Teaching Suggestions

In the long trek west, most travelers kept to established trails. This map shows the principal trails before 1860.

- **1.** Have students label the Rocky Mountains on their maps. Remind them to create a legend for their maps.
- 2. Have them locate and label the Mormon Trail. What other trail did it follow for most of its length? At what point did it branch off?
- 3. Ask students which trail went west from Santa Fe, and have them label it. If pioneers wanted to go from this trail to San Francisco, what could they follow? Have students label this route on their maps. Point out that it was built by the Spanish in the 1700s.
- **4.** Ask students which trail crossed Indian Territory, and have them label it. Ask which cities were located at the eastern and western ends, and have students mark and label those cities.
- **5.** Ask students which two trails began at Independence, Missouri, and have students label this city on their maps.

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AMERICAN HISTORY OUTLINE MAPS

Western Trails

