

FAMILY HOME EVENING

Faith of the Pioneers

Song:

“Pioneer Children Sang As They Walked” (Children’s Songbook p. 214)

Lesson:

Read Quote:

“In 1846, more than ten thousand Saints left their ‘City Beautiful’ and struck off into the wilderness of the American frontier. They did not know exactly where they were going, precisely how many miles lay ahead, how long the journey would take, or what the future held in store for them. But they *did* know that they were led by the Lord and His servants.

When Newel Knight informed his wife, Lydia, that the Saints would have to leave, she responded with great faith, saying, “Well, there’s nothing to discuss. Our place is with the Kingdom of God. Let us at once set about making preparations to leave.”

-Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin, Faith of Our Fathers, Friend, February 1997

Read accompanying story “The Feather Bed”

Discuss how the word ‘pioneer’ means the first to do something. Even if we don’t have ancestors who crossed the plains, we all have someone in our family who was the first to join the church. Being the first to do something takes courage and faith in our Heavenly Father. If you know any stories about someone in your genealogy that converted to the LDS church, share them with your family.

Play the Pioneer river game. The goal is to help the covered wagon cross the river by making a bridge of ice. Take turns reading the scriptures listed in the river. The first letter of each scripture is the letter that should be attached on top of the scripture. In the end you will have a bridge of ice that also spells a word that describes the early pioneers.

