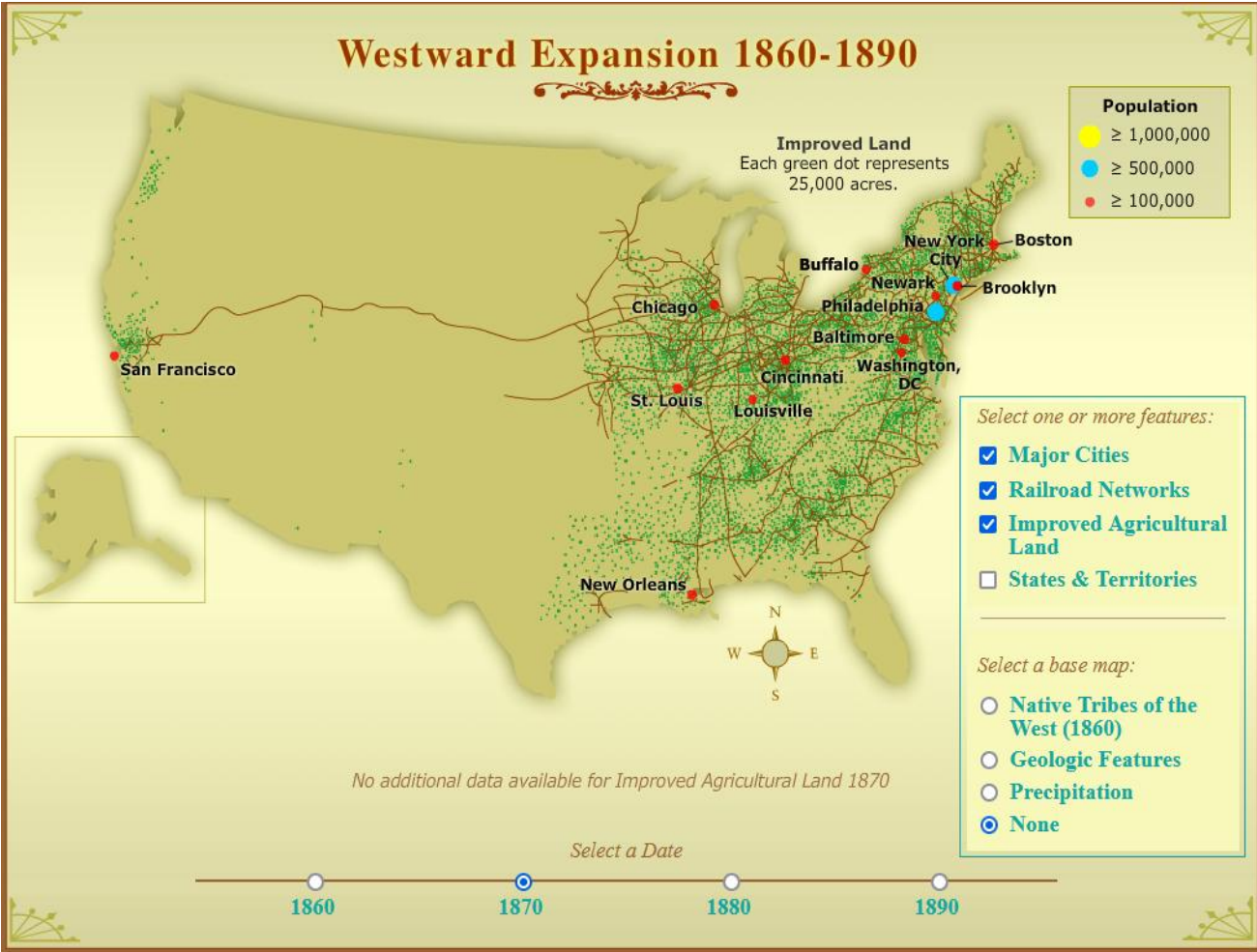


Activity Sheet 1: The journey of the Ingalls on the frontier and the diminished Osage land



Activity sheet n°2: One land, rival nations: who are the legitimate owners of the land?

Extract of the Little House on the prairie by Laura Ingalls	Historical context
<p><i>Extract 1</i></p> <p><i>In the long winter evenings, he talked to Ma about the Western country. In the West the land was level and there were no trees. The grass grew thick and high. There, the wild animals wandered and fed as though they were in a pasture that stretched much farther than a man could see, and there were no settlers. Only Indians lived there.</i></p> <p><i>One day Pa said to Ma, "I've decided to go see the West. I've had an offer for this place, and we can sell it now for as much as we're ever likely to get, enough to give us a start in a new country"</i></p>	<p>Notes from teacher's contextualisation</p> <p>The Homestead Act: The Homestead Act of 1862 turned over vast amounts of the « public land » to private citizens. 10% of the area of the United States was claimed and settled under this act.</p> <p>A homesteader could claim a 160-acre parcel of land.</p> <p>Settlers were immigrants, farmers without land of their own, formerly enslaved people.</p> <p>A small fee was the only money required. Each homesteader had to live on the land, build a home, make improvements and farm to get the land. Four million homesteaders settled land across 30 states.</p>
<p><i>"This is Indian country, isn't it?" Laura said. "What did we come to their country for, if you don't like them ?"</i></p> <p><i>Ma said she didn't know whether this was Indian country or not. She didn't know where the Kansas line was. But whether or no, Indians would not be here long. Pa had word from a man in Washington that the Indian Territory would be open to settlement soon. It might already be open to settlement.</i></p>	<p>Notes from teacher's contextualisation</p> <p>The Indian removal act had created « Indian territory » in today's Okklahoma.</p> <p>In 1872, the act was revoked and Okklahoma was opened to settlement.</p>

Whose land? Can the Ingalls family be considered as the legitimate owners of the land of their Homestead in Montgomery, Kansas?

Yes		No	
Argument:	backed by doc n°	Argument:	backed by doc n°
		Argument:	backed by doc n°
Argument:	backed by doc n°	Argument:	backed by doc n°

Our group has come to the following conclusion. To the question : *Can the Ingalls family be considered as the legitimate owners of the land of their Homestead in Montgomery, Kansas ?*

We consider that :