

KATY TRAIL STATE PARK

Lesson Plans • Grade 4-5



Lesson 1 **Location: Clinton – Mile 0**

Lesson Title: Getting to Know Katy Trail State Park

Objective: Students will be able to tell the historical importance of the Katy Trail State Park and trace its route in Missouri.

Link to Social Studies Curriculum:

Grade 4: Section 5. Knowledge of major elements of geographical study and analysis (such as location, place, movement and regions) and their relationship to changes in society and the environment, Concepts A: Reading and Constructing Maps and B. Geography of Missouri and the United States.

Section 6. Knowledge of Individual and Groups to Institutions and Traditions, Concept A: Cultures meeting the needs of people.

Materials: Katy Trail map, Missouri map, highlighter, ruler and student journal.

Lesson Tips: Refer to the “Getting to Know Katy Trail State Park” handout.

Helpful Hint: Detailed road maps of Missouri are available beginning August 15 from local MODOT offices. If no such office exists in your area, contact MODOT’s main office at 888-275-6636 to have a maximum of 50 maps mailed to you. The Katy Trail is shown on these maps making the last part of the assignment even easier. For a list of towns located on the Katy Trail and their approximate location, visit <http://www.mostateparks.com/katytrail/index.html>.



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Assessment: The student journal will act as a diary of what the students learn as they move along the Katy Trail. They may decorate it however they like and may include pictures in journal entries of something significant they learned from the lesson.

To start, have them construct a KWL (Know, Want, Learned) chart to outline what they know about the Katy Trail before any lessons, what they want to learn about the Katy Trail and finally what they did learn from this first lesson.

If time remains and maps are available, using a Missouri map, have students locate as many stops as they can. Have them highlight those towns. Once they have located as many towns as they can, have them connect the dots to see where the Katy Trail now lies in Missouri. Have them calculate how far away the nearest stop on the Katy Trail is from their hometown and discuss the benefits of biking and hiking on the Katy Trail.

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Lesson 1: Getting to Know Katy Trail State Park

In the 1850s, Missouri did not have a single mile of railroad track. Illinois on the other hand, had several thousand miles of track by 1855. In Missouri, people had to travel by carriage or by boat. This limited how far goods could be transported, especially those that spoiled quickly such as milk.

It also limited how far people traveled. Carriage travel was very uncomfortable and after heavy rains the then-dirt roads turned into mud, making travel impossible. Boats were much more comfortable and quicker too, but they were also dangerous and travel was limited to towns located on rivers.

After the Civil War, Missouri recognized the benefits that accompanied trains and quickly began building tracks. However, it was slow process. Railroads were expensive and the money to build them was not always easy to find. Sometimes when it was found, the money was not spent correctly and thousands of extra dollars had to be found to make up for it.

The Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad (MKT or Katy) was first created in 1865 and began constructing various sections of line in Missouri. The main section of railroad from New Franklin to Machens was built in 1892.



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The building of the railroad had a major effect on the towns it passed through. Many towns didn't even exist before the Katy Railroad came around. The Katy Railroad brought people and goods into new areas and helped businesses in railroad towns blossom.

In 1870, Clinton had a population of 640 people. Then came the railroad. By the end of 1880, Clinton's population had grown to 2,868 people! However, just as much as the railroad helped the towns it passed through, it hurt the towns it did not go through. Osceola, a once-prosperous river town, saw its population decline by almost half between 1860 and 1880 when the railroads chose not to pass through.

The railroads had a significant impact on Missouri. They allowed people to travel long distances comfortably. People moved away from rivers and began expanding further inland along railroads. Goods could also now be moved across the country. People from distant towns were linked and cultures began mixing as small country farmers and city folk were able to interact and exchange goods and services easier than they ever had before.

But just as railroads replaced riverboats, cars and planes would replace trains. The importance railroads played in Missouri history can still be seen along the Katy Trail. Restored depots and historical landmarks still exist and can be seen along the trail. Small towns still thrive along the route and boast of their rich history thanks to Katy.

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Lesson 2 **Location: Mile 35 - Sedalia**
Lesson Title: Sedalia: The Benefits and Dangers of Railroads

Objective: Students will be able to identify the benefits and dangers of having a railroad during the reign of the Katy Railroad.

