



**OBJECTIVES**

**Students will**

- ◆ learn vocabulary words.
- ◆ apply the comprehension strategies Clarifying, Visualizing, Predicting, and Summarizing.
- ◆ apply the comprehension skills Author's Point of View and Fact and Opinion.
- ◆ practice reading with fluency.

**MATERIALS**

- ◆ **Student Reader**, pp. 298–319
- ◆ Routines 3, 5, 6, A
- ◆ **Transparencies** 34, 96, 45
- ◆ **Skills Practice 1**, pp. 165–166
- ◆ **Home Connection**, pp. 33–34
- ◆ Writer's Notebook



## Writer's Notebook

- ◆ Have students use their Writer's Notebooks to list other examples of diaries they have read in class or on their own.
- ◆ Have students compare the elements found in each selection.

## Concept/Question Board

Remind students to check the **Concept/Question Board** to review what they learned about the theme A Changing America from earlier selections in this unit. In addition, they should see whether there are any questions on the Board that they think this selection might answer.

## Build Background

### Activate Prior Knowledge

Ask students the following questions to determine their prior knowledge:

- *What do you already know about the topic of this selection?*
- *What did pioneers experience as they traveled westward in a wagon train?*
- *Have you ever kept a diary? Did you keep it for a long time? Do you still keep it?*

### Background Information

To help students understand the selection they are going to read, you might want to tell them the following:

- Usually a diary is not written to be shared with anyone.
- Sallie Hester kept a diary that gives us valuable information about a trip west that thousands of other pioneers also took.
- Between 1841–1866, more than 350,000 people moved to the West in search of farmland and gold.
- The Hesters' wagon train traveled 2,000 miles along the Oregon-California Trail.
- Sallie Hester was fourteen years old when her long journey began.



Give each student a copy of **Home Connection** page 33. This information also is available in Spanish on

**Home Connection** page 34. Encourage students to discuss "A Covered Wagon Girl: The Diary of Sally Hester, 1849–1850" with their families and complete the activities provided.