

Independent Research Ideas (which fall under our curriculum for this year)

- ② Mountain men, their way of life, and why it came to an end
- ② Explorers and how they contributed to the settlement of the west
 - Sacajawea
 - Robert Stuart
 - LaVerendrye Brothers
 - John C. Fremont
 - Lewis & Clark
- ② The decline of the beaver trade as an example of the boom and bust cycle
- ② Explore and explain an important person place, or event and their impact on Wyoming's history
 - Heart Mountain
 - Northwest Passage
 - Louisiana Purchase
 - John Colter
 - Yellowstone
 - South Pass
 - Continental Divide
 - Kit Carson
 - Astorians
 - Jaques Laramie
 - James Beckweorth
 - Jedediah Smith
 - Tom Fitzpatrick
 - Sublette Brothers
 - Jim Bridger
 - Marcus Whitman
 - Narcissa Whitman
 - Eliza Spaulding
 - Red Cloud
 - Chief Washakie
 - Lawmen
 - Outlaws (you could pick a specific one)
 - Territorial prison
- ② The Transcontinental Railroad
- ② The importance of the towns along the transcontinental railroad (either their contribution to government or growth of communities)
- ② Explore and examine the causes and effects of wars along the plains during the westward expansion
 - Grattan Massacre
 - Fetterman Massacre
 - Bozeman Trail
 - Wagon Box Fight
 - Dull Knife Battle
 - Platte Bridge Fight
 - Battle of Little Big Horn
- ② The roles and purposes of Forts in Wyoming (the responsibilities of the soldiers)
 - Fort Reno
 - Fort Fettermen
 - Fort Caspar
 - Fort Laramie *
 - Fort D.A. Russel

- Fort Sanders
- Fort Fred Steele
- Fort Bridger
- ☉ Identifying Wyoming's state "firsts" and symbols
- ☉ Discuss scientific contributions of specific scientists
 - Alhazen
 - Mary Anning
 - Archimedes
 - Alexander Graham Bell
 - Rachel Carson
 - Marie & Pierre Curie
 - Thomas Alva Edison
 - Albert Einstein
 - Alexander Fleming
 - Benjamin Franklin
 - Galileo Galilei
 - Caroline & William Herschel
 - Antoni Van Leeuwenhoek
 - Maria Mitchell
 - Sir Isaac Newton
 - Louis Pasteur
- ☉ Identify and describe local science issues, such as environmental hazards or resource management, and possibly offer suggestions for a solution (personal action plan)