

A Walk Through California's History

It has taken hundreds of years for the land of California to develop into what it looks like today.

As we take a quick "walk" through time, imagine what it would be like if you lived in that time period. How would it be different from the California you live in today?

Enjoy!



Pre-1500s: Indigenous People (500 years ago)

MAIN IDEAS:

- First animals and people came from Asia across the Bering Strait**
- Native Americans lived in tribes**
- Our local tribe is the Miwok Nation**



Picture Walk:

Pg. 41

Pg. 50, 57, 65

Pg. 58-59

**Learn more by
reading:
CHAPTER 2**

1500s-1700s: Explorers and Colonization (about 400 years ago)

MAIN IDEAS:

- Spanish Explorers (i.e. Columbus, Cabrillo, Cortez) were the first Europeans to arrive in California**
- Reasons to explore: Wealth, Claim more land for Spain, Spread the Word of God (Christianity), Fame**



Picture Walk:

Pg. 78-79

Pg. 82

Pg. 84

**Learn more by
reading:
CHAPTER 3-
Lesson 1**

1769-1846: Mission Period (about 200 years ago)

MAIN IDEAS:

- Expand Spain's power and wealth by colonizing and setting up the missions**
- Convert Indians to Christianity**
- Introduce Spanish culture to the Native Americans (Agriculture/livestock, tools, language, etc.)**



Picture Walk:

Pg. 98-99

Pg. 100-101

Pg. 106-107

**Learn more by
reading:
CHAPTER 3-
Lesson 3**

1796-1824: Spanish Rule and Mexican Independence (about 200 years ago)

MAIN IDEAS:

- Until now, California was under Spanish rule (New Spain)**
- The people of New Spain won their independence in 1821 and called the new nation Mexico**



Picture Walk:

Pg. 120-121

Pg. 124-125

**Learn more by
reading:
CHAPTER 4-
Lesson 1**

1821-1848: The Rancho Period (about 175 years ago)

MAIN IDEAS:

- The Mexican government closed the missions and gave huge land grants to wealthy families**
- Cattle ranching and trade made some Californio families very wealthy**



Picture Walk:

Pg. 128

Pg. 133-134

Pg. 136-137

**Learn more by
reading:
CHAPTER 4
–Lesson 3**

1826-1850: Early American Settlement (about 170 years ago)

MAIN IDEAS:

- Early American Pioneers began arriving in California to establish settlements (farms, towns, businesses)**
- John Sutter built a fort in the Sacramento area which became a stopping point for pioneers**
- Popular wagon trains: Donner Party, Bidwell-Bartleson Party**



Picture Walk:

Pg. 140 (graph)

Pg. 141

Pg. 144-147

Pg. 156-157

**Learn more by
reading:
CHAPTER 4
—Lesson 4**

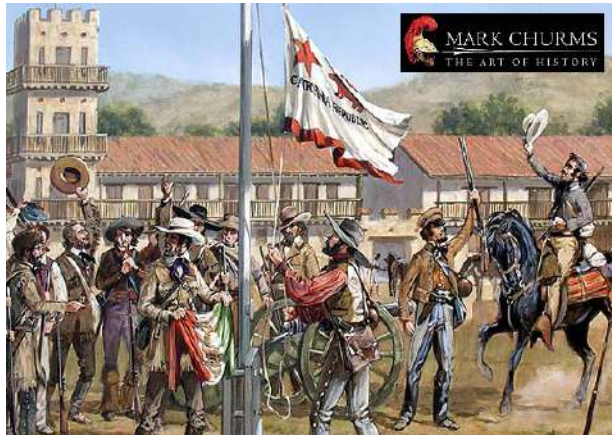
1846-1848: Revolt and War

(about 165 years ago)

MAIN IDEAS:

-In the Bear Flag Revolt, settlers from the United States rebelled against Mexican California (Republic of California)

-The Mexican-American War made California a part of the United States in 1848 (Territory of U.S.)



Picture Walk:

Pg. 162-163

Pg. 164-165

Pg. 168

**Learn more by reading:
CHAPTER 5-
Lessons 1&2**

1848-1854: The Gold Rush

(about 163 years ago)

MAIN IDEAS:

- The discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill in 1848 led to the "Gold Rush"
- Forty-niners took three main routes to California
- Miners used different technologies to mine gold
- Mining was dangerous, hard work with few comforts

Picture Walk:

Pg. 172

Pg. 174-177

Pg. 179-180

Pg. 183

Learn more by reading:
CHAPTER 5-
Lessons 3&4



1850: California Becomes a State

(about 161 years ago)

MAIN IDEAS:

- Some Gold Rush entrepreneurs started businesses that still exist
- Booming business and growing population led to the need for statehood
- Delegates met and established a state constitution
- California joins the Union as a free state on Sept. 9, 1850



Picture Walk:

Pg. 188-189

Pg. 192-193

Pg. 198-199

Pg. 202-203

Learn more by
reading:
CHAPTER 6-
Lessons 1&2

1850-current: Growth of Modern California (About 161 years)

□ So much has happened in the last 161 years...

- Transcontinental Railroad connects CA to the rest of USA
- California's population grows through immigration
- Industry, technology, and agriculture thrive
- 1906 SF Earthquake and fire
- Hollywood/Movie Industry draws in tourism in the 1920's
- The Great Depression forces Midwestern farmers to move to California in search of hope
- The Golden Gate Bridge was completed in 1937
- California and World War II, 1942 (Shipyards, Internment Camps, Government Jobs)
- Civil Rights Movement in CA, 1965 (Cesar Chavez, War Protestors)
- In the 1980s-2000s Silicon Valley develops (i.e. IBM, Apple)