Link to Social Studies Curriculum:

Grade 4: Tools of Social Science Inquiry. Section 7: Knowledge of the use of tools of social science inquiry (such as surveys, statistics, maps and documents). Concept A: Identify, select, use and create appropriate resources for social science inquiry and Concept B: Create maps, timelines, diagrams and cartoons.

Grade 5: Tools of Social Science Inquiry. Section 7: Knowledge of the use of tools of social science inquiry (such as surveys, statistics, maps and documents) Concept C: Creating maps and graphics.

Materials: Student journal and crayons; Optional – A recording of Scott Joplin’s “Great Crush Collision March” to play while students work.

Lesson Tips: Refer to the “Sedalia: The Benefits and Dangers of Railroads” handout.

Assessments: Have the students read the handout “Sedalia: The Benefits and Dangers of Railroads” and complete the Journal Jot in their Katy Trail Journals.



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Lesson 2: Sedalia: The Benefits and Dangers of Railroads

Before the Katy Railroad came through town, the area around Sedalia was relatively uninhabited. The 34-mile stretch between Sedalia and Boonville barely contained a couple houses. Nothing in the area could be considered even a tiny town.

Sedalia itself was still a Wild West town. Men carried side arms for protection and horse thieves were hung from the nearest tree. The town of Sedalia owes a lot to railroads. When it was founded, Gen. George B. Smith established the town to attract the Union Pacific Railroad. However, it was the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad (MK&T or Katy) that would help Sedalia leave its Wild West past behind.

At first, work was delayed by the Civil War and a lack of funding. However, once construction of the railroad finally began, workers set a feverous pace to lay the tracks. On June 30, 1870, the rail reached Windsor, a distance of about 21 miles. By July 23 of that same year, the Katy Railroad made her maiden voyage from Sedalia to Clinton, approximately 40 miles away.

Eventually, Sedalia was the location selected for the Katy Railroad's general offices and the town saw rapid growth in population. In 1860-1861, the population was a measly 300 people, but by 1870 that number had skyrocketed to more than 4,500 people.



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Business for the Katy was booming. In 1875, MK&T had more than 375 men working in the company and received more than 7,000,000 pounds of freight in Sedalia. That same year, the Katy Railroad sold 25,000 passenger tickets.

On May 10, 1896, the Katy Railroad opened a new, two-story depot in Sedalia. The growing city's citizens thought the state capital should be moved from Jefferson City to Sedalia.

Sedalia continued to grow as the railroads continued to prosper. The city began to attract people from all over, including famous Missourian Scott Joplin. His "Great Crush Collision March," which was published in 1896 in Temple, Texas, is dedicated to the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad.

However, Sedalia relied on the railroads a little too much. On Jan. 19, 1922, a railroad strike started in Sedalia. It led to widespread unemployment and badly damaged the town's economy. By the time Sedalia had recovered, the Depression began and the town and the Katy Railroad took another hard hit.

Eighty-eight years after the Katy Railroad's celebrated run from Sedalia to Clinton, the final passenger train passed through Sedalia. The grand depot, built in 1896, has been fully restored by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and serves as a reminder of the Katy Railroad's importance in Sedalia's history.

Journal Jot!

Open your Katy Trail Journal. Skip a page from your last assignment and label this assignment, Sedalia. Imagine you have been hired to design the first depot for the Katy Railroad in Sedalia around 1870. Draw a picture of your depot. Write a short paragraph telling how people get to the depot, and what they are wearing when they arrive. How would this be different from how you dress or travel? What would you like best about this time period? What would you like the least?

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Lesson 3 **Location: Mile 85 - Rocheport**
Lesson Title: Rocheport: A Rich History

Objective: The students will be able to identify important historic landmarks and events in Rocheport’s history.

Link to Social Studies Curriculum:

Grade 4: Tools of Social Science Inquiry. Section 7: Knowledge of the use of tools of social science inquiry (such as surveys, statistics, map and documents). Concept B: Create maps, timelines, diagrams and cartoons.

Grade 5: Tools of Social Science Inquiry. Section 7: Knowledge of the use of tools of social science inquiry (such as surveys, statistics, maps and documents). Concept C: Creating maps and graphics.

