It is 1850 and many Americans are heading west with dreams of becoming rich and finding a better life for themselves and their families. The artist, William Hays, also traveled to the American West in 1860. At this time, there were not many cameras, so artists painted pictures like this one to show people what the land of the West looked like.

It might be a herd of buffalo these prairie dogs hear or the railroad coming through the American west!
The world’s largest prairie lies in North America. The prairie dog is a member of the squirrel family. It is named Prairie Dog because it barks.

A prairie is a region of flat or hilly land covered with tall grasses. Prairie Dogs create tunnels under their villages for sleeping and food storage. Draw what you think the underground of this prairie dog village would be.