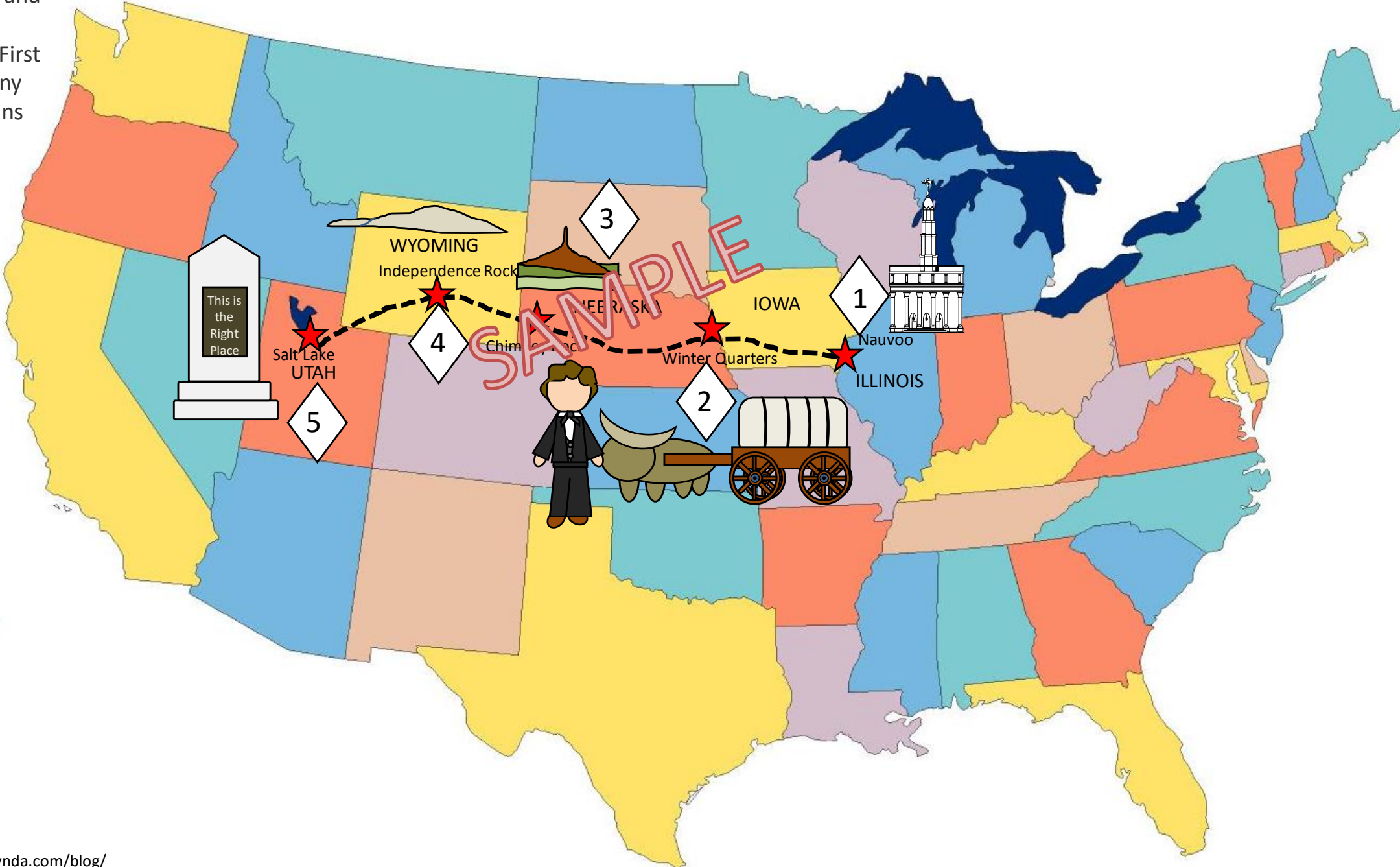
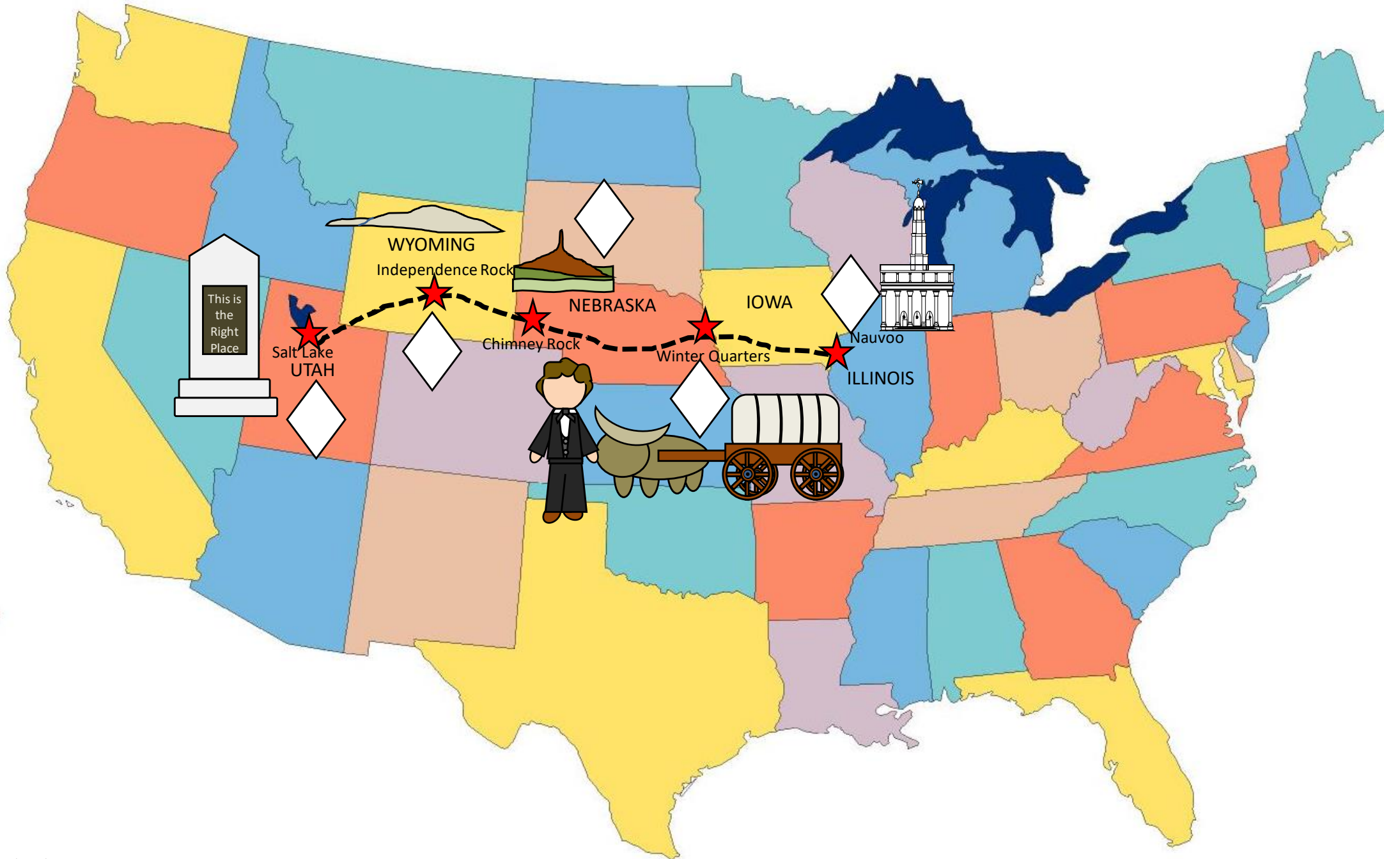


