

Brandon Valley School District  
District Learning Plan  
April 20-24, 2020

Grade 5 Social Studies



## Brandon Valley School District Distance Learning Plan

LESSON/UNIT: Gold Rush!

SUBJECT/GRADE: 5th Grade Social Studies

DATES: April 20-24

<p>What do students need to do?</p> <p><u><a href="#">Link to BV instructional video for week of April 20-24, 2020</a></u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Monday, April 20</b> -- Read the Newsela article: "The California Gold Rush had people racing to get Rich". Answer the 3 questions after reading the article.</li> <li>● <b>Tuesday, April 21</b> -- Examine the Public Domain Pictures of the Gold Miners. Write a short reflection. See instructions on the handout. There are questions on there to help you write your reflection.</li> <li>● <b>Wednesday, April 22</b> -- Gold Rush simulation! Today you will be taking a trip through a gold rush simulation to see if you will strike it rich!</li> <li>● <b>Thursday, April 23</b> -- Gold Rush persuasive poster -- start working on your poster. See handout for all the instructions for the poster.</li> <li>● <b>Friday, April 24</b> -- Gold Rush persuasive poster -- finish your poster. See handout for all the instructions for the poster.</li> </ul>
<p>What do students need to bring back to school?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Public Domain Gold Rush picture reflection</li> <li>2. Gold Rush simulation fate form</li> <li>3. Gold Rush persuasive poster</li> </ol>
<p>What standards do the lessons cover?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 5.E.5.1 -- Describe the role of trading in early U.S. History</li> <li>● 5.H.5.1 -- Summarize how different types of historical sources are used to explain events in the past.</li> <li>● 5.H.3.1 -- Explain why individuals and groups during the same historical period can differ in their perspectives.</li> <li>● 5.H.2.3 -- Identify the key changes leading to and resulting from growth and invention in the U.S. between the Revolution and 1865.</li> </ul>
<p>What materials do students need? What extra resources can students use?</p>	<p>Need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Newsela article: "The California Gold Rush had people racing to get Rich"</li> <li>● Public Domain Pictures of the Gold Miners handout</li> <li>● Gold Rush simulation power point</li> <li>● Gold Rush simulation fate form</li> <li>● blank white printer paper or construction paper</li> <li>● colored pencils, crayons, or markers</li> </ul>
<p>What can students do if they finish early?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Watch CNN10 -- daily student news program -- <a href="https://www.cnn.com/cnn10">https://www.cnn.com/cnn10</a></li> </ul>

Who can we contact if we have questions?	<b>Brandon Valley Intermediate School</b> <b>Principal-</b> Mr. Skibsted- <a href="mailto:Nick.Skibsted@k12.sd.us">Nick.Skibsted@k12.sd.us</a> <b>Assistant Principal-</b> Mr. Pearson- <a href="mailto:Rick.Pearson@k12.sd.us">Rick.Pearson@k12.sd.us</a> <b>Social Studies Teachers:</b> Ms. Klumper- <a href="mailto:Abby.Klumper@k12.sd.us">Abby.Klumper@k12.sd.us</a> (silver team) Ms. Lubinus- <a href="mailto:Michelle.Lubinus@k12.sd.us">Michelle.Lubinus@k12.sd.us</a> (red team) Ms. Farnen- <a href="mailto:Lindsey.Farnen@k12.sd.us">Lindsey.Farnen@k12.sd.us</a> (white team) Ms. Strand- <a href="mailto:Jennifer.Strand@k12.sd.us">Jennifer.Strand@k12.sd.us</a> (blue team)
<b>Notes:</b>	

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***Instructional materials are posted below (if applicable)***

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*Brandon Valley School District*

# The Race to *California* to get **RICH!!**



## California Gold Rush

Just days before Mexico signed the treaty that gave California to the United States after the Mexican-American War, workers were building a sawmill for John Sutter on the American River. One man found some gold nuggets in the water. Most of the workers stopped building and started searching for gold instead. It took awhile for word to spread, but once it did, people began pouring in from all over and the **GOLD RUSH** was on!!

