You’re in the Driver’s Seat

Objectives

Students will:

- Select a route from their school to the Kearns Mansion on a map.
- Determine the mileage of their route using the map scale.
- Calculate how long it will take to travel their route at different speeds.

Student Instruction

Distribute a map to each student. Alternatively, work in teams of two. Tell students: Imagine you are the bus driver for our field trip to the Kearns Mansion. You must find the quickest route from our school to the mansion.

Students find their school on the map. Students find South Temple and G Street, the location of the Kearns Mansion.

Student Activity/Product

Students determine the route they will travel from your school to the mansion. As a class, use the map key to determine how to measure the mileage between two points on the map. Students measure the length of their route and determine its mileage. Students share results with the class.

Tell students that the bus will travel an average of 35 miles per hour between your school and the mansion. Students calculate how long the trip will take on their route.

Tell students that when the mansion was built, people traveled by carriage. Carriages traveled about 8 miles per hour. Walking briskly, a person travels about 4 miles per hour. Eventually, automobiles began replacing carriages. The speed limit for cars in Thomas Kearns’ day was 15 miles per hour. Students calculate how long it would take a carriage, a person walking, and an early automobile to go from your school to the mansion.

Extensions

- Have students investigate what they will see on their route to the Kearns Mansion. Are there any historic buildings or sites that relate to the Kearns Mansion?