

Trading Mystery

Elementary: Grades 3–4

Vocabulary

barracks	a building where soldiers sleep
distracted	to not pay attention because of feeling upset or troubled
fort	a strong set of buildings where soldiers live to protect the people, trade, and land in that area
parlor	a formal room in a house in which family members and visitors gather
pelts	skins of fur-bearing animals, such as the otter and beaver, that are cleaned and ready to make into products such as hats and other clothing
Potawatomi	an American Indian nation whose people lived in Michigan, Wisconsin, northern Illinois, and northern Indiana and worked as trappers in the fur trade from the 17 th to the 19 th century. Potawatomi people still live in the Midwest and West today.
safe	a large, heavy box often made of metal that locks to store and protect money or valuables
squint	to squeeze eyes half-shut and look at something closely
trading post	a type of store run by traders, where trappers exchange fur pelts for manufactured goods
tomahawk	a light ax used by American Indians