

# *The Long Way Westward*

## *Study Guide*

by Colleen Schreurs

For the book  
by Joan Sandin



CD Version

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**The Long Way Westward**  
A Progeny Press Study Guide  
by Colleen Schreurs  
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PO Box 100, Fall Creek, WI 54742-0100.  
[www.progenypress.com](http://www.progenypress.com)

Printed in the United States of America.

ISBN 978-1-58609-305-1 Book  
978-1-58609-283-2 CD  
978-1-58609-396-9 Set

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## Synopsis

*The Long Way Westward* is the story of a Swedish family's arrival in America during the years of famine in Sweden. The story begins in New York and follows the family across America to their final destination in Minnesota, where many Scandinavian families settled during that time. They are helped along their journey by many other Swedish emigrants. They also encounter some difficulties while learning to adjust to living in a new land.

## Chapter 2

### Vocabulary:

#### *Alphabetical Order:*

When a list of words is in *alphabetical order*, the words that begin with the letter ‘a’ come first, the words that begin with ‘b’ come next, and so forth. For example, the word *emigrant* would come before the word *train*, because ‘e’ comes before ‘t’ in the alphabet. If two words have the same first letter, we look at the second letter. For example, the word *railroad* would come before the word *rescue*, because ‘a’ comes before ‘e’ in the alphabet. The words in a dictionary are all listed in alphabetical order.

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

On the next page, write the following twelve vocabulary words in alphabetical order. After the words have been put in alphabetical order, look each word up in the dictionary and write down the definition in the space provided. Then write a sentence using the word in the blank labeled “sentence.”

rapped

homestead

swayed

express

brass

expensive

rudely

boarding

local

climate

suits

equal

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**Alphabetical Order**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ definition \_\_\_\_\_

sentence \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ definition \_\_\_\_\_

sentence \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ definition \_\_\_\_\_

sentence \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ definition \_\_\_\_\_

sentence \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ definition \_\_\_\_\_

sentence \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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6. \_\_\_\_\_ definition \_\_\_\_\_

sentence \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_ definition \_\_\_\_\_

sentence \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_ definition \_\_\_\_\_

sentence \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_ definition \_\_\_\_\_

sentence \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_ definition \_\_\_\_\_

sentence \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

11. \_\_\_\_\_ definition \_\_\_\_\_

sentence \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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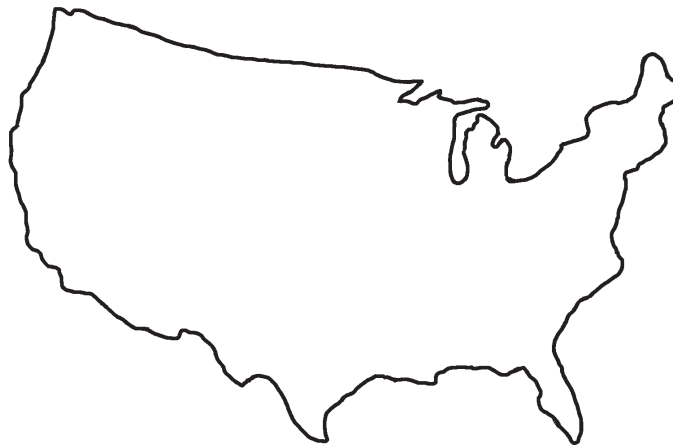
12. \_\_\_\_\_ definition \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

sentence \_\_\_\_\_

**America, A Big Country:**

1. Compare the sizes of Sweden and the United States. How many times do you think Sweden would fit into the United States? \_\_\_\_\_



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



SWEDEN

2. Explain why Jonas said, "Everything is bigger in America." \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



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**Compound Words:**

A compound word is made by joining two words together to create a new word.

Examples: snow + man = snowman  
dog + house = doghouse

Look through Chapter 2 for all the compound words. Write the words in the blanks below.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Find each compound word in the word search puzzle on the next page.

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N F L Y E B G K H Z L N T O M Y  
Q C A L O N G S I D E T R A C K  
S T A R F C D M N E V M B Q L F  
O P C O M Z Y U B O E L C O S R  
M N Q T N L O Y F A R U K L T P  
E D A D W L A U V Z Y Q R U B N  
W P X E E N P N T F T Z B A O K  
H O M E S T E A D S H L A B F G  
E K O M T Y N L T P I T F U Q Z  
R R B D W O O D L A N D S O N C  
E P O R A J G B P Z G Y E R A N  
F H C T R Y F Z L O A N E L O J  
N D O U D X V S I C M R G K F D  
E N Y O L M E V E R Y O N E R U  
T P S G U A M C R Y A C Z Q U R

**Questions:**

1. List several reasons why you think the conductor pushed them rudely out the door of the train. \_\_\_\_\_

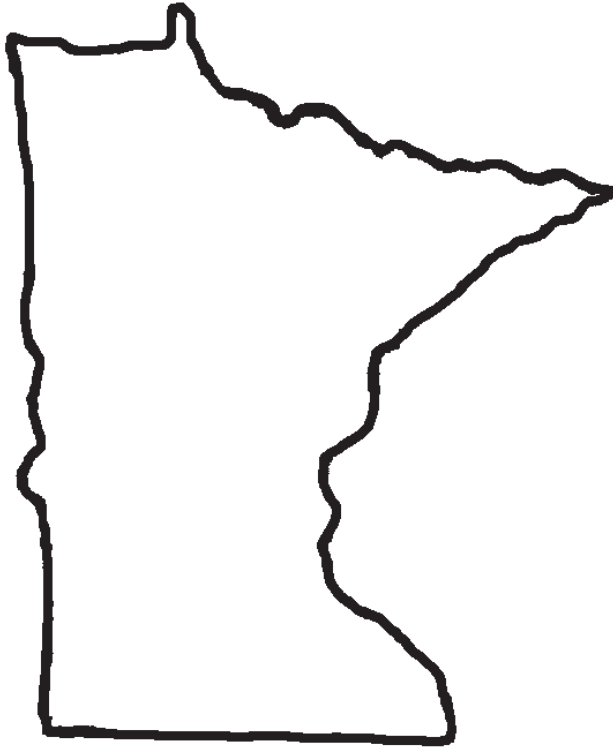
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2. Look up *climate* in a dictionary. Match Minnesota with its climate. Draw a line from Minnesota to the terms that best describe its climate.



- Desert
- Cold
- Tropical
- Arctic
- Sunny
- Snowy
- Rainy
- Seasons
- Volcanoes
- Hurricanes

Pappa makes a statement about the weather in Minnesota. He says, “The climate suits us Swedes.” What does this tell you about Sweden’s climate?

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**Think About It:**

Read the following sentences from Chapter 2:

“In America, everyone is equal. There are no lords or kings.”  
Carl Erik thought about the train with the red plush seats.

3. What do you think Carl Erik’s thoughts are about everyone being equal in America? \_\_\_\_\_

---

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4. Do you think everyone is equal in America? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Dig Deeper:**

5. Read the following Bible verses:

You have heard that it was said, love your neighbor and hate your enemies. But I tell you, love your enemies. Pray for those who hurt you. If you do this, then you will be true sons of your Father in heaven. Your Father causes the sun to rise on good people and on bad people. Your Father sends rain to those who do good and to those who do wrong.

Matthew 5:43–45.

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God does not see the same way people see. People look at the outside of a person, but the Lord looks at the heart.

1 Samuel 15:7b.

Now, in Christ, there is no difference between Jew and Greek. There is no difference between slaves and free men. There is no difference between male and female. You are all the same in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 3:28

What do these verses tell you about equality? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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### *Chapter 3*

#### *Vocabulary:*

Definitions: Answers will vary. 1. a person who takes or picks something out of another person's pocket; 2. people who have recently come to a new place; 3. people who are connected by having come from the same country; 4. a boat that is powered by steam.

Fill-in-the-Blanks: 1. swine; 2. newcomers; 3. steamboat; 4. runners; 5. countrymen; 6. lining; 7. relieved; 8. pick-pockets. Mystery Word: Mississippi. Sentences will vary.

#### *Punctuation:*

1. 13 exclamation marks.

2. Sentences will vary.

#### *Cities and States:*

e, f, b, g, c, a, d.

#### *Questions:*

1. Big Carlson was Swedish like Carl Erik and his family.

2. He protected them, although they were strangers; he gave Mamma a newspaper; he gave the boys something to eat; he helped them find the right train.

3. Answers will vary.

### *Chapter 4*

#### *Vocabulary:*

Roots/suffixes: 1. **chugged** 2. **landing** 3. **echoed** 4. **shyly** 5. **huddled**.

Meanings: 1. b; 2. a; 3. b; 4. a; 5. b; 6. a; 7. a.

#### *After-you-read Questions*

1. Answers will vary. The soil is good for growing. The climate is good. The people have opportunities and are treated fairly.

2. Answers will vary. A piece of candy. An apple. A telephone call. A video/pinball game.

3. Answers will vary. Problems: Finding the right train/train car. Language barrier. Runners and pickpockets. How people helped them: The porter and the railroad agent helped them find the right train/train car. Big Carlson and fellow Swedish immigrants helped them with their language barrier. Big Carlson helped protect them from the runners. Answers will vary.

4. Answers will vary. Find land to build on. Build a new home/farm. Build furniture. Plant crops. Make friends.