**Monday, April 20 --** Read Newsela Article: “**The California Gold Rush had People Racing to Get Rich**”. Answer these 3 questions listed below after you have read the article. If you are unable to print this page, answer these 3 questions on blank paper.

- **Question 1:** During the Gold Rush \_\_\_\_\_ worth of gold was mined.
- **Question 2:** During 1849 people across the United States set off for California. They were known as ‘\_\_\_\_\_’.
- **Question 3:** On January 24, 1848, \_\_\_\_\_ found the first flakes of gold.

**Tuesday, April 21 --** Public domain pictures -- Gold Miners! You will be writing a short reflection after you have taken some time to examine the pictures on this handout. Please read through the instructions at the top of the handout. There are questions in the instructions for you to think about and will help you write your short reflection.

**Wednesday, April 22 --** Gold Rush simulation! Take a trip back in time to see if you would strike it rich as a gold miner!

Items for you need for the simulation:

1. You will need to get a coin to use during this simulation.
2. You will need the Gold Rush simulation powerpoint slides.
3. You will need the Fate Form for the Gold Rush simulation.

You will then need to read through the slides **one at a time** and **follow the instructions on the slides** to complete the simulation. You can open the powerpoint on the computer or print out the slides to complete the simulation. Use the Fate Form to record your results as you work your way through the simulation. Be HONEST in your answers when working through the simulation! ***HAVE FUN!!***

**Thursday, April 23 & Friday, April 24 --** Gold Rush persuasive poster project!

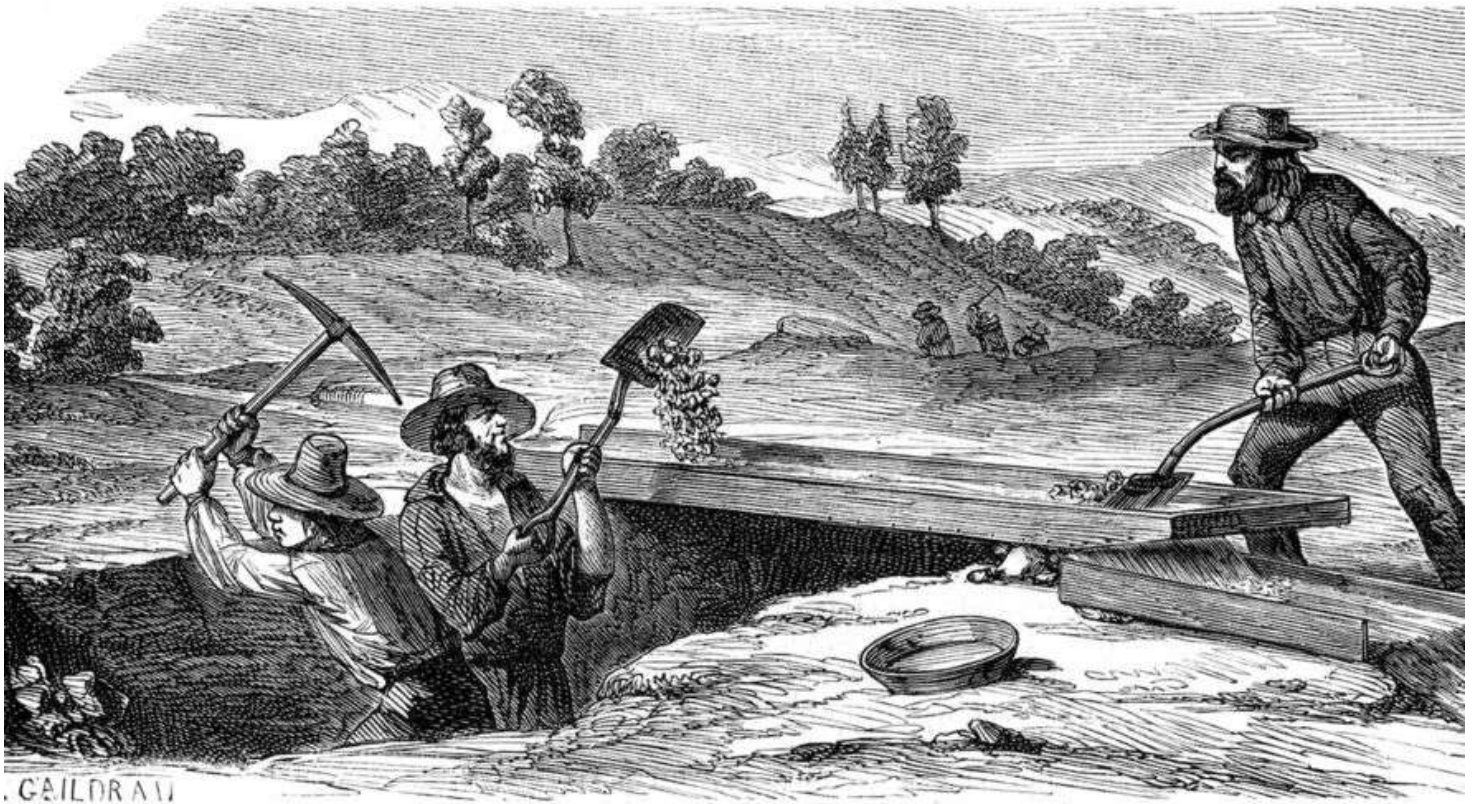
You will be making a poster to try to get people to move west and be part of the gold rush in the hopes of striking it RICH!! See the handout with all of the instructions for the poster and the student examples. Remember the examples are NOT how the poster has to look. They are there to help give you some ideas. ***BE CREATIVE*** and ***PERSUASIVE!!***

# The California Gold Rush had people racing to get rich

By History.com, adapted by Newsela staff on 10.28.19

Word Count **416**

Level **570L**



An illustration of miners at work during the California Gold Rush. Photo by: Photos.com/Getty

The California Gold Rush was one of the most important events in 19th-century American history. It was sparked by the discovery of gold in early 1848. The gold was found in the Sacramento Valley. Soon, thousands of people were rushing to California. They all hoped to strike it rich.

By the end of 1849, big changes had come to California. Compared with two years earlier, there were now a hundred times as many white Americans in the territory. The non-native population reached 100,000.

During the Gold Rush, \$2 billion worth of gold was mined. Mining reached its peak in 1852. After that, it began to drop.

## **Gold Flakes Discovered At Sutter's Mill**

On January 24, 1848, James Wilson Marshall found the first flakes of gold. Marshall was a carpenter from New Jersey. He spotted gold in the American River near Coloma, California. "It made my heart thump," Marshall later said. "I was certain it was gold."

Just days after Marshall's discovery, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was signed. The treaty ended the Mexican-American War. It gave California to the United States. Before then, the California territory belonged to Mexico.

### **News Of Gold Spread Fast**

Word of the discovery of gold soon got out. Excitement built quickly. By mid-June of 1848, three-quarters of the men in San Francisco had gone in search of gold. By August, the number of miners had reached 4,000.

### **California Grew As '49ers Arrived**

During 1849, people across the United States set off for California. They were known as '49ers. By the end of the year, the population of California had grown by almost 100,000. To meet the needs of the '49ers, new towns were set up all over the region. San Francisco grew rich.

At the time, California was not yet a state. The Gold Rush sped up its admission to the Union. California became the 31st state on September 9, 1850.

### **The Fading Gold Rush**

After 1850, the surface gold in California largely disappeared. The remaining gold was buried deep underground. Still, miners continued to arrive. Most did not have much luck. A pick-ax and shovel were no longer enough. Big mining companies soon took over.

Gold mining reached its peak in 1852. In that year, \$81 million in gold was pulled from the ground. After 1852, the yearly total began to drop. By 1857, it had reached \$45 million a year. Yet settlers continued to arrive in California. By 1860, the state's population had reached 380,000.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_



**DAY 2:** Examine the pictures closely. What were working conditions like? Was it an easy job? Did they have proper equipment to mine with? How difficult would it have been to find gold in 1849? Write a short reflection of your thoughts after looking over the pictures provided.

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Day #3

# I Survived

The Gold Rush

SLIDE 1



# Instructions to Play “GOLD RUSH”

- Run off the GOLD RUSH recording sheet of paper or make your own on a sheet of paper.
- Get a coin, Use it as your flipper (BE HONEST)
  - (Heads will be choice 1, Tails will be choice 2)
- **Read the slide, flip your coin, go to next slide to read your fate**
- Record your fate at each stop, there are 5 stops
- See where you end up at the end of your journey to get rich
- Everybody starts on the east coast

GOOD LUCK!

**SLIDE 2**

# Beginning: East Coast Launch

You have just read a persuasive article in the newspaper about the GOLD RUSH in California. You are not able to get a job on the east coast so you decide you are going to venture west and seek your fortune. Why not, there is nothing on the east coast to hold you back! After all, it is only 3,095 miles from Boston to San Francisco!

**FLIP YOUR COIN NOW**

*GO TO THE NEXT SLIDE TO SEE YOUR FATE*

**SLIDE 3**

## Flip #1

**HEADS:** You purchase a wagon and supplies to head west. You are 100 miles into the trip when your wagon wheel breaks down. Your trip is delayed three days because you have to unload your wagon to put on your spare wheel you brought along. You purchase an additional wheel to have as a spare in case another wheel breaks. Reloading the wagon was harder the second time.

**TAILS:** You purchase a wagon and supplies so you can head west. You stop at your first camp site to spend the night. **YOU ARE ROBBED.** All of your food items are gone! You had your money hid, so they did not take everything. You barter with people to get enough supplies to venture on.

**RECORD YOUR FATE**

**SLIDE 4**

## **Your journey continues.....**

While on the road you team up with other families that look like they are safe to travel with. You decide it is smart to travel in a group in case something happens. You are able to travel 10 -20 miles per day depending on the type of terrain or landforms. It is time to stop and make camp.

**FLIP YOUR COIN NOW**

*GO TO THE NEXT SLIDE TO SEE YOUR FATE*

**SLIDE 5**

## Flip #2

**HEADS:** You have a wonderful time with your new traveling companions, you sing songs, and tell stories until bedtime. You feel safe and want to share some of your homemade biscuits with your new friends.

**TAILS:** You are impatient and want to hurry up and get to San Francisco before all the gold is gone. You sneak out of camp during the early hours of the morning to get a head start. You do not trust anyone at this point. In your hurry to leave, you realize you forgot your shovel you used to put out the fire. You are not going back even though you realize the price of a shovel in San Francisco will be 10 times more expensive.

**RECORD YOUR FATE**

**SLIDE 6**



## **Your journey continues.....**

**You have reached the Great Rocky Mountains and you are tired, your horses are exhausted, and food supplies are running low. You have to press on to get over the mountains before winter hits. What will you do?**

**FLIP YOUR COIN NOW**

*GO TO THE NEXT SLIDE TO SEE YOUR FATE*

**SLIDE 7**

## Flip #3

**HEADS:** One of your children become violently ill so your trip over the mountains is delayed for one week. The gold will have to wait. You will have to make shelter and find help for your child, or your child will die.

**TAILS:** You are headed up the pass when you come to a rock slide on the path. You will have to spend 5 days unpacking and repacking the wagon. Each piece of the wagon will need to be hoisted up the side of the cliff over the rock slide.

**RECORD YOUR FATE**

**SLIDE 8**

## **Your journey continues:**

You finally reached your first BOOMTOWN. You are excited to see all of the people, but people are not exactly friendly. Prices are outrageously expensive, there are rowdy people, gunshots are often fired, and people are stealing from one another. You must decide what is next for your family.

**FLIP YOUR COIN NOW**

*GO TO THE NEXT SLIDE TO SEE YOUR FATE*

**SLIDE 9**

## **Flip #4:**

**HEADS:** You need more money because your supplies are running low. You decide to camp outside of the BOOMTOWN to keep your family safe. You work for two weeks at the blacksmith shop creating new tools for miners. You have enough money to journey on. You also received a few new tools from your boss for your hard work. The pickaxe and shovel will come in handy when you strike it rich.

**TAILS:** You decide to camp behind one of the buildings in the new Boomtown. Afterall, it should be safe with all the people around. While you are out looking for new supplies, someone comes and steals your horses. You will need to replace them or you will have to make this crazy city your new home. You spend all your money on new horses and venture on. You must strike it rich.....!

**RECORD YOUR FATE**

**SLIDE 10**

## **Your journey continues.....**

You have finally arrived at the place where James Marshall found gold at Sutter's Mill in Coloma, California. The news of gold brought over 300,000 people from all over the world to California in search of gold. It looks like you will need to find a place to set up your claim. The sooner you are set up, the sooner you will "STRIKE IT RICH".

**FLIP YOUR COIN NOW**

*GO TO THE NEXT SLIDE TO SEE YOUR FATE*

**SLIDE 11**

## Flip #5:

**HEADS:** You have a beautiful spot on the side of the mountain with a stream close by for panning. You are panning for gold when you find beautiful, luxurious gold pieces in your pan. You are careful not to make a big deal because that will alert robbers. You bag the gold and take it to town only to find out it was “FOOL’S GOLD. You are flat broke and must go back to Boston to live with your aunt.

**TAILS:** Your claim proved to have a healthy vein of gold in the side of the mountain. You quietly take your huge chunk of gold to the bank. “YOU STRUCK IT RICH”. You build a mansion in San Francisco and live happily ever after.

**RECORD YOUR FATE** and answer the question at the bottom of the fate form.

**SLIDE 12**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

## DAY 3 -- Fate for Gold Rush Simulation

*Record your answers by circling your fate!!*

**Starting Point: Boston**

**First coin toss - Stop One: Circle One**

Heads (wagon broke down) or Tails (robbed)

**Second coin toss - Stop Two: Circle One**

Heads (make new friends) or Tails (sneak out early)

**Third coin toss - Stop Three: Circle One**

Heads (your child is ill) or Tails (rock slide ahead)

**Fourth coin toss - Stop Four: Circle One**

Heads (earn money) or Tails (horses are stolen)

**Fifth coin toss - Stop Five: Circle One**

Heads (fool's Gold) or Tails (strike it Rich!)

After going on your simulation to "STRIKE IT RICH" what do you think would have been the **most difficult** part of your trip? What do you think would have been the **best** part of the 3,095 mile trip? **(Use capital letters, punctuation, and complete sentences)**

**Most difficult part of your journey:**

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**Best part of your journey:**

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## Days 4 and 5

### Checklist for Gold Rush Advertisement Poster

*Grab some typing paper, notebook paper, construction paper, or the inside of a cereal box*

*On the paper create an advertisement that persuades people to go to California to seek their fortune. Advertise all of the good qualities of mining for gold in sunny California.*

**Pick at least 5 items from the checklist below to create your poster!**

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Where are you leaving from and where are you headed?

(Examples: Boston to California OR St. Joseph, Missouri to California)

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Gold was found in Coloma, California

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. Year = 1849

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Type of transportation offered (boat, wagon train, stagecoach, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. Create your own company name

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. How much will the trip cost? And how long will it take? (Again this will depend upon where you leave from and what mode of transportation you decide upon)

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. A catchy saying or phrase to advertise your company or place of travel

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. Draw or sketch a picture to help with your advertisement (gold nuggets, gold mine, gold mining tools, California, stage coach, boat, wagon train... etc.)

### Remember:

You have two days to work on this; be creative, neat, and thoughtful.

Check your spelling, capitalize proper nouns, and make sure it makes sense to the reader

Check out the samples for fonts and creative expectations.

POSTER EXAMPLES:

