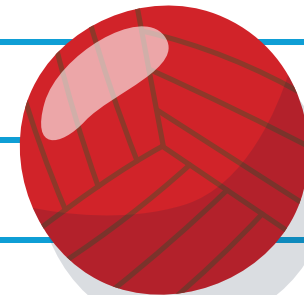
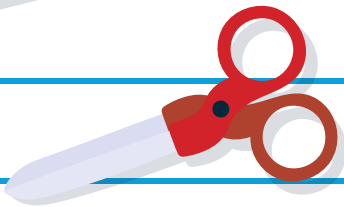
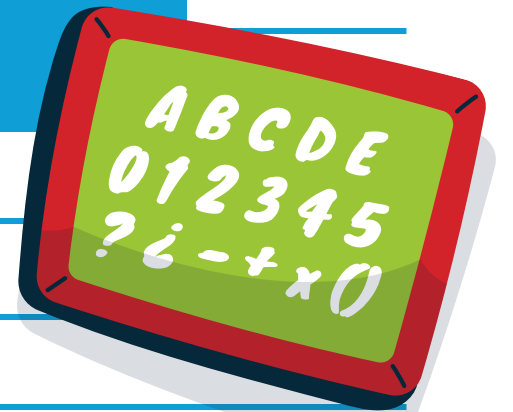
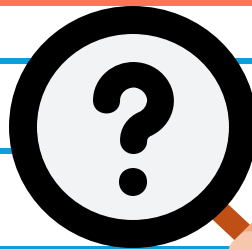




What opportunities might encourage people to leave their homes & move?



INVESTIGATE



Reconstruction Review

The Civil War ended in 1865 & the nation worked to rebuild the South

The 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments expanded rights for African Americans

Americans begin to look west for new opportunities after the war

How do you think the end of the Civil war created new opportunities for Americans?

The End of Reconstruction

Reconstruction ended in 1877 & federal troops left the South

The government begins to focus on western expansion.

Railroads, mining, & farming helped drive settlement of the West.

1.12

The West is Transformed

As a Young Historian, I will be able to...

- Analyze the impact of mining and railroads.
- Explain settlement of the Great Plains.
- Analyze treatment of Chinese immigrants and Mexican Americans.
- Discuss land use and conflicts in the West.

Mining and the Growth of Railroads

The hope of wealth from gold and silver drew many Americans west. Analyze Maps Where were the biggest gold mining regions? How do you think gold discoveries affected migration?

Mining & the Growth of Railroad

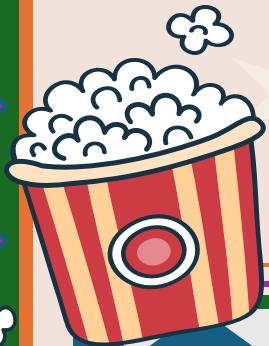
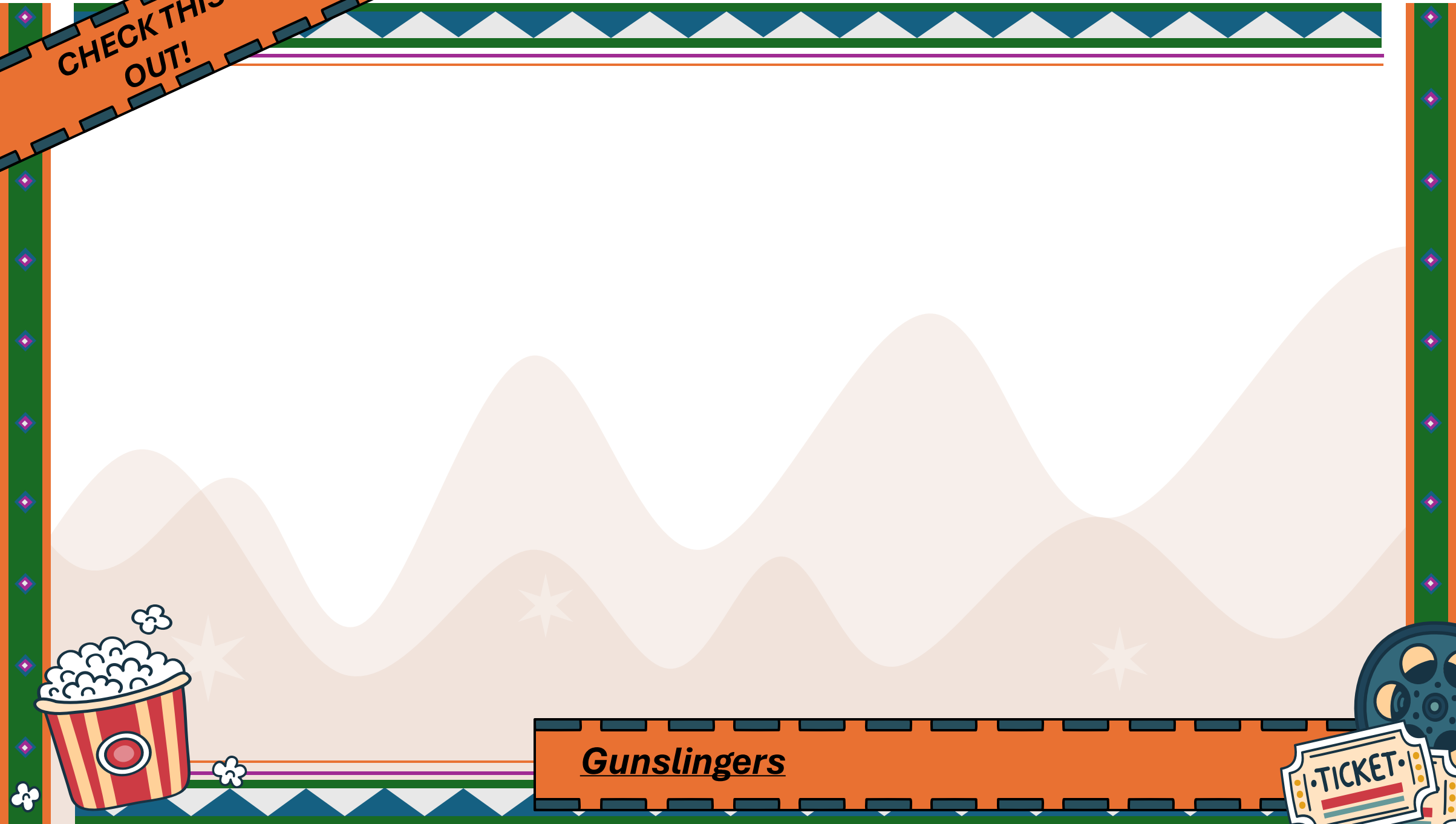
Gold & Silver caused a major spike in settlers heading west. Get rich quick!

Most fortunes went to the merchants who sold goods & soon violence popped up in the region

Vigilantes – self-appointed law enforcers- would try to punish law breakers, such as Wyatt Earp.

Boomtowns would start up, but survived until the gold & silver dried up

CHECK THIS
OUT!



Gunslingers



Mining and the Growth of Railroads

Many boomtowns, such as this one in Leadville, Colorado, were built quickly to accommodate miners in search of minerals.

