

Name _____

Cattle Drive Math

After the civil war ended, there were millions of longhorn cattle roaming all over Texas. Texas needed to make money to help them recover from the war. They decided to sell the cattle. The problem is the cattle are not worth very much money in Texas, because there are too many of them. They could make a lot more money if they could sell them on the east or west coast.

Let us pretend you have 3,000 cows in your herd. Let's see how much money you would make by selling those cattle:

In Texas---

$$3,000 \text{ cows} \times \$ 3.00 \text{ a head} = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$$

On the West Coast---

$$3,000 \text{ cows} \times \$50 \text{ a head} = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$$

How much more money do you make selling them on the West Coast?

$$\underline{\hspace{4cm}} - \underline{\hspace{4cm}} = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$$

Now, you don't get to keep all of that money. You have to pay the cowboys that go on the cattle drives, buy their supplies, and pay for their food.

Let's see how much that is going to cost:

You need to hire a trail boss at \$125 a month, ten cowboys at \$30 each a month, a cook at \$30 a month, and a horse wrangler at \$20 a month.

How much would you spend on pay during a 3 month cattle drive?

$$\text{Trail boss? } \underline{\hspace{4cm}} \times \underline{\hspace{4cm}} = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$$

$$\text{Cook? } \underline{\hspace{4cm}} \times \underline{\hspace{4cm}} = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$$

$$\text{Each Cowboy? } \underline{\hspace{4cm}} \times \underline{\hspace{4cm}} = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$$

$$\text{All 10 Cowboys? } \underline{\hspace{4cm}} \times \underline{\hspace{4cm}} = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$$

$$\text{Wrangler? } \underline{\hspace{4cm}} \times \underline{\hspace{4cm}} = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$$

Total of all workers?

$$\underline{\hspace{4cm}} + \underline{\hspace{4cm}} + \underline{\hspace{4cm}} + \underline{\hspace{4cm}} = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$$