Materials: Student journal and crayons

Lesson Tips: Refer to the handout “Rocheport: A Rich History”

Assessments: Have the students read “Rocheport: A Rich History” and complete the Journal Jot in their Katy Trail Journals.



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Lesson 3: Rocheport: A Rich History

In 1976, almost the entire town of Rocheport was added to the National Register of Historic Places. The first mention of the area was in the journals of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. The explorers noted a large limestone rock near the mouth of the Moniteau Creek that they found on June 7, 1804.

The town of Rocheport was praised early on for having a fine natural harbor that served as a site for a boat landing and ferry-crossing. Because of its location near the water, the area began to grow and prosper as steamboat business grew and prospered. In 1849 alone, approximately 57 steamboats made 500 landings at the bustling town of Rocheport.

The town experienced a set back during the Civil War. In 1860, the population of Rocheport totaled 753 people. Out of those 753 people, 130 of them were slaves. Most of the people living at Rocheport at the time were sympathetic to the Southern cause, but both Northern troops and Southern raiders attacked the town during the war. One such attack left an entire business block and school building burnt.

After the war, the town was able to heal its wounds. In 1892, the Katy Railroad was built through town and thrived for many years. A local man, Col. R.A. Caskie was about to make his fortune in the area by growing tobacco and shipping his produce to distant market places. For several years he shipped 1,000 hogshead of tobacco to England and Scotland annually.



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The railroad experienced a setback in the area in 1943 when ammunition train exploded and burned down the railroad bridge. The fire damaged numerous other buildings in the town of Rocheport. A new bridge was built and freight traffic continued in the area well into the mid-20th century. The town boasts the historic MK&T Railroad tunnel. Built around 1893, this is the only tunnel on the Katy Trail. Visitors to the trail can ride through the 243-foot-long stone-arched tunnel, which is considered a historic treasure.

Journal Jot!

Open your Katy Trail Journal. Skip a page from your last assignment and label this assignment, Rocheport. Design a commemorative stamp for Rocheport of an important landmark or event. For example, your stamp could show Rocheport's harbor or the Katy Railroad bridge burning down. Write a paragraph describing why you chose that particular landmark or event. What made it stand out from the others? Can you think of some landmarks in your hometown that would be similar to the one you picked?

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Lesson 4 **Location: Mile 110 - Hartsburg**
Lesson Title: Hartsburg: A Business Decision

Objective: Students will be able to put themselves in the shoes of a Claysville businessperson. They will be able to identify some economic reasons for relocating their business to an up-and-coming railroad town.

Link to Social Studies Curriculum:

Grade 4: Economic Concepts and Principles. Section 4: Knowledge of economic concepts (including productivity and the market system) and principles (including the laws of supply and demand). Concept B: Economic decision-making.

Grade 5: Economic Concepts and Principles. Section 4: Knowledge of economic concepts (including productivity and the market system) and principles (including the laws of supply and demand). Concept C: Interpreting the past, explaining the present and the future of economic decisions.

Materials: Student journal

Lesson Tips: Refer to the handout, "Hartsburg"

Assessments: Have the students read the "Hartsburg" Handout and complete the Journal Jot in their Katy Trail Journals.



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Lesson 4: Hartsburg: A Business Decision

The town of Hartsburg was plotted in 1892. It was to become a shipping station for the Katy Railroad. Hartsburg's success severely hurt the neighboring communities of Claysville and Providence. Hartsburg became a popular destination for farmers wanting to ship their harvests.

Claysville was established after the river town of Stonesport was washed away in 1844. Claysville was located a safer distance from the river. However, with the addition of the Katy Railroad, which ran through Hartsburg, many businesses left Claysville to thrive in the railroad town Hartsburg.

Hartsburg soon had a bank, many businesses and a handsome two-story hotel. Hartsburg enjoyed its success as a railroad town into the 20th century, shipping many farm products to distant market places.

Today, Hartsburg is a popular place for people working in Columbia or Jefferson City to live. These people prefer the quiet little town to the big cities, even if it requires a longer drive to work. While the business district may now be hard to find, a strong sense of community still exists.

While there may be a lack of local business in Hartsburg, it fared better than many of the other small towns located along the Katy Railroad. Towns such as Pleasant Green, Gore, Bernheimer, Nona and Lick faded after automobiles replaced the railroad as the main mode of transportation.



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Journal Jot!

Open your Katy Trail Journal. Skip a page from your last assignment and label this assignment, Hartsburg. Imagine you are a successful businessperson in Claysville. You own a general store that sells candies, sugar, meat, milk, clothing, bicycle parts and many other goods. How is this general store different from a grocery store in your hometown? Can you think of a store that would be similar to this general store that you like to visit? It has been announced that the Katy Railroad is going to go through Hartsburg and you have the opportunity to move your business there. Would you move the general store to Hartsburg or would you stay in Claysville? Why or why not?

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Lesson 5 **Location: Mile 185 - Marthasville**
Lesson Title: Marthasville

Objective: Students will be able to identify important people and events in the history of Marthasville.

Link to Social Studies Curriculum:

Grade 4: Tools of Social Science Inquiry. Section 7: Knowledge of the use of tools of social science inquiry (such as surveys, statistics, maps and documents). Concept A: Identify, select, use and create appropriate resources for social science inquiry and Concept B: Create maps, timelines, diagrams and cartoons.

Grade 5: Tools of Social Science Inquiry. Section 7: Knowledge of the use of tools of social science inquiry (such as surveys, statistics, maps and documents). Concept C: Creating maps and graphics.

Materials: Student Journal and crayons

Lesson Tips: Refer to the handout, “Marthasville”

Assessments: Have the students read the handout, “Marthasville” and complete the Journal Jot in their Katy Trail Journals.



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Lesson 5: Marthasville

Marthasville is located on the site of an early French trading post. The early settlement was located near the Charette and Touque Creeks. This area was originally known as Touque Prairie. In 1818, a year after it was founded, Marthasville established a post office and proved it was here to stay. The town was named after the founder, Dr. John Young's first wife, Martha Fuqua.

When the Katy Railroad came to town, the town flourished. The railroad through Marthasville was built by the Missouri, Kansas and Eastern Railroad in 1892. Just a year later, in July of 1893, the Katy took over this section of track. The Katy depot still stands as a reminder of days gone by.

Also still standing as a reminder of Marthasville's rich history is the Harvey Griswold House. Harvey Griswold was the original builder and owner of the house. He carved the date in the stone of the house. All in all, the house has ten rooms with a fireplace in each room. The house has two rooms in the basement and another two rooms in the attic.

Located just a mile off the Katy trail at Marthasville is the gravesite of Daniel Boone. He spent his last remaining years in the area. His wife, Rebecca died in 1813 and is buried beside him just a mile east of Marthasville. A monument has been erected to remember this famous man in Missouri history.



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Journal Jot!

Open your Katy Trail Journal. Skip a page from your last assignment and label this assignment, Marthasville. Imagine you have been hired to design a monument to the Katy Railroad for Marthasville. Be creative and include elements that would be special for the people who lived there, for example the Katy Depot. Write a paragraph to share with your teacher about the monument's major features. Do you think the Katy should have a monument? Why or why not? If you were to design a similar monument for your hometown, what would it look like? How would it be different from the one you designed for Marthasville?

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Lesson 6

Lesson Title: St. Charles: First State Capital

Objective: Students will be able to identify important events and people associated with the history of St. Charles.

Link to Social Studies Curriculum:

Grade 4: Tools of Social Science Inquiry. Section 7: Knowledge of the use of tools of social science inquiry (such as surveys, statistics, maps and documents). Concept A: Identify, select, use and create appropriate resources for social science inquiry and Concept B: Create maps, timelines, diagrams and cartoons.

Grade 5: Tools of Social Science Inquiry. Section 7: Knowledge of the use of tools of social science inquiry (such as surveys, statistics, maps and documents). Concept C: Creating maps and graphics.

Materials: Student journal and crayons.

Lesson Tips: Refer to the handout, “St. Charles: First State Capital”

Assessments: Have the students read the handout, “St. Charles: First State Capital” and complete the Journal Jot in their Katy Trail Journal.



