The Essential Lewis and Clark: An Exploration of the American West

The Lewis and Clark Expedition was one of the most important events in American history. Led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, the expedition explored the Louisiana Purchase and opened up the American West to settlement. This article will provide an overview of the expedition, its goals, its accomplishments, and its legacy.



The Essential Lewis and Clark by Meriwether Lewis

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The Goals of the Expedition

The Lewis and Clark Expedition was commissioned by President Thomas Jefferson in 1803. Jefferson's goals for the expedition were threefold:

- To explore the Louisiana Purchase and find a water route to the Pacific Ocean.
- 2. To establish trade with the Native American tribes of the West.

3. To gather scientific information about the plants, animals, and minerals of the region.

The Accomplishments of the Expedition

The Lewis and Clark Expedition was a remarkable success. The expedition traveled over 8,000 miles and explored vast new territories. The expedition also made contact with dozens of Native American tribes and gathered a wealth of scientific information. Some of the expedition's most notable accomplishments include:

- The discovery of the Missouri River.
- The exploration of the Rocky Mountains.
- The discovery of the Columbia River.
- The establishment of trade with the Native American tribes of the West.
- The collection of a vast amount of scientific information.

The Legacy of the Expedition

The Lewis and Clark Expedition had a profound impact on the United States. The expedition opened up the American West to settlement and paved the way for the westward expansion of the United States. The expedition also provided a wealth of scientific information that helped to shape the nation's understanding of the natural world. The Lewis and Clark Expedition is a testament to the spirit of exploration and discovery that has always been a part of the American character.

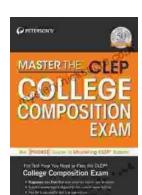
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