Primary 5: D&C and Church History
Lesson 40: The First Pioneer Company Crosses the Plains





This is the Right Place

Salt Lake UTAH

WYOMING
Independence Rock

Chimney Rock

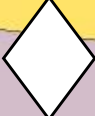
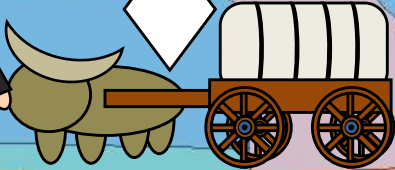
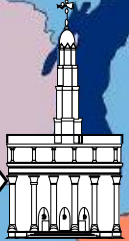
NEBRASKA

Winter Quarters

IOWA

Nauvoo

ILLINOIS



<p>1. Some saints remained in Nauvoo and finished the temple. The first groups left Nauvoo in early February 1846, and the Apostles themselves left in mid-February. A small group of Saints, including some members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles negotiated with the American Indians, who lived on the land on which they were traveling, to find a place to camp. They found one on the west side of the Missouri River. In September they planned a community and called it Winter Quarters. By the end of the year there were seven hundred homes and nearly four thousand Saints in the settlement.</p>	<p>4. The pioneers wrote down the miles they traveled each day and often left the information for later pioneers to see as they came along the trail. Sometimes this information was carved on the side of a tree or on a wooden post set in the ground. Other times the pioneers carved the information into buffalo skulls that were lying by the trail. These engravings became known as “bulletins on the plains.” Brigham Young once wrote on a skull: <i>Pioneers camped here June 3rd, 1847 making 15 miles today All well Brigham Young.</i> Many names of Pioneers are written on Independence Rock</p>
<p>2. The first company of pioneers left Winter Quarters in April 1847, led by Brigham Young. 143 men, 3 women, and 2 children 73 wagons and 93 horses, 66 oxen, 52 mules, 19 cows, 17 dogs, and some chickens. The oxen pulled the covered wagons across the plains. The pioneers also took along a boat and a cannon.</p>	<p>5. On 20 July 1847 the small scouting group reached East Canyon, just above the Salt Lake Valley. The next day Orson Pratt and Erastus Snow rode ahead of the wagons and were the first pioneers to enter the valley. The first wagons reached the valley two days later. The pioneers gathered together and dedicated the land to the Lord. Brigham Young and the rest of the pioneers entered the Salt Lake Valley on 24 July 1847. Brigham Young was very sick and was riding in Wilford Woodruff’s carriage. Brother Woodruff turned the carriage so that President Young could look at the valley. The Lord had shown President Young a vision of the place where the Saints should settle, and after gazing at the valley for a long time, Brigham Young said, “It is enough. This is the right place. Drive on!”</p>
<p>3. Chimney Rock, near the present-day Nebraska-Wyoming border, marked the halfway point of the journey from Winter Quarters to the Salt Lake Valley. This large rock formation resembling a chimney could be seen for many miles before the Saints actually reached it on 26 May 1847. The Saints stopped at nearby settlement Fort Laramie to make repairs to their wagons and equipment.</p>	

