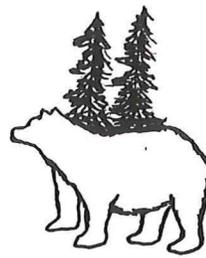


1841- IF YOU WERE THERE...



1. As part of the Wilkes Expedition, you are standing on the deck of the Peacock in the harbor of Norfolk, Virginia. It's a hot summer day in 1838. A huge crowd of well-wishers have gathered to see you off, including President Van Buren and the secretary of the Navy. What characteristics and skills will you need during this four-year adventure to the far reaches of the world? (hint: You will have to become familiar with terms like "Iceberg ahead!" and "Abandon ship!")
2. The term "Manifest Destiny" comes up in many conversations in the 1840s. What does it mean, and how does it relate to you as a crew member of the Wilkes Expedition?
3. You have been put behind the counter at the Fort Nisqually trading post store. Describe some of the merchandise, and how you will conduct business. How is this different than being a check out clerk at Wal-Mart?
4. As a British citizen and Hudson's Bay Company officer at Fort Nisqually in 1841, you are asked to host a number of Americans who are interested in the land around you. Describe how you feel.
5. Going back a little further, to 1833, imagine that you are a Coast Salish Indian. What are your thoughts as you watch them build Fort Nisqually?
6. After reading the biographies, compare and contrast the lives of Leschi and Queen.
7. Name ten things that you can see in modern-day Olympia that an inhabitant of Cheetwoot saw in 1841. What has disappeared since the early scene?
8. Through a short monologue, talk about your evening meal with a friend as you sit around the campfire out on the peninsula of Cheetwoot.
9. As you arrive at Budd Inlet by canoe and start looking around in 1841, where do you think you'll set up your home? Why?
10. Would you like to have Charles Wilkes' job? Explain.