisiana Territory.** Lewis and Clark had strict instructions from President Jefferson to keep good relations with the Native Americans that they met on the journey.

1.) Which two countries had control over the Louisiana Territory before the United States? _________ & _______

2.) Do you think the President’s decision to purchase Louisiana was Constitutional? Why or why not? __________________________________________________________

3.) What is manifest destiny? __________________________________________________________

4.) Why was access to the Mississippi River important for many Americans? ____________________________

6.) What were the goals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition? List the three.
   ● __________________________________________________________
   ● __________________________________________________________
   ● __________________________________________________________

**ANALYZING POLITICAL CARTOONS**

Notice the size and placement of the eagle.

"Under my Wings" refers to the U.S. government’s new political authority over New Orleans.

The scene includes the seaport to emphasize its importance to the economy of New Orleans.

Study the political cartoon and then answer the questions below.
1. Who or what does the eagles represent?

2. How might the city of New Orleans prosper as a result of the Louisiana Purchase?

Vocabulary
Define the following words with words from the Word Bank.

Any large area of land  Slang for “walked”  A large brown or gray bear living in North America
A large area of flat, rolling grasses with few or new trees  A bison  Not mapped; unknown  To go into or through

1. Uncharted: ____________________________ 2. Penetrate: ____________________________
7. Territory: __________________________

Synthesis
Design a character to serve as a mascot for the Lewis and Clark Expedition. You can either draw a picture OR describe your character in writing.

________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

OR Draw