

# A HISTORY OF **TRAILBLAZERS** A BISON'S TALE



# TRAILBLAZERS

noun trail·blaz·ers \'trāl,blā-zərz\

a person who makes, does, or discovers something new and makes it acceptable or popular

a person or animal who marks or prepares a trail through a forest or field for others to follow



STORY BY DR. JORDON SHARP  
ILLUSTRATIONS BY COLTON SIMMONS CAMPBELL



... and I have an amazing story to tell you about what it means to be a TRAILBLAZER!

There are tons of ways you can be a TRAILBLAZER!

By the way, before you move on, make sure to read the definition on the left.



You see, my ancestors have been blazing  
trails for thousands of years.

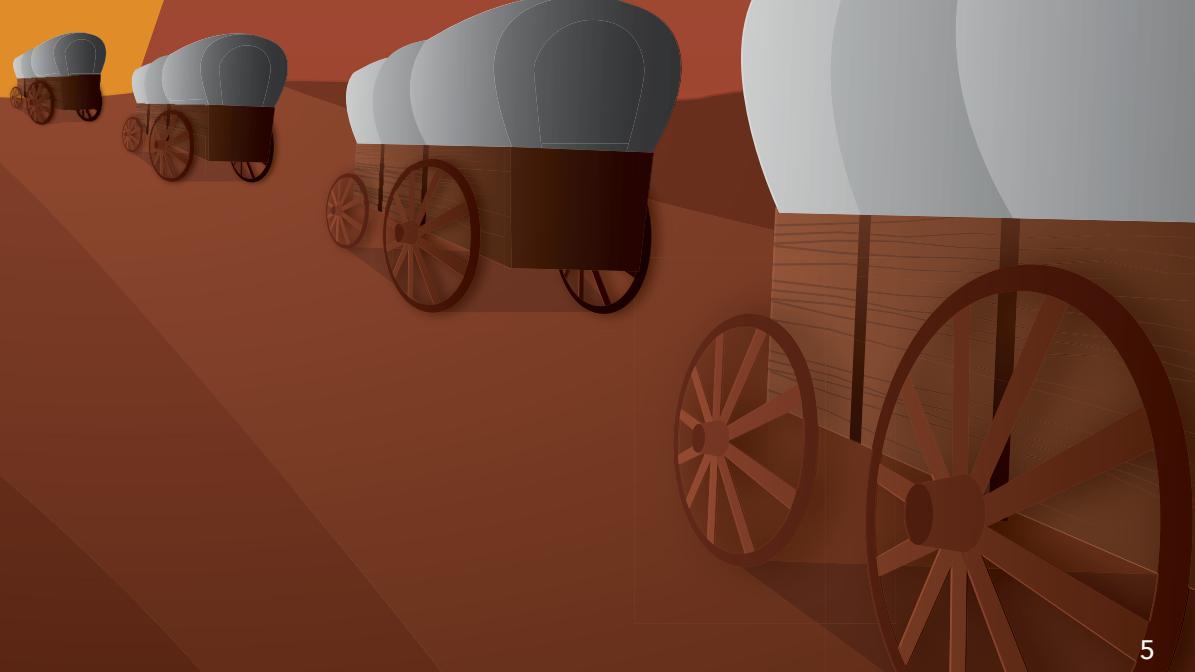
Before roads and highways existed,  
herds of stampeding bison created trails  
all over North America.

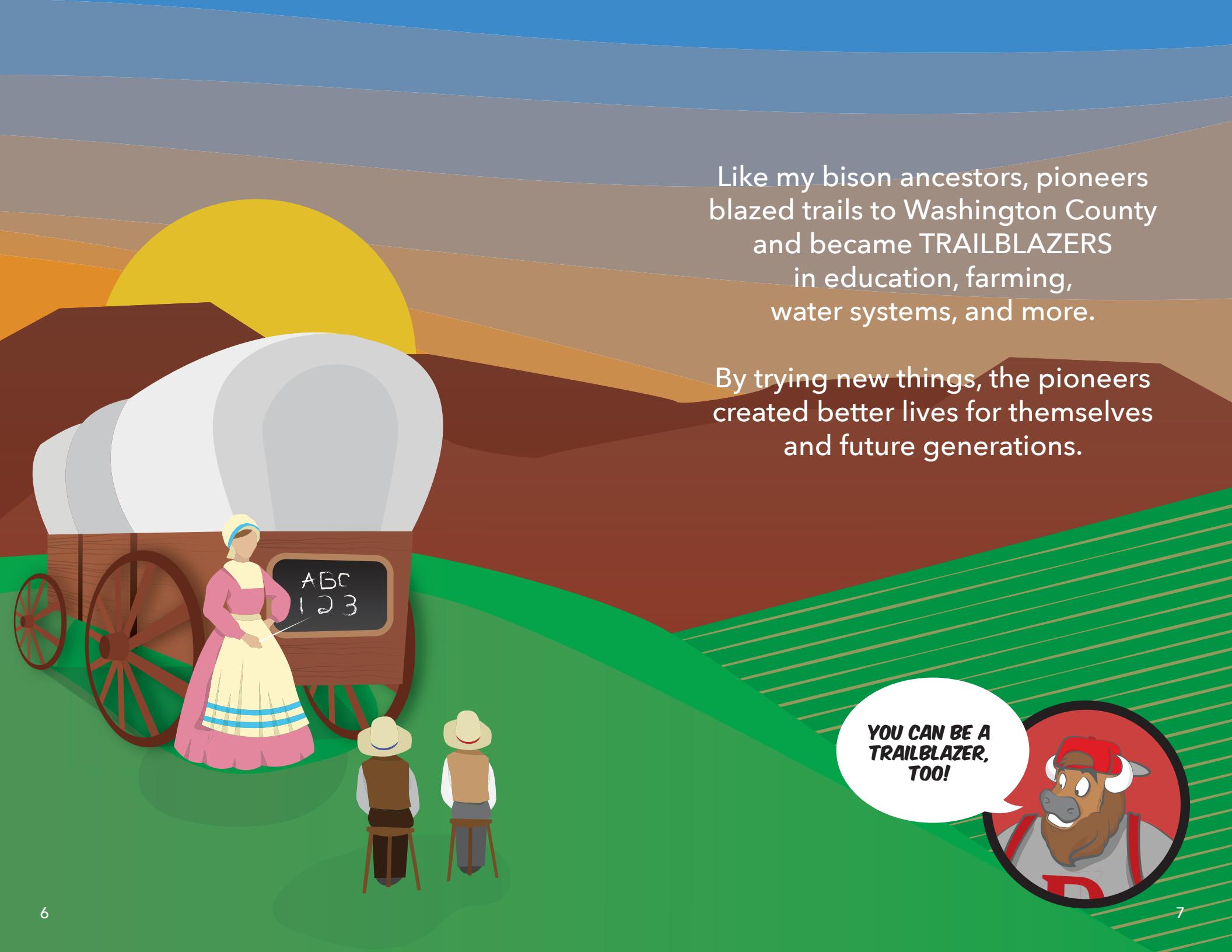


THAT BISON UP  
FRONT IS MY  
GREAT-GREAT-GRANDDAD  
BERNARD.  
HEY, GRAMPS!

Native Americans adopted the bison trails for warpaths and hunting grounds, and pioneers used the trails to migrate across the country.

The bison even paved the way for the first railroad system!





Like my bison ancestors, pioneers blazed trails to Washington County and became TRAILBLAZERS in education, farming, water systems, and more.

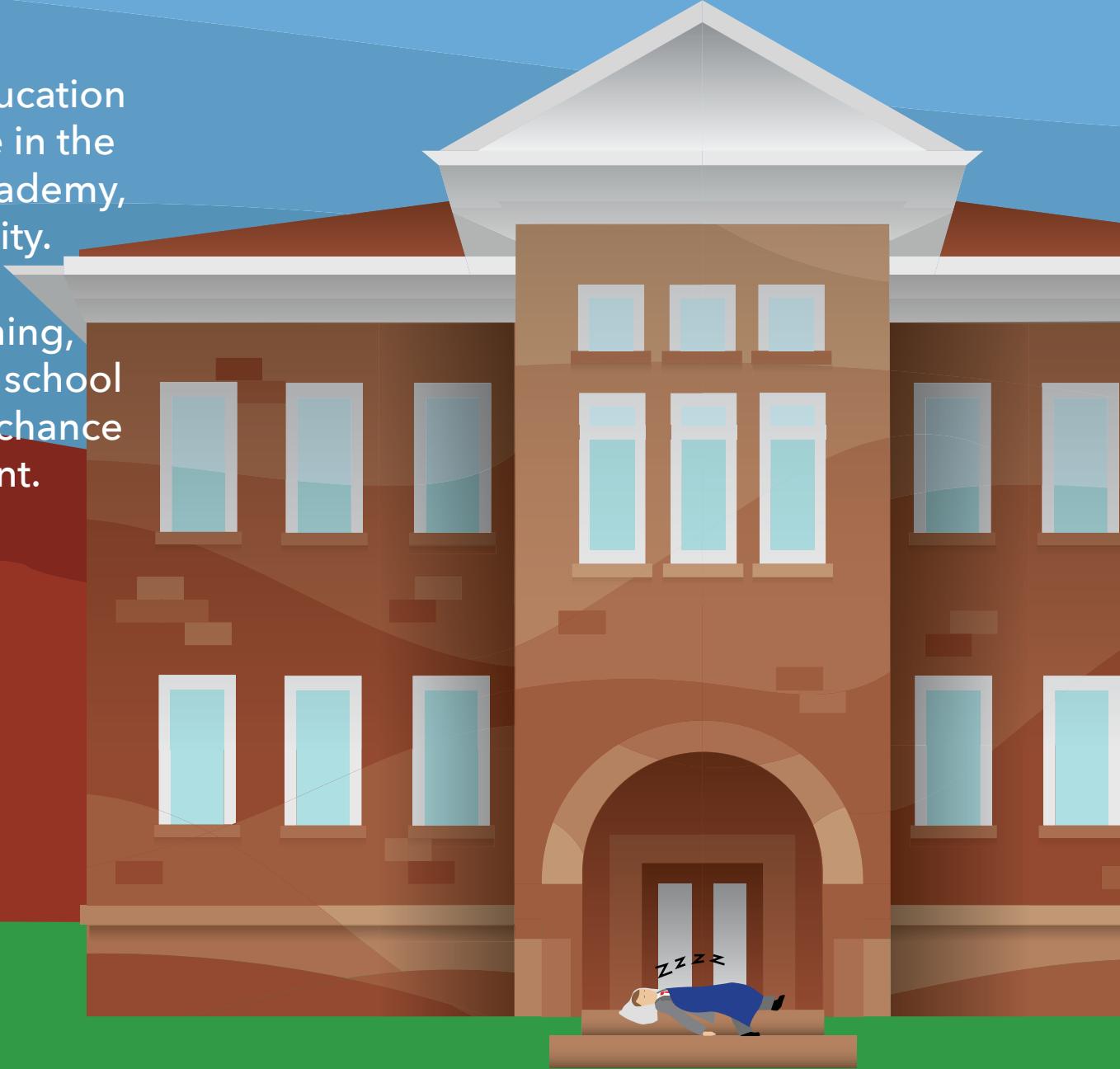
By trying new things, the pioneers created better lives for themselves and future generations.

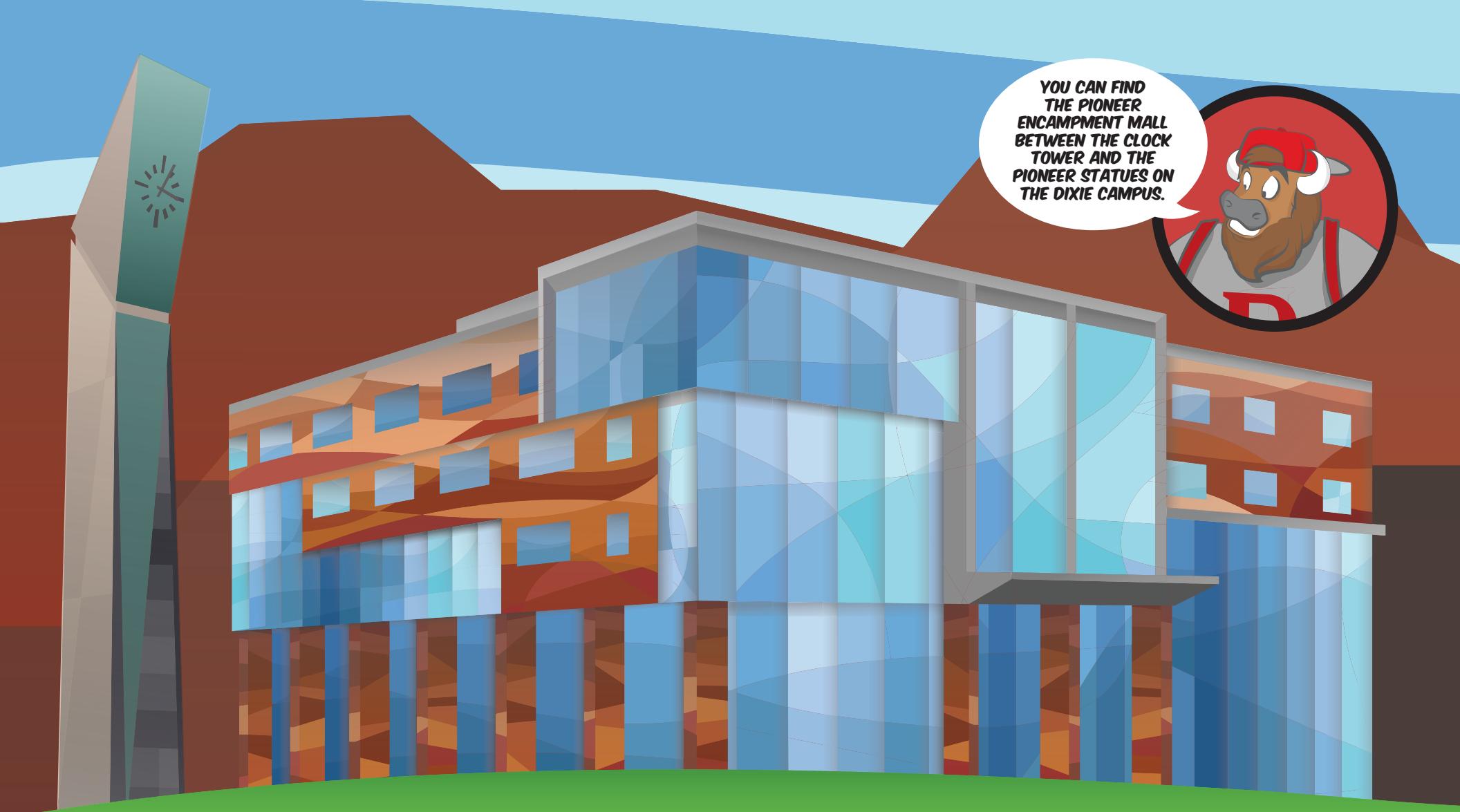


YOU CAN BE A  
TRAILBLAZER,  
TOO!

The early settlers valued education and started the first college in the region, St. George Stake Academy, now Dixie State University.

The night before its opening, Samuel Brooks slept on the school steps, eagerly awaiting the chance to be Dixie's first student.





Dixie State University was built to surround the *Pioneer Encampment Mall* – the exact location the pioneers camped when arriving in the valley.

Today, Dixie State University students, teachers, staff, and alumni blaze trails in medicine, technology, education, business, the arts, and so much more!

Dixie State University is a special place where students come to discover their passions and make the world a better place by trailblazing in many ways, just like my ancestors did so many years ago!



**WHAT  
TRAIL  
WILL YOU  
BLAZE?**

## A FEW FUN FACTS ABOUT **BISON**

- ▀ Bison are North America's largest land animals.
- ▀ The bison is the national mammal of the United States of America.
- ▀ National Bison Day is the first Saturday of November in the United States.
- ▀ Some of the last and only purebred bison in the world are found in the Henry Mountains of Southern Utah.
- ▀ A bison stands 6 to 6.5 feet tall and 10 to 12.5 feet long and can weigh up to 2,700 pounds!
- ▀ A bison's hump is composed of muscle and supported by long vertebrae. It allows the animal to plow through obstacles (perfect for TRAILBLAZING)!

DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY  
**TRAILBLAZERS**<sup>TM</sup>



Dixie State University strives to live our motto of "active learning, active life" by providing engaging opportunities for our students. This children's book was illustrated by Colton Simmons Campbell, a student and intern at Dixie State University, who will graduate with a degree in Integrated Studies with emphases in Graphic Design and English.