Big Business & Railroads

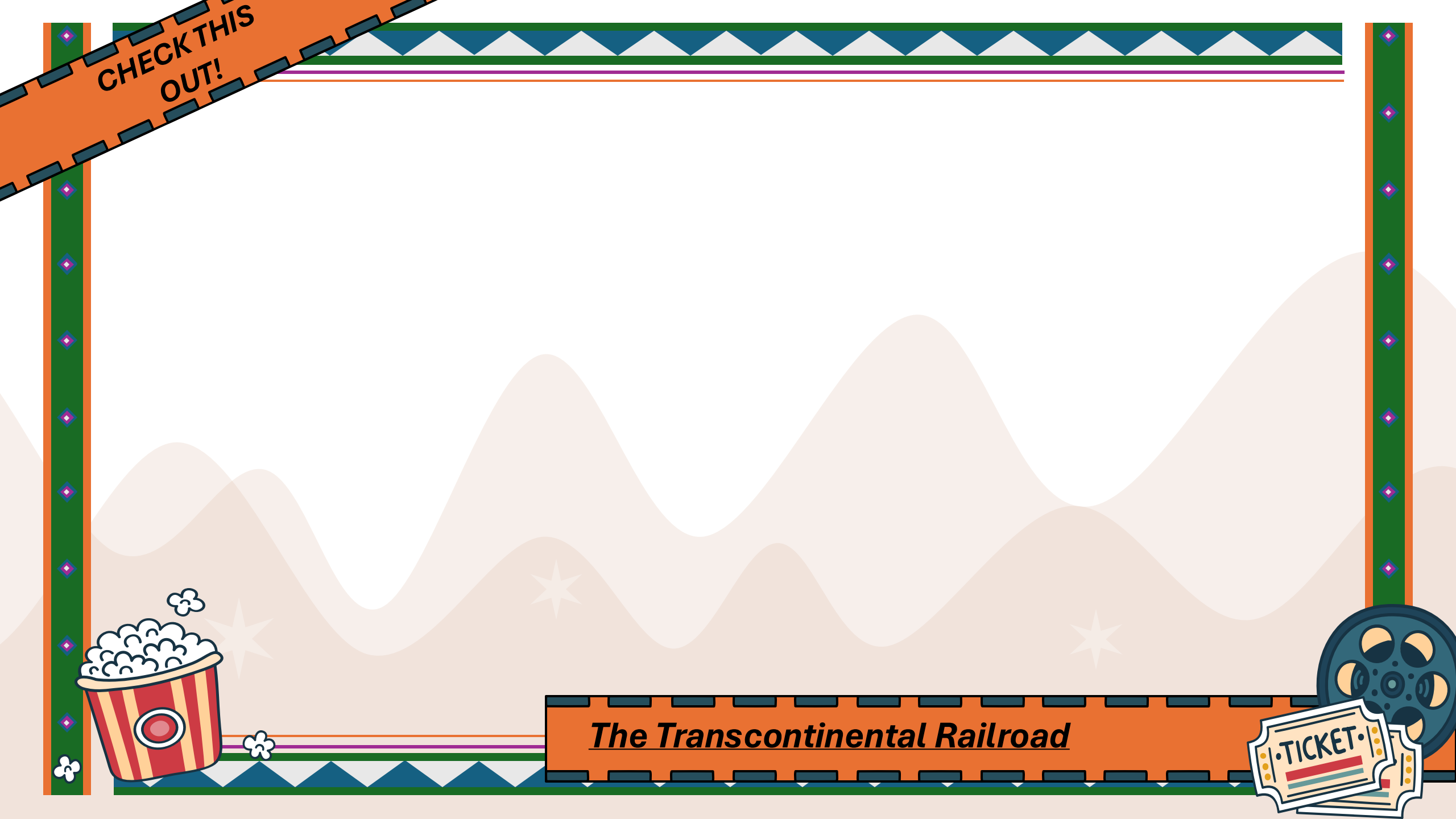
Soon big companies would come in & use advanced mining equipment

The **transcontinental railroad** was developed to connect the east & west

The government would provide railroad companies with **land grants** to help expand

Chinese immigrants completed much of the railroad construction

CHECK THIS
OUT!



The Transcontinental Railroad



Mining and the Growth of Railroads

Analyze Data Based on the dates of admission in this timeline, during which decade did the most population growth in the West probably take place?

Railroads Spur Growth

**Soon the railroads connected the east & west
coasts of America**

**The railroads could move products, people, &
spur industrial development**

**The growth of railroads also grew & developed towns
across the continent.**

**The rail system also allowed for the quick transport of
troops around the region**

IMOW: *Are the railroads still important today?*

The Cattle Industry

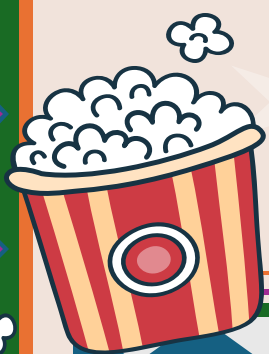
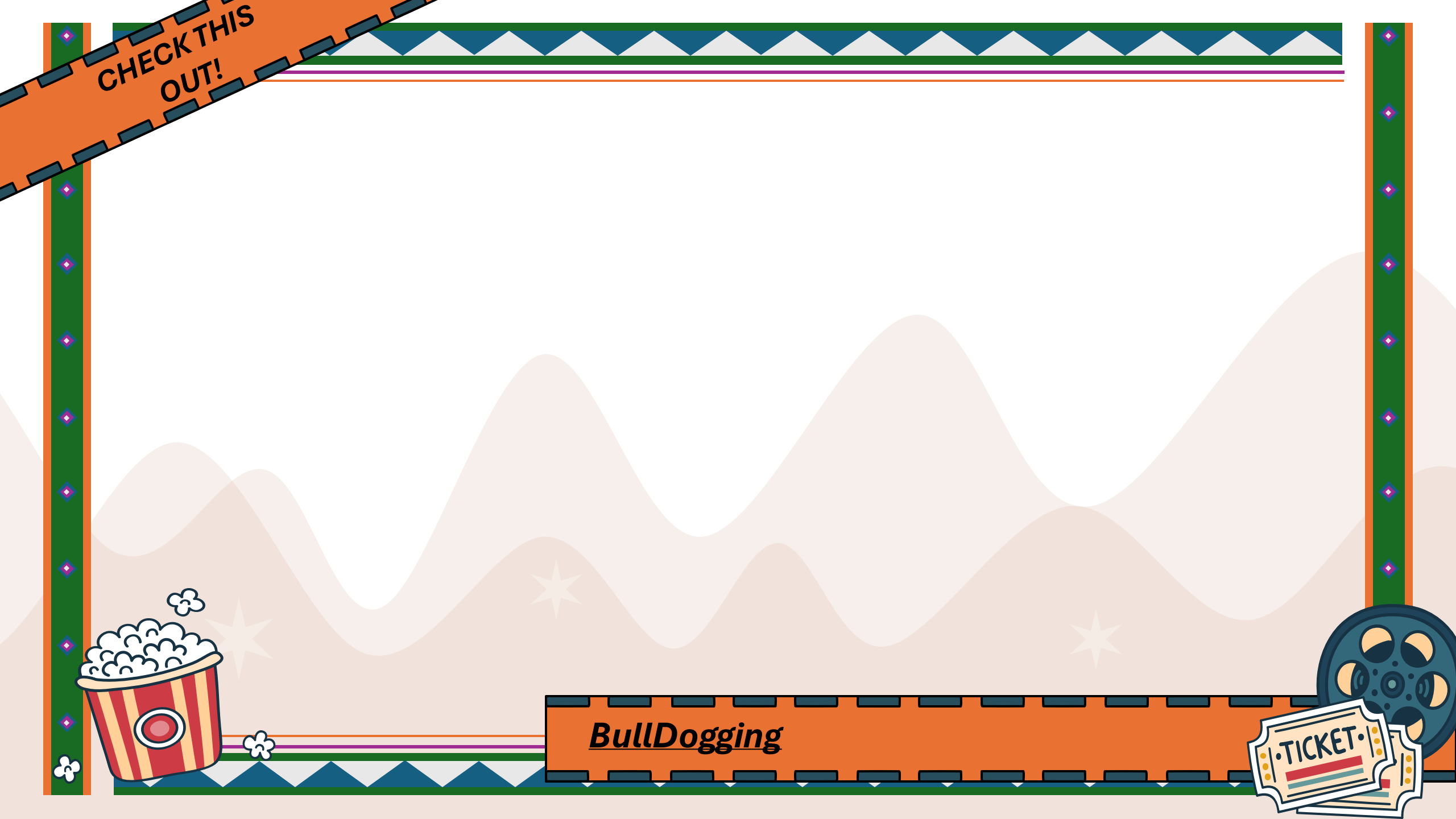
The advent of the railroad also allowed a big boom in the cattle industry

People would brand their cattle & would graze the landscape in an **open-range system**.

Cattle ranchers would hire “**cowboys**” to search the landscape & round up cattle in the spring, trained by Mexican Vaqueros

Barbed wire eventually limited the need for cattle drives & open range ranching.

CHECK THIS
OUT!



BullDogging



The Cattle Industry Boom

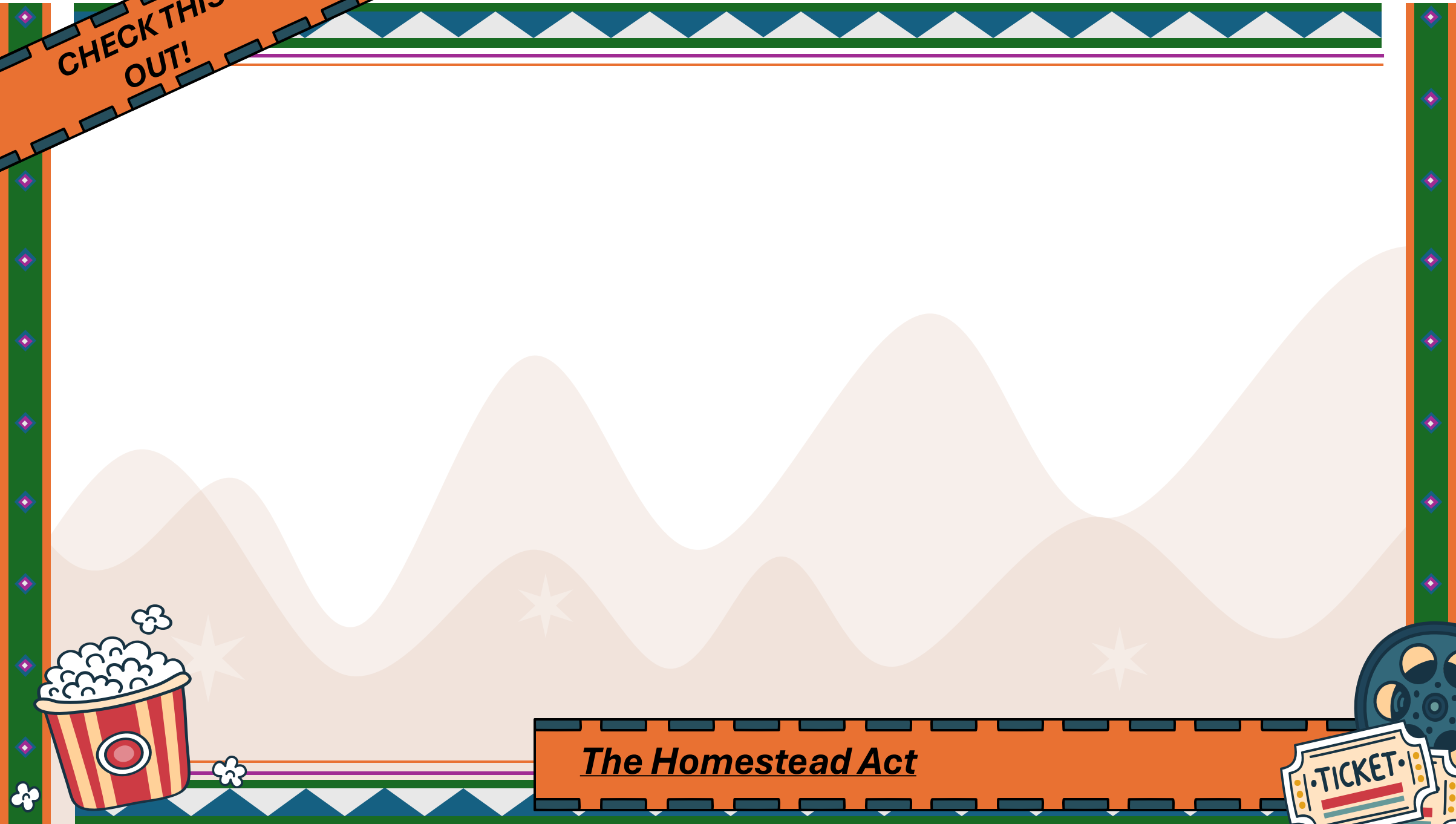
Ranching was an important economic activity throughout much of the West. Analyze Maps How might the physical geography of the West have affected where ranching most flourished?

Settlers in the Plains

Soon people would head west in the hopes for opportunity, especially new immigrants to the U.S.

Homestead Act- Government offered farm plots to anyone willing to live on the land for 5 years, dig a well, & build a road

CHECK THIS
OUT!



The Homestead Act



Settlers in the Plains

Soon people would head west in the hopes for opportunity, especially new immigrants to the U.S.

Homestead Act- Government offered farm plots to anyone willing to live on the land for 5 years, dig a well, & build a road

Exodusters- African Americans who moved west to farm & create all-black towns

Farmers of the plains would use new technologies such as the sod house, windmill, & barbed wire

Farmers Settle the Plains

Analyze Data How did the growth of innovative technology allow the Great Plains to support a larger population and more profitable economic activities?

Struggles and Change Across the West

Immigrants continued to migrate west in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Analyze Graphs Did the percentage of immigrants in the West increase proportionally with the total population?

Minorities Encounter Difficulties

Chinese, Mexican Americans, & African Americans would face issues in the new west.

Chinese immigrants were accused of “stealing jobs” & eventually Congress would create laws that banned immigration

Mexican Americans were pushed off land they owned before war

Las Gorras Blancas- Group of Mexican-Americans who would use gorilla tactics to push back against the government

Struggles & Change

Conflicts between different sub groups would often cause chaos & water was a huge issue

The government would take over natural resources that some communities depended on & charged for their use

Multiple cultures & languages would merge out in the west

Soon society believed that the wild frontier was “tamed.”

IMOW: *How did railroads, mining, ranching, & farming transform the American West?*

