

Map It: Morgan's Raid

Indiana Standards

Social Studies 4.3.2, Estimate distances between two places on a map, use scale, use directions

Union General Lew Wallace was asked by Governor Oliver Morton to help defend Indiana against a group of approximately 3,000 Confederate cavalymen led by General Morgan. They crossed the Ohio River at Brandenburg, Kentucky, on July 8, 1863, and left the state by crossing the Whitewater River at Harrison on July 13, 1863.

The following map activity requires students to locate several small towns on a map of Indiana, draw the progress of Morgan's forces and Wallace's forces, day by day, and estimate how many miles were traveled by each.

Materials:

Map of Southern Indiana, including a mileage key, with space for additions to the key
6 color and 1 black writing instrument
String for estimating distances (if desired)
Calculator for adding distances (if desired)

Directions:

Use one color for each day to show Morgan's and Wallace's movements (as listed on the next page, which can be copied and passed out or put on an overhead or on the board.)

After the paths have been drawn:

1. Make a Key that shows what day each color corresponds to
2. Label Morgan's Raiders path "Morgan's Raiders" (like a river)
3. Label Lew Wallace's path "Lew Wallace's Troops" (like a river)
4. Use the key on the map to estimate how many miles each group traveled each day and write it next to the corresponding line.
5. Add up the total distance traveled by each group and write it in the Key.
6. Write the students' estimations on the board, and then reveal that historians estimate Morgan's Raiders traveled about 200 miles.
 - ✓ The student's estimates will probably be less than this amount.
 - ✓ Talk about how doing straight-line estimates underestimates the distance because the roads are usually curvy.

Morgan's Raid: Morgan's and Wallace's Paths

Directions: Draw a line showing the two groups' paths through Indiana. Use the color listed for each day to connect the towns and locations described.

July 8 (Red)

Morgan's Raiders cross the Ohio River at Brandenburg, Kentucky and travel to Mauckport, Indiana

July 9 (Orange)

Morgan's Raiders travel to Corydon (6 p.m.) and camp 17 miles north of Corydon on the road to Salem.

July 10 (Yellow)

Morgan's Raiders travel to Salem (arrive 9 a.m., leave 2 p.m.) then to Vienna, and camp near Lexington (11 p.m.)
Lew Wallace meets his troops in Indianapolis, loads them on a train, and travels to Columbus, Indiana (10 p.m.)

July 11 (Green)

Morgan's Raiders travel to Paris Crossing and then to Vernon where they change direction and camp at Dupont (12 p.m.)
Wallace's troops arrive in North Vernon (7 a.m.) then march on foot to camp near Holton.

July 12 (Blue)

Morgan's Raiders travel to Versailles (1 p.m.) and camp at Sunman
Wallace's troops march to Osgood and camp.

July 13 (Purple)

Morgan's Raiders travel from Sunman to Harrison where they cross the Whitewater River into Ohio.
Wallace's troops march to Sunman and camp.