

01/21

What is "Wilderness"?

- our definition comes from the culture we're immersed in
- Where do these stories come from? - folk traditions / songs
- Disney
 - NatGeo
 - ideas of what we conquered

Stories Matter

- every idea we have that's outside of culture is produced by culture at a specific time & place. Influenced by current conditions (politics, etc.)
 - all stories are partial, things are left out/emphasized
- Questions: what do dominant stories make visible? Invisible?

1862 - Civil War / Homestead Law passed - Thoreau wrote at this time. ↳ get claims on land to farm

- Homestead Act based on assumption that land of west is unoccupied + ready to colonize.
- Thoreau values nature, worried about all becoming private property