Objective:
1. The students will be able to describe the history of Florida’s cattle raising business from 1521 to present day.

Sunshine State Standards Benchmarks:
SS.A.1.2.2 – SS.A.6.2.2 – SS.B.1.2.2 – SS.B.2.2.2 – SS.B.2.2.4

Vocabulary:
pastureland possessed rustling range plains
hammocks unique thresh bedraggled

Suggested Activities:
1. Have the students create a Step Book, chronologically detailing the history of cattle-raising and Cracker cowboys in Florida.

2. Have the students research further cattle-raising in Florida. How is it being done today, as compared to the 1800s? Where in Florida would you find cattle ranches? Does rustling still take place?

3. Ask the students to imagine that they are Cracker cowboys herding cows through Florida in the mid-1800s. Have them write daily journal entries spanning the length of a week, detailing their daily events, surroundings, and feelings.

4. Complete and review FCAT questions.

(Note: Actual FCAT practice passages are written at the students’ independent reading level. These Florida History selections are written at the students’ instructional reading level. Therefore, students should not be asked to complete the questions until after receiving class instruction on the vocabulary and content of the passage. Students should also read the Florida History selection independently before answering the FCAT questions and be permitted to return to the selection for rereading as they answer.)