



From compromise to conflict

from the Esri GeoInquiries™ collection for U.S. History

Target audience – U.S. History

Time required – 15 minutes

Activity

As the United States acquired land and new states formed, the balance of power between the free and slave states needed to be addressed.

C3 Standards

C3: D2.His.4.9-12. Analyze complex and interacting factors that influenced the perspectives of people during different historical eras.

C3: D2.His.14.9-12. Analyze multiple and complex causes and effects of events in the past.

Learning Outcomes

- Students will be able to explain how the Missouri Compromise, the Compromise of 1850, and the Kansas-Nebraska Act led to conflict and not to peace.

Map URL: <http://esriurl.com/historygeoinquiry11>

Ask

What did the U.S. look like between 1783 and 1803?

- Click the map URL above to launch the map.
- Note the location and shape of the original 13 colonies on the map.
- By what country and when was the land to the west of the colonies, ceded? [*Great Britain in 1783*]
- Click on the Northwest Ordinance marker. Read the text.
- Click the button, Show Contents of Map (Content).
- Click the checkbox to the left of the layer name, U.S. as of 1783. The layer is turned off.
- Turn on the layer, U.S. as of 1803.
- ? Approximately how much of the modern-day contiguous U.S. was part of the country in 1803? [*Two-thirds - including the territories.*]
- ? From which countries had the U.S. acquired land? [*Great Britain, France, and Spain*]

Acquire

What states developed from 1803 to 1819?

- Click the states on the map to see detailed information.
- ? By 1803, how many states were there? [*There were 17 states, including Ohio.*]
- Turn on the layer, U.S. as of 1820.
- ? By 1820, how many states were there? (Hint: Toggle the 1803 for visibility) [*There were 22 states.*]
- ? How many states in 1820 were slave states? [*Eleven were slave states.*]
- ? How many states in 1820 were free states? [*Eleven were free states.*]

Explore

What caused the Missouri Compromise of 1820?

- Turn on the layer, Demarcation Lines.
- ? What was the purpose of these lines? [*Slavery was to be forever prohibited in the rest of the Louisiana Purchase north of the 36th parallel, with the exception of Missouri.*]
- ? How would Missouri affect the balance of free to slave states? [*They would become unequal.*]
- ? How would this affect the number of senators? [*It would create an unequal balance.*]
- ? What was the compromise with admitting Missouri as a free state in 1821? [*Maine was admitted as a free state in 1820 keeping the balance of free to slave states.*]

more ►

Analyze

How might new land acquisition affect the Senate balance?

- Observe the layer, U.S. as of 1849 - with the Demarcation (Missouri Compromise) Line.
- ? What new lands were acquired after the Missouri Compromise? [*Texas annexation in 1845, the Oregon Territory in 1846, and the Mexican Cession in 1848*]
- ? How might the annexation of Texas affect the Senate? [*It could potentially lead to more slavery; it could also be divided into multiple states.*]
- ? How might the Oregon Territory affect the balance of free to slave states? [*More land in the north would lead to more free states.*]
- ? How could the Mexican Cession affect the balance? [*It would restore balance.*]

Act

How did land acquisition lead to more conflict?

- Turn on the U.S. After Compromise Of 1850 layer.
- ? How did the Compromise of 1850 change the balance? [*There were 15 slave states and 16 free states.*]
- Turn on the layer, U.S. After Kansas-Nebraska Act Of 1854.
- ? How did this legislation change the amount of land open to slavery? [*It increased.*]
- ? Predict a result of the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854. [*It created more tension, generated strong anti-slavery sentiment, and ultimately led to war.*]

VIEW LATITUDE-LONGITUDE

- Click the Measure button.
- Select the third icon: Location.
- Select: Degrees.
- Hover arrow over map to view latitude/longitude.

ADD MAP NOTE

- Click Add and choose Add Map Note.
- Type a title, and click OK.
- Choose a symbol from the menu and add it to the map.
- Add information to the pop-up box, and then click Close.

Next Steps

DID YOU KNOW? ArcGIS Online is a mapping platform freely available to public, private, and home schools. A school subscription provides additional security, privacy, and content features. Learn more about ArcGIS Online and how to get a school subscription at <http://www.esri.com/schools>.

THEN TRY THIS...

- Add population data to the map to compare trends in population growth and density between northern and southern states from 1800-1854. Use analysis tools to create a choropleth map for the population data.
- Add slave population data to the map to compare the growth and distribution changes of slavery from 1800-1854. Use analysis tools to create a hot spot map based on population.

TEXT REFERENCES

This GIS map has been cross-referenced to material in sections of chapters from these texts.

- *The American Vision by Glencoe* — Chapter 5
- *The American Anthem by Holt* — Chapters 7, 10
- *The Americans by McDougal Littell* — Chapters 7, 10
- *America: Pathways to the Present by Prentice Hall* — Chapter 6