

The Louisiana Purchase, The area to the west of the Mississippi, the Louisiana Territory, was owned by Spain.

- Spain allowed Americans on the lower part of the Mississippi River and trade in New Orleans.
- Vital for western farmers to ship their crops to markets.
- In 1802 Spain changed its policy and closed New Orleans to American trade.

Spain made a secret agreement give Louisiana to France.

- Jefferson authorizes the minister to France to offer as much as \$10 million for New Orleans and West Florida.

Napoleon Bonaparte, had plans to build an empire in the Americas.

- France needed money to pay for a war with Britain, offers to sell the entire Louisiana Territory to the United States for \$15 million.
- Would provide cheap land for farmers and would give the U. S. control of the Mississippi River.

Lewis and  
Clark

- Hired to explore the new territory, both were amateur scientists who had experience with Native Americans.
- A Shoshone woman, Sacagawea, joined their group as guide.

Federalists were  
against the  
Louisiana  
Purchase.

- Afraid that new states that developed in the territory would become Republican.
- A group of Federalists planned to secede, or withdraw from the Union.