



Map

The Astonishing Journey of Teddy Bodain

This map is a rough estimate of the trip taken by Teddy Bodain, both with her family on the wagon train, and later, on her own. During the 1890s, wagon train travel was difficult and slow, at best. Kids today might think that riding with a wagon train would have been fun, and indeed, it was a great adventure. However, the wagons were heavy, and the load had to be pulled by beasts of burden, either mules or oxen. Accidents were a constant danger. Breakdowns were a challenge. Delays were common. Sometimes the load would have to be lightened, and travelers had to leave some of their possessions by the side of the trail or road.

Daily, the wagonmaster and his “pushers” would chart the best course for the day, a course that had the least amount of obstacles. While the routes charted here look fairly direct, travelers in 1892 would have had to contend with muddy trails, woods, rivers and streams, detours, washouts, fences, wounded mules and oxen, gullies, steep hills, wrong directions, and private property.

It will be fun for you to follow Teddy Bodain’s journey as you read her story. Cut out the joined maps for Mississippi and Alabama, fit them next to Georgia and overlap them *slightly*. Tape together on the back.