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Lesson 6: St. Charles: First State Capital

In the 1760s, French fur traders and other explorers started settling in the St. Charles area and in 1787 the town was formally laid out. Then in the late 1790s, Daniel Boone came to the area. He brought with him children, family and neighbors from Kentucky.

His son, Nathan, built an impressive stone house in 1820. The house is still standing only a few miles away from the Katy Trail in St. Charles County. Daniel Boone and his wife Rebecca were buried less than a mile from the trail just east of nearby Marthasville in Warren County.

At first, the town was a very successful river port. St. Charles did not ignore the importance of railroads and with the addition of the trains in the mid-1800, St. Charles was able to make a smooth transition from a river town to a train town and established itself as an important Missouri town.

From 1820 to 1826, St. Charles served as the first state capital for Missouri. The buildings that served as the first Capitol face the Katy Trail. Missouri's first legislature met in these buildings. From June 2, 1821, to Oct. 1, 1826, legislatures debated many important issues as Missouri transitioned from a territory to a state. These reconstructed buildings are now First Missouri State Capitol State Historic Site.



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Visitors to the site can explore the restored and furnished Peck Brothers General Store and residence. It has been restored and furnished to reflect what it might have looked like in the early 1800s. The first floor of this building served as a general store and the Ruluff Peck family home. Visitors can also take a tour of the restored and furnished rooms where Missouri's state government first met.

Also at the First Missouri State Capitol State Historic Site, visitors can check out the interpretive center. In the interpretive center, there are two floors of exhibits and an orientation show. Katy Trail State Park is within view of the historic site. In 2011, 12 miles was added to the Katy Trail from St. Charles to the little town of Machens.

Journal Jot!

Open your Katy Trail Journal. Skip a page from your last assignment and label this assignment, St. Charles: First State Capital. Imagine you have been hired by the St. Charles Historical Society to design a t-shirt for Missouri's first state capital. You can include important people, buildings, or events in St. Charles history, such as Daniel Boone or the first state capitol building. Why do you think these events, people and buildings belong on the t-shirt?

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Lesson 7 **Location: Use at any point on trail**
Lesson Title: The National Register of Historic Places

Objective: Students will be able to identify areas of historic interest along the Katy Trail. Students will also be able to navigate the National Register of Historic Places web site to find historic landmarks in Missouri.

Link to Social Studies Curriculum:

Grade 4: Tools of Social Science Inquiry. Section 7: Knowledge of the use of tools of social science inquiry (such as surveys, statistics, maps and documents). Concept A: Identify, select, use and create appropriate resources for social science inquiry.

Grade 5: Tools of Social Science Inquiry. Section 7: Knowledge and use of the use of tools of social science inquiry (such as surveys, statistics, maps and documents). Concept D: Using technological tools.

Materials: Student journal and computer with Internet access.

Lesson Tips: Refer to the handout, “Exploring the National Register of Historic Places”.

Assessments: Have the students complete the activities and answer the questions included on the “Exploring the National Register of Historic Places” handout in their student journals. Encourage the students to further explore the web site and discuss the significance of having such a site.



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Lesson 7: Exploring the National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places is a database of historically important places. For a property to be included in the National Register, they must meet certain requirements. They must be associated with events that had an important contribution to American history or associated with important people from our past. If the property is a special example or may provide important insight in prehistory or history, the property may also be added to the National Register.

Many buildings and historic districts included in the National Register are located along the Katy Trail. The entire town of Rocheport, a successful town located on the Katy Trail, is included in the National Register.

1. For this activity, first go to www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com
 - a. How many listings are in the National Register of Historic Places?

 - b. How many listings are considered historic districts?

2. Next, click on the State Listings link.
3. Click on Missouri on the map.
4. The Katy Trail goes through nine counties in Missouri. Click on the link for one of these counties:

Henry
Pettis
Cooper

Howard
Boone
Callaway

Montgomery
Warren
St. Charles



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5. Find a place in one of these counties that is listed on the National Register. Use your Katy Trail map poster to help you find a place that is on the Katy Trail. You might have to look at more than one county.

a. What is the name of the place you found?

b. When was this place added to the National Register?

c. List at least one area of significance for this place.

6. Click on the link for the county you live in.

a. How many places are listed in your county?

b. Look at the “period of significance” for the listings. What is the oldest date you find?
