



Teacher Tip

AUTHOR'S PURPOSE Students might notice that Sallie seldom relates her emotions as she describes her journey. Discuss with students the idea that different diary writers have different purposes, and perhaps Sallie's main purpose was to record the events of her journey rather than comment on how those events made her feel.

K	W	L
I know a diary is a personal record of events.	What is a steamboat?	Sallie traveled primarily on a covered wagon.

Transparency 34

Discussing the Selection



Handing Off

- ◆ It is important for students to see you as a contributing member of the group. Use Routine A, the handing-off process, to emphasize that you are part of the group. Actively participate in the handing-off process by raising your hand to be called on by the speaker when you have a contribution to make. Students should point out unusual and interesting insights so these insights are recognized and discussed.
- ◆ Engage students in a discussion to determine whether they have grasped the following ideas:
 - Why Sallie's family leaves their home in Indiana in 1849
 - The types of hardships endured by Sallie and her family as they travel westward
 - How long it takes Sallie's family to reach Fremont, California
- ◆ Have students return to **Transparency** 34. Ask students whether any of their questions were answered or whether they learned any new information from reading the selection. Let the students decide which items need further discussion.
- ◆ Have students return to the Focus Questions on the title page of the selection. Select a student to read the questions aloud, and have students answer and discuss the questions. Have them return to the text if necessary.

Genre Review

Review the characteristics of a diary found on page 300A. Then ask students to find examples of these characteristics and explain how they function in "A Covered Wagon Girl: The Diary of Sallie Hester, 1849–1850." **Possible Answers** *The story is a first-person account of events in someone's life. Entries are made regularly, and the date is usually noted.*



BIG Idea

How has America changed over time?

Reread the Big Idea question to students. Ask students what they have learned about the theme A Changing America in their reading of "A Covered Wagon Girl: The Diary of Sallie Hester, 1849–1850."