

# Lesson 24: Tensions in the West

*How did settlers change the West and affect American Indians?*

# Introduction

- From its founding, the U.S government broke many promises to American Indians.
- In the 1830s, American Indians were promised lands in the West in exchange for giving up their homelands in the East.



# Introduction

- As more settlers moved west, the government forced American Indians onto government lands that settlers did not want.
- The conflict between settlers and American Indians was not just a fight over land, but a conflict between two very different cultures and perspectives.



# Vocabulary



- **Reservation:** an area of land set aside by the federal government for the use of an American Indian tribe



- **Homesteader:** a farmer who is given a plot of public land, or homestead, in return for cultivating it

# Vocabulary



- **transcontinental railroad:** a railroad that crosses a continent



- **Subsidies:** money or other things of value, such as land, that a government contributes to an enterprise considered to benefit the public