



The "Gosh Awful!"

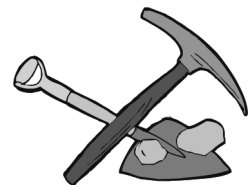
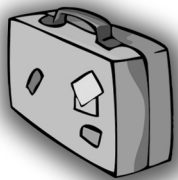
GOLD RUSH

Mystery

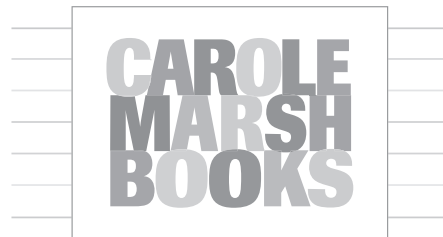


Teacher's Guide

by
Carole Marsh



Editor: Connie Crawley • Art & Design: Colin Tidwell



GALLOPADE
INTERNATIONAL



P.O. Box 2779 • Peachtree City, GA 30269
Tel: (800) 536-2438 • Fax: (800) 871-2979
email: orders@gallopade.com
www.gallopade.com

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#1 THE MYSTERY OF BILTMORE HOUSE

#2 THE MYSTERY AT THE BOSTON MARATHON

#3 THE MYSTERY OF BLACKBEARD THE PIRATE

#4 THE MYSTERY OF THE ALAMO GHOST

#5 THE MYSTERY ON THE CALIFORNIA MISSION TRAIL

#6 THE MYSTERY OF THE CHICAGO DINOSAURS

#7 THE WHITE HOUSE CHRISTMAS MYSTERY

#8 THE MYSTERY ON ALASKA'S IDITAROD TRAIL

#9 THE MYSTERY AT KILL DEVIL HILLS

#10 THE MYSTERY IN NEW YORK CITY

#11 THE MYSTERY AT DISNEY WORLD

#12 THE MYSTERY ON THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

#13 THE MYSTERY IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS

#14 THE MYSTERY ON THE MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI

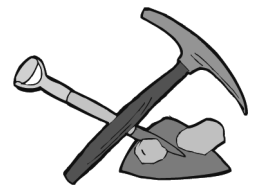
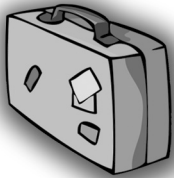
#15 THE MYSTERY AT THE KENTUCKY DERBY

#16 THE GHOST OF THE GRAND CANYON

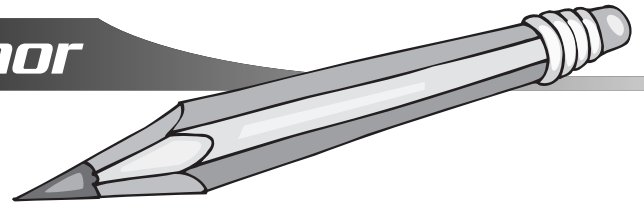
#17 THE MYSTERY AT JAMESTOWN

#18 THE MYSTERY IN CHOCOLATE TOWN, HERSHEY, PENNSYLVANIA

#19 THE "GOSH AWFUL!" GOLD RUSH MYSTERY



A Word from the Author

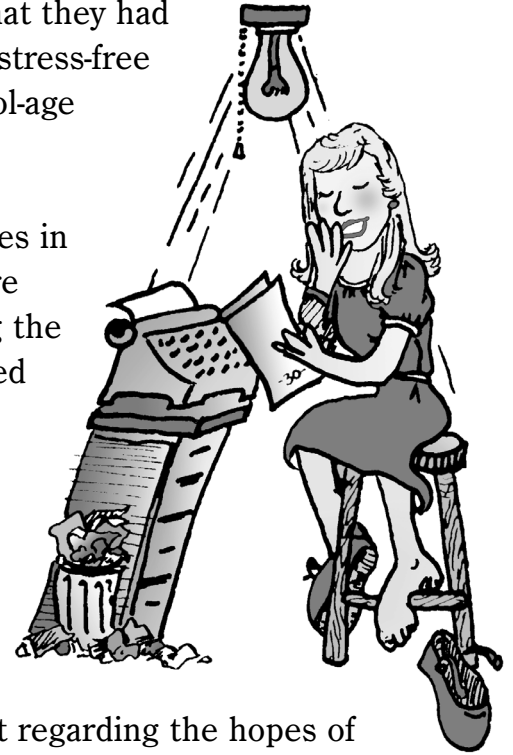


Dear Teachers,

In 1979, I began writing children’s mysteries set at historic sites that still existed—primarily so that kids could go and see what they had read about. Frankly, I found no more fun, educational, and stress-free (actually, just plain joyful!) activity to do with my then school-age children than to visit a fascinating historic site!

The Gold Rush era is one of the most fascinating times in American history. People just dropped everything they were doing to travel thousands of miles and take a shot at finding the big golden nugget that would set them for life! After I visited the fantastic new Klondike Gold Rush Museum in Seattle, I just had to write a book to share this incredible adventure tale with young readers.

It was amazing for me to read the real words of mothers and their children who went on the dangerous trek to Alaska in search of gold. There is a load of history for children to learn, and many things to think about regarding the hopes of “getting rich quick.” Plus, I don’t think we would have had blue jeans if there had been no Gold Rush—now that would have been a disaster!

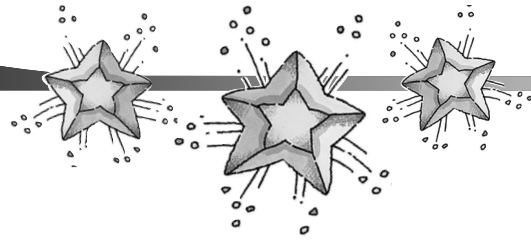


Enjoy your adventure into the quest for gold!

Carole Marsh



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The "Gosh Awful!"
GOLD RUSH
 Mystery

30 YEARS
 AGO . . .

As a mother and an author, one of the fondest periods of my life was when I decided to write mystery books for children. At this time (1979) kids were pretty much glued to the TV, something parents and teachers complained about the way they do about video games today.

I decided to set each mystery in a real place—a place kids could go and visit for themselves after reading the book. And I also used real children as characters. Usually a couple of my own children served as characters, and I had no trouble recruiting kids from the book's location to also be characters.

Also, I wanted all the kids—boys and girls of all ages—to participate in solving the mystery. And, I wanted kids to learn something as they read. Something about the history of the location. And I wanted the stories to be funny.

That formula of real+scary+smart+fun served me well. The kids and I had a great time visiting each site and many of the events in the stories actually came out of our experiences there. (For example, Papa and I really did visit the Klondike Gold Rush Museum and were fascinated by a big grainy photo of prospectors struggling up the Chilkoot Trail!)

I love getting letters from teachers and parents who say they read the book with their class or child, then visited the historic site and saw all the places in the mystery for themselves. What's so great about that? What's great is that you and your children have an experience that bonds you together forever. Something you shared. Something you both cared about at the time. Something that crossed all age levels—a good story, a good scare, a good laugh!

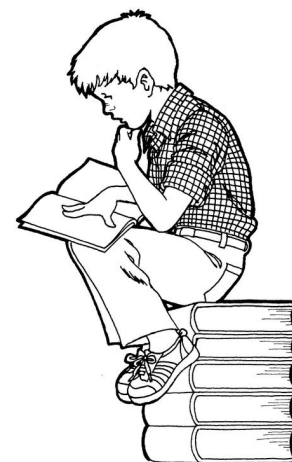
30 years later,

Carole Marsh




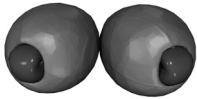
Golden Books!

- 📖 *Fever!: Tales from the California Gold Rush* by Rosalyn Schanzer
- 📖 *Gold Rush!: The Young Prospector's Guide to Striking It Rich (For the Junior Rockhound)* by James Klein and Michael Rohani
- 📖 *Children of the Gold Rush* by Claire Rudolf Murphy and Jane G. Haigh
- 📖 *Gold (Rocks, Minerals, and Resources)* by Ron Edwards and James Gladstone
- 📖 *Gold Rush: History-Hands On* by Robynne Eagan
- 📖 *Gold: From Greek Myth To Computer Chips* by Ruth Kasinger
- 📖 *They Saw the Elephant: Women in the California Gold Rush* by Jo Ann Levy
- 📖 *The Gold Seekers: Gold, Ghosts, and Legends from Carolina to California* by Nancy Roberts



Chapter Subject

EXPLORE!

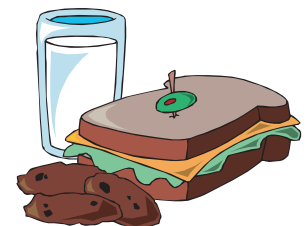
- | | | |
|---|------------|---|
| 1 | Legal | To “inherit” something is to receive it, usually through a will after someone dies. |
| 1 | Aviation | A tarmac is an airport runway. It is usually paved with tar or a tarry substance known as tarmac. |
| 1 | Geography | Leg 1: Peachtree City to Dahlonega
The driving distance from Peachtree City to Dahlonega is about 96 miles. As the crow (or <i>Mystery Girl</i>) flies, it is only about 86 miles. |
| 1 | Geography | Peachtree City is a community in Georgia. It is about 30 miles southwest of Atlanta. |
| 1 | Geography | The Georgia State Capitol building is often called the “Golden Dome.” In 1958, the citizens of Dahlonega presented the state with a gift of gold. The gold was made into thin sheets to cover the capitol dome. The gold dome is a reminder of the days of the gold rush. |
| | |  |
| 1 | Aviation | Air traffic controllers organize the flow of airplanes into and out of an airport. |
| 2 | History | Dahlonega, Georgia was a boom town during the Georgia Gold Rush, with about 15,000 miners searching for gold. The Dahlonega Mint produced gold from 1838-1861. |
| 2 | Food | A pimento is a large, red, heart-shaped pepper. Pimentos are the red stuffing that you see in green olives. Pimentos, and other kinds of peppers, are important Georgia crops. Pimento cheese sandwiches are a Southern delicacy. |
| | |  |
| 2 | Legal | A will is a legal document where a person declares what they want to happen to their belongings when they die. |
| 2 | Literature | Edgar Allan Poe’s story, “The Gold Bug,” was written in 1843. It is a mystery about a Southern gentleman who is bitten by a bug he believed to be pure gold. He then finds a secret message written in invisible ink and sets off on a search for lost treasure. |
| 2 | Language | The term “went bust” means that someone lost all his money. |
| 2 | Symbolism | The term “Lady Luck” is a personification, a figure of speech that describes non-humans as having human traits. When someone is having good luck, it is said that “Lady Luck is smiling on them.” |



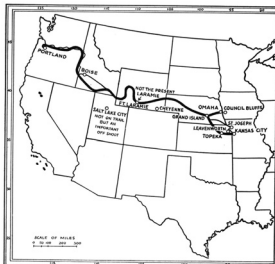
Make some Sandwiches

Try this Recipe for Pimento Cheese and Egg Salad Sandwiches!

- 1 (3-ounce) package cream cheese, room temperature
 - 2 cups grated sharp cheddar cheese
 - 1/2 cup mayonnaise (or more)
 - 1/4 cup chopped pickles
 - 4 to 5 hard-cooked eggs
 - 1 small jar of diced pimentos, drained
 - 1 tbsp. grated onion
 - salt & pepper to taste
1. With an adult, beat cream cheese with an electric mixer until smooth and fluffy.
 2. Add all of the remaining ingredients and beat until well blended.
 3. Spread on bread for delicious Southern sandwiches!



- 3 Language Having “papers to prove it” means having the documentation needed to prove a point.
- 4 Geography Leg Two: Dahlenega to St. Louis
The driving distance from Dahlenega to St. Louis is about 520 miles. As the crow (or *Mystery Girl*) flies, it is about 448 miles.
- 4 Geography St. Louis, Missouri is known as the “Gateway to the West.” It is located along the Mississippi River.
- 4 History James Marshall worked at John Sutter’s sawmill in Coloma, California. On January 24, 1848, he found several flakes of gold. Sutter asked the mill workers to keep the discovery a secret, but the secret was not kept for long and the Gold Rush began!
- 4 Language Have you ever watched a bee at work? To “make a beeline” means to head straight for something, like a bee at work.
- 4 Vocabulary To be “conservative” means to be cautious about accepting change.
- 4 History The treasure hunters who traveled to California to search for gold in the year 1849 were called the “forty-niners.” This definition expanded to include any prospector searching for gold in the 1800s and 1900s.
- 4 Geography -Bellingham is in Whatcom County, in the state of Washington. It is about 90 miles north of Seattle, and next to Bellingham Bay, a part of the Strait of Georgia.
- 4 Vocabulary A “utopia” is a perfect place or society.
- 4 Writing Imagine what it would be like to attend school in a utopia. Write a paragraph describing a perfect school.
- 4 Feelings Have you ever lost something important? How did you feel when you realized it was missing?
- 5 Aviation When an air traffic controller gives an airplane permission to land, the plane is said to have been “cleared to land.”
- 5 Aviation A “hangar” is a large building where airplanes are kept or repaired.



History of Gold

For thousands of years, gold has been used to make art, jewelry, and coins. All the gold in the world is only equal to about 120,000 tons. Put together, the gold would make a cube measuring about 60 feet by 60 feet by 60 feet—about the size of four average-size houses. Compare this to the fact that about 250,000 tons of steel is produced every day in the U.S.!

Gold coins are one of the oldest forms of money. The first gold coins were used in Lydia, in what is now Turkey, in about 560 BC. Most countries stopped making gold coins for use as money by 1933. Today, gold coins are used as an investment because gold continues to be valuable over time.

Gold has come to symbolize wealth and power. It is valuable both because of its beauty and because it is so rare.



5 Transportation

The “Conestoga wagon” was named after the Conestoga River Valley of Pennsylvania where the wagon was first made. The wheels of a Conestoga wagon could be removed so that the wagon could float across rivers. Because Conestoga wagons looked something like boats, they were also known as “prairie schooners.”



6 Law

A police report is a record, written by a police officer, of something that happened. A police report is the first step of a police investigation.

6 Geography

Leg 4: Bellingham to Sutter’s Mill
The driving distance from Bellingham to Sutter’s Mill is about 890 miles. As the crow (or *Mystery Girl*) flies, it is about 690 miles.

6 Food



Sourdough pancakes are made from a sourdough bread starter. Sourdough was very popular in California during the Gold Rush. In fact, gold prospectors in California were sometimes referred to by the nickname “sourdough.”

6 Vocabulary

A spiel is a long-winded talk.

6 Feelings

Why did the kids become discouraged when they didn’t find gold right away? Do you think the forty-niners also became discouraged?

6 Writing

An onomatopoeia (pronounced on’-nuh-mat-uh-p?’-a) is a word that imitates the sound it represents. Examples of onomatopoeia are hiss, buzz, slosh, and splat. Make a list of other examples of this kind of word.

6 Economics

The tour guide told the children that things were often expensive during the Gold Rush. Some of the prices he mentioned were eggs for \$5 each, and butter for \$6 per pound. Are these prices higher or lower than prices today? Why were the prices so high?

6 Vocabulary

Something that is said “genially” is said in a kind, pleasant way.

6 Language

Sometimes a person who is new at a sport or an activity performs in a better-than-expected way. It is thought that because they do not feel the pressure to perform well, they are relaxed and do well. This is known as “beginner’s luck.”

6 Vocabulary

A “vial” is a small glass bottle.




Gold Mine Names

Miners chose some colorful names for their mines. Check out the names of these real gold mines!

- ▲ Lost Angel Mine – California
- ▲ Turkey Pen Mine – Georgia
- ▲ Deadman’s Gulch – California
- ▲ Last Chance – California
- ▲ Chicken Creek – Alaska
- ▲ Haunted Bar – California
- ▲ Lost Peg Leg Claim – California
- ▲ Dead Jack – Colorado
- ▲ Free Jim Mine – Georgia
- ▲ Last Hope – California
- ▲ Haunted Canyon – Arizona
- ▲ Last Resort – California
- ▲ Rattlesnake Mine – New Mexico
- ▲ Lost Anna – Colorado
- ▲ Lost Parrot Mine – California
- ▲ Green Monster Mine – Arizona
- ▲ Broken Foot Mine – Alaska
- ▲ Bear Gulch – Alaska
- ▲ Crazy Mountain Mine – Alaska
- ▲ Lost Treasure Mine – California
- ▲ Graveyard – Arizona
- ▲ Good Luck Gulch – Alaska
- ▲ Ghostmine – California
- ▲ Grizley Bear Claims – Alaska
- ▲ Hardluck Creek – Alaska
- ▲ Mystery Creek Mine – Alaska

If you had a gold mine, what would you name it?



- 7 Geography Geography Leg 5: Sutter’s Mill to San Francisco
The driving distance from Coloma, where Sutter’s Mill is located, to San Francisco is about 136 miles. As the crow (or *Mystery Girl*) flies, it is about 114 miles.
- 7 Engineering The Golden Gate Bridge is a suspension bridge across the Golden Gate, the opening into the San Francisco Bay from the Pacific Ocean. The bridge connects the city of San Francisco to Marin County, and is a part of US Highway 101 and California State Highway 1.

- 7 History Alcatraz Island, also known as “The Rock,” is a small island in the middle of San Francisco Bay in California. Alcatraz has been the site of a lighthouse, a fort and a federal prison but is now a recreation area. Because of its location in the cold San Francisco Bay, there was never an escape from Alcatraz Prison.
- 7 Word Usage A “claim” is a legal right to land.
- 7 Vocabulary “Unscrupulous” means having no ethical principles, morals, or values.
- 7 History During the Gold Rush, when a prospector started looking for gold on another prospector’s claim, he was called a claim jumper.
- 7 Language The term “dog-eat-dog” means rough or vicious.
- 7 History San Francisco’s Chinatown is a busy place with many shops and restaurants. Chinatown was built by Chinese immigrants during the Gold Rush, destroyed during an earthquake in 1906, and rebuilt.
- 8 Vocabulary Being “curt” means to speak in a short or abrupt way.
- 8 Communication Why did Mimi speak curtly to Christina? Why wasn’t it a good idea for Christina to speak loudly enough to let the whole store know that Mimi had inherited a gold mine?
- 8 Law “Stalking” is following, watching, or contacting someone in an unwanted way. Every state in the U.S. has laws against stalking.
- 9 Geography Leg 6: San Francisco to Seattle
The driving distance from San Francisco to Seattle is about 808 miles. As the rented airplane flies, it is about 680 miles.


The Trail of Tears

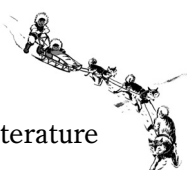
When gold was discovered in North Georgia, prospectors began searching for gold on Cherokee land. Cherokee land was considered valuable because of the possibility that it contained gold, so it was forcibly taken from the Cherokees and other Native Americans.

In 1830, Congress passed the Indian Removal Act. Although many people argued against it, including the frontiersman Davy Crockett, it was signed into law. In 1838, soldiers began invading the Cherokee Nation. Men, women, and children were taken from their land and forced to march 1000 miles in terrible conditions to reservations in Oklahoma. About 4,000 Native Americans died during the forced march. The Cherokee people call this time *Nunna daul Tsuny* or “the trail where they cried.”



- 9 Famous Places The Space Needle is an important Seattle landmark. It was built for the 1952 World's Fair and is 602 feet tall. When it was first completed, it was the tallest building west of the Mississippi River.
- 9 Geology Mt. Rainier is a dormant volcano in Washington, about 90 miles southeast of Seattle. Mt. Rainier's elevation is 14,410 feet and its peak is often covered with snow. The last eruption was in the mid 1800s. While there are not signs of an imminent eruption, experts believe that Mt. Rainier will erupt again.


- 9 Vocabulary The "disposition of a will" is a process in which the issues and problems in a will are settled.
- 9 Fun & Games Since the beginning of history, people have had to scavenge, or hunt, for food. Today the term "scavenger hunt" usually means a game or race to find items on a list. Have you ever been on a scavenger hunt?


- 9 Literature "Mystery on Alaska's Iditarod Trail" by Carole Marsh was first published in 2003. It is the story of twelve nuggets of gold, six sick dogs, four c-c-cold kids, too many miles and one wild & scary ride!
- 9 History Dawson City, Yukon is in Canada's Yukon Territory, near where the Klondike River flows into the Yukon. It is the site of the world-famous Klondike Gold Rush. In 1896, three Yukon prospectors found gold in Rabbit Creek, near Dawson City. Their discovery led to the world's greatest gold rush stampede. Nearly 100,000 people headed for the Klondike gold fields.
- 10 Language To "keep a weather eye" is an idiom, or idiomatic expression that originated with sailors. It means to watch carefully.
- 10 Famous Places The Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park in Seattle features the adventures and hardships of the Gold Rush. Other units of this international park include the Klondike Gold Rush Historical Park in Skagway, Alaska and the Chilkoot Trail National Historic Site and Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site in Canada.
- 10 Geography The Yukon is one of three Canadian territories. It is located in the northwestern corner of Canada.
- 10 Famous Places The Chilkoot Trail is a 33-mile trail through the Coast Mountains from Dyea, Alaska, to Bennett, British

Sing a Miner's Song

You've probably heard the song, "Oh! Susanna." It was written in 1848 by Stephen Foster, and became a nationwide hit. This is the song's chorus:

Oh, Susanna!
Oh, don't you cry for me
For I'm goin' to Louisiana
With my banjo on my knee.

During the Gold Rush, the popular song was given new lyrics and became known as the forty-niners' theme song.

49er Lyrics:

Oh, Susannah!
Oh, don't you cry for me.
I'm going to California
with my washpan on my knee.

I came from Salem City
with my washpan on my knee

I'm going to California,
the gold dust for to see.



It rained all night the day I left,
the weather it was dry
The sun so hot I froze to death,
Oh, brothers don't you cry.

I soon shall be in Frisco
and there I'll look around.
And when I see the gold lumps there,
I'll pick them off the ground.

I'll scrape the mountains clean, my boys,
I'll drain the rivers dry.
A pocketful of rocks bring home,
So, brothers don't you cry.



Columbia. It was a main route from the coast to Yukon gold fields in the late 1890s. The Golden Stairs is a long, difficult hill just before the Chilkoot Pass where prospectors carved steps into the snow and ice.

- 10 Vocabulary "Unrelenting" means to do something without giving up.
 - 10 Vocabulary "Menacingly" means acting in a threatening way.
 - 11 Language The phrase "dry diggings" means that there is no gold to be found.
 - 11 Geography Leg 7: Seattle to Dawson City
The driving distance from Seattle to Dawson City is about 1985 miles. As the crow (or *Mystery Girl*) flies, it is only about 1,430 miles.
 - 11 Speculation How did the man know that Mimi was looking for the Gold Bug? What did he mean when he said "any gold news travels fast?"
 - 11 Behavior Do you believe that the man actually put a little gold dust in the children's hot chocolate? Why or why not?
 - 11 Language The word "dubious" has several meanings. In this example, "Mimi looked dubious," dubious means to be unsure about what is going to happen. Think of a time when you were dubious. Can you make a facial expression that shows you are dubious?
 - 11 Vocabulary "Austere" means to be plain and without luxury.
 - 11 Superstitions Many people are superstitious about the number 13, believing it to be unlucky. The number 13 is often avoided in public buildings. Some buildings do not have a 13th floor, and refer to the floor after 12 as 14. How do you think Mimi and the kids feel about staying in Room 13 in the Dead End Hotel?
- 
 - 12 Vocabulary "Quirky" means odd or strange. Mimi and the kids thought the bellman was quirky because of the strange way he acted.
 - 12 Crime An "intruder" is someone who is unwelcome—usually because he or she does not belong there.
 - 13 Vocabulary Something that is "rickety" is about to fall apart.
 - 13 Culture The meal in the hotel was served "family style." This means that people sit together at a large table and pass around large containers of food, instead of ordering individually.
- 



Make a Model of a Conestoga Wagon!

Build your own Conestoga Wagon by following the directions below.

Materials:

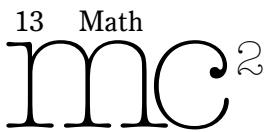
- ❖ shoebox with lid
- ❖ pipe cleaners
- ❖ white fabric or white bulletin board paper
- ❖ tacky glue, tape, stapler
- ❖ brown or black paint

Instructions:

1. Paint the shoebox or cover it with paper to hide the words.
2. Twist two pipe cleaners together so that you have one long pipe cleaner. You will need to make six of these. They will be the frame holding the fabric. The shoebox will be the wagon bed.
3. Tape or staple a long pipe cleaner to the inside of the long side of the box. Bend it up and over the box and attach it to the inside of the opposite side. Do the same with the other five pipe cleaners. Space them evenly.
4. Cut the fabric or paper so that it is the same length as your shoebox, but twice as wide.
5. Put glue on one of the pipe cleaners. Then, carefully line up the fabric and place it on the gluey pipe cleaner.
6. Put glue on the other pipe cleaners and cover them with the fabric or paper.
7. When the glue is dry, cut off any extra fabric or paper.
8. Cut 4 wagon wheels out of the cardboard lid and attach them to your Conestoga Wagon. You may want to provide a template for the wheels so they will not be too large or too small.

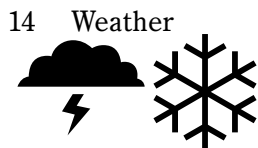


- 13 Language The phrase “never knew a stranger” means that someone is very friendly and will talk to anyone. Do you agree that Grant is the kind of kid who “never knew a stranger?”
- 13 Vocabulary To be “intrigued” by something means to be very interested in it.
- 13 Vocabulary “Mosey” means to walk in an unhurried way. When the miner said that most folks just moseyed home, he meant they took their time going back to where they’d come from. Do you ever mosey?
- 13 Culture The term “melting pot” refers to a blend of different cultures that combine to form a new culture in the same way that different cheeses melt together to form a new and delicious blend.



- 13 Math When the miner said, “Or at least we’re the grandkids of the moms and dads who were forty-niners,” he was saying that the miners’ grandparents were gold prospectors. Do this math problem to find out how old the miners were in 2007 if they were born while their parents lived in the Yukon area in 1930. $2007 - 1930 =$

- 14 Family A long-lost relative is a term for a relative who hasn’t been seen in a long time. It is an idiom. Do you have any long-lost relatives?
- 14 Math Asking “What are the odds?” is the same as asking, “What is the probability?” “Probability” is the likelihood that an event will occur.



- 14 Weather Thundersnow is a rare weather condition in which thunder and lightning are accompanied by snow instead of rain. One interesting aspect of thundersnow is that the snow quiets the noise of the thunder. You might be able to hear a thunderstorm when it is 4 or 5 miles away but thundersnow is usually not heard until it is only a mile or two away.

- 15 Vocabulary “Embers” are the small pieces of glowing material from a dying fire.
- 15 Vocabulary When something seems “ominous,” there is a feeling that something bad is going to happen.
- 15 Feelings The kids felt “surrounded” when one man went into room 12 and one man went into room 14. Have you ever felt surrounded? Was it a good feeling?

Idioms

An idiom is a fun figure of speech. It is a word or phrase that has a meaning that is not related to the individual words. This means that sometimes the meanings of idioms can be tricky to figure out, especially for people who are just learning the language! There are several idioms in The “Gosh Awful!” Gold Rush Mystery including “gold fever,” “dog-eat-dog,” and “went bust.”

See if you can match these idioms with the correct meaning.

1. He’s a real penny-pincher.
 2. She’s the apple of my eye.
 3. I’m having a bad hair day.
 4. Break a leg!
 5. That baby is as cute as a bug’s ear!
 6. She got up on the wrong side of bed today!
 7. Hold your horses!
 8. You’ve been running around here like a chicken with its head cut off.
 9. It’s time to put on your thinking cap.
 10. It’s been raining cats and dogs all day!
- a. think carefully about something
 - b. something or someone that is very special
 - c. wake up in a grumpy mood
 - d. raining hard
 - e. someone who is thrifty
 - f. wait
 - g. running around in a crazy way
 - h. messy hair
 - i. Good luck!
 - j. small and adorable



- 16 Safety Was it a good idea for Grant to attack the men who came into their room? Why or why not? What do you think Grant should have done instead?
- 16 Vocabulary A silhouette is a dark shape, surrounded by light. When everyone froze “silhouetted in the flashlight” it means that only their shapes could be seen against the light.
- 16 Language The word “petrified” has several meanings. It can mean to be “frozen” with fear. It can also mean that something alive has been turned into a mineral or stone. When the author writes, “Petrified, the two men stopped and turned,” which meaning makes sense?
- 16 Language An idiom is a word or phrase that has a meaning not related to the individual words. Long Tom said that his granddaddy “put a bug in his ear.” What did Long Tom mean? Did the grandfather actually put a bug in his ear?
- 16 Invention A “long tom” was a long wooden box on rockers that was open at one end and closed at the other. Teams of miners worked together using a “long tom” to search for gold. One miner would shovel dirt into the long tom, a second miner poured water over the dirt, and a third miner rocked the big box to sluice out the water and dirt, and (hopefully) expose the gold.
- 16 Vocabulary Someone who is “addled” is confused.
- 16 Vocabulary To have “audacity” means to be bold, daring, or disrespectful.
- 16 Irony Irony is a type of humor in which something happens that seems to be the opposite of what is expected to happen. It is ironic that the moose head that scared Mimi fell on the disrespectful businessman who broke into her hotel room.
- 17 Crime “Trespassing” is going onto someone else’s property without permission. Trespassing is illegal.
- 17 History “Neither rain nor hail nor sleet nor snow nor heat of day nor dark of night shall keep this carrier from the swift completion of his appointed rounds.” These words are inscribed on post offices in New York, Washington D.C., and other places. Contrary to popular belief, the U.S. Post Office does not have an official motto. However, these words have come to be associated with the mail delivery system.



Make a Silhouette

Silhouettes are fun and inexpensive to make. They make great gifts, too! Tape a large piece of white paper on the wall.

Position a bright light (like a flashlight or a gooseneck lamp) so the light shines directly on the paper.

Have someone sit between the paper on the wall and the lamp so they are directly in the light and the shadow of their head is on the paper. Have the person turn sideways so that his profile can be seen. Try moving the lamp closer or further away until the shadow is the right size.

While the person sits very still, use a pencil to outline the shadow on the white paper.

Carefully cut out the outline and then use it to trace another outline, this time on black paper. Cut out the black outline and mount it on white paper.

Congratulations! You have made a silhouette!



- 17 Science Pyrite is also known as “fool’s gold” because it is sometimes mistaken for gold.
- 17 Vocabulary A “ramshackle” structure is a structure or building that looks like it’s about to fall down.
- 17 Vocabulary To “bilk” someone is to cheat them.
- 17 Legal A “deed” is a signed agreement about ownership of property.
- 18 Vocabulary Eureka is a word that is used to express happiness at discovering something. The word “eureka” is closely associated with the Gold Rush. In Alaska, there is a city named Eureka Creek. There are cities named Eureka in Nevada, California, and Missouri, just to name a few.
- 18 Vocabulary To “cherish” something means to care deeply about it. What do you cherish?
- 18 Aviation Pilots review a pre-flight checklist before takeoff. The list includes checking landing gear, wheels and brakes, power system, fuselage, and interior of the airplane to make sure everything is undamaged and working properly.
- 18 Vocabulary A “secret benefactor” is someone who secretly helps a person or a cause.



Be sure to visit us at
www.carolemarshmysteries.com for more
 exciting adventures!



Don't Be Fooled!


If you find gold, don't be fooled! Pyrite is a mineral that looks a lot like gold with a similar shape and color. So many people have mistaken it for gold that it is known as Fool's Gold.

Here's how to tell fool's gold from real gold:

1. Pyrite often has striations, or ridges, on it.
2. Try a streak test. If you rub real gold on white paper, it leaves a golden or yellow streak. Pyrite leaves a greenish-black streak.
3. Gold is much softer than pyrite. It can be scratched with a paperclip or knife. Pyrite cannot be scratched.
4. If you rub pyrite with a hard object, it has a sulphurous smell like rotten eggs. Gold does not have an odor.
5. If you strike pure gold with a steel hammer, it will flatten without breaking. Pyrite is so hard that it gives off sparks when struck. Pirates knew that gold was soft. They would bite a gold coin to see if it was pure gold. If it was too hard, the pirate would know that it was not pure gold.

One good thing about pyrite is that it is sometimes found near gold deposits. So finding pyrite may mean that gold is near!

Discussion Questions

1. When a prospector started looking for gold on another prospector's claim, he was called a claim jumper. Claim jumpers were hated by the other prospectors. Why did prospectors dislike claim jumpers so much?
2. The forty-niners had to make many hard decisions. For the forty-niners who chose to head overland to Dawson City, one hard decision was whether to make 20-40 trips, with their supplies, up the steep and narrow Golden Stairs of the Chilkoot Trail—or to go take the longer route—the Dead Horse Trail. If you were faced with this decision, which route would you have taken? Why?

3. Why did Mimi give \$20 to the man who put his hand in her purse? Would you have given him money? Do you think it was the right thing to do? Why or why not?
4. If you had lived during the time of the Gold Rush, do you think you would have headed west to seek your fortune? Why or why not? Would you have gone to California, north to the Yukon, or to some other place?
5. Many forty-niners “went bust” during the Gold Rush. They ended up far from home and without any money. Some of them went home to take up their former lives. If you were a forty-niner during the gold rush, but didn't find any gold, would you have gone home?
6. During the gold rush, some of the prospectors gave up on finding gold and started businesses instead—like restaurants, hotels, and stores. Many of them made a good living, or even a fortune, in this way. If you had lived during the days of the Gold Rush, what kind of business do you think you might have started? What kind of businesses would have been profitable at that time?
7. Why didn't anyone in Dawson City want to tell Mimi what they knew about The Gold Bug? Do you think they should have told her?
8. Was Mimi disappointed when she saw The Gold Bug? Would you have been disappointed? Why or why not?

Fingerprints

Plain Arch



Loop



Whirl



You can examine fingerprints just like the police.

You will need:

- pencil and paper
- transparent tape
- magnifying glass

Scribble on a piece of paper until you have a heavy black mark.

Rub your index finger in the mark.

Put a piece of tape over your finger, press down, then pull it off.

Put the tape on a clean piece of paper so you can see your fingerprint.

Examine your fingerprints for loops, whirls and arches. Fingerprint your friends and compare their prints with yours!

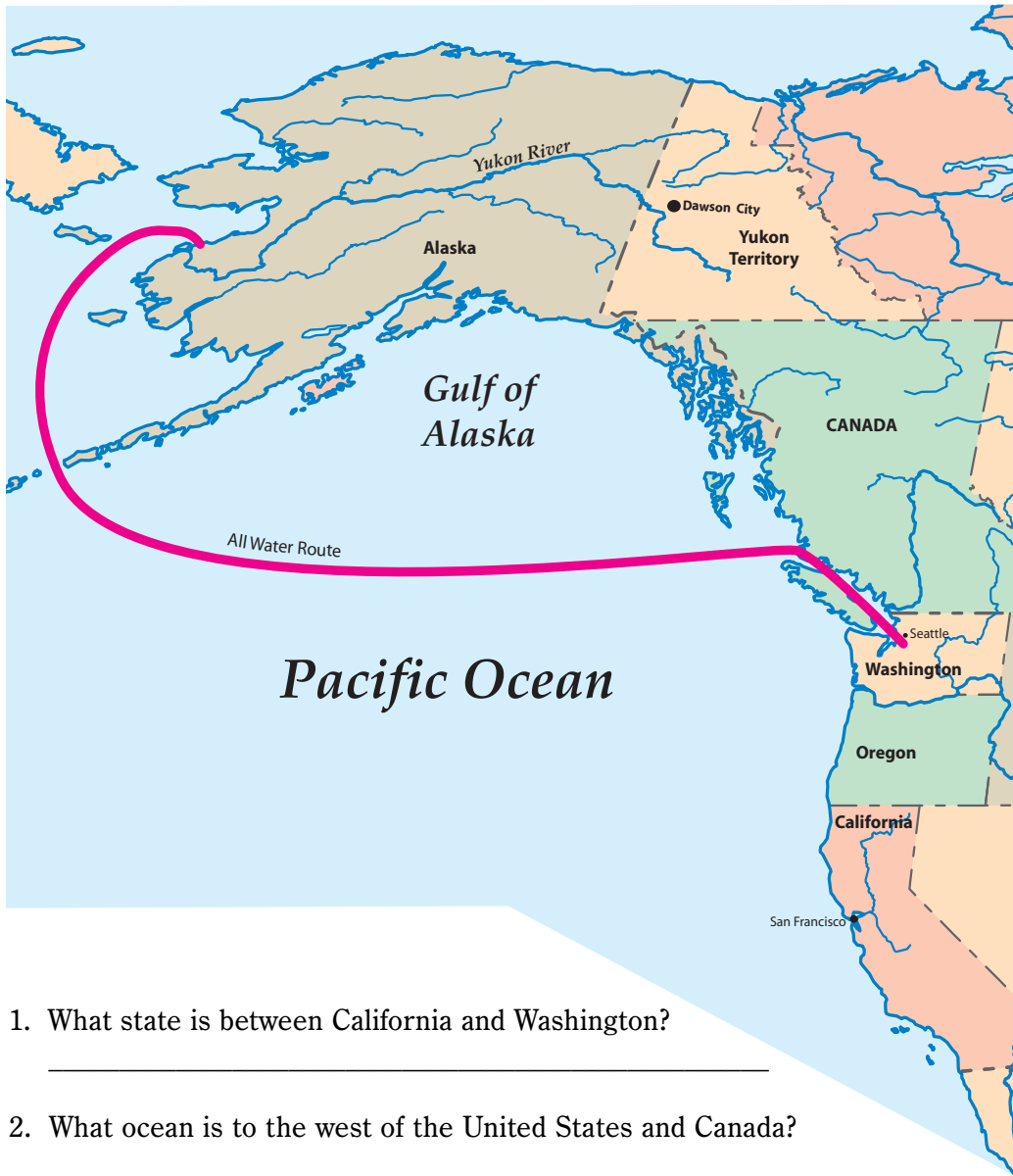
Check out these books for more information on fingerprints!

Fingerprint Evidence
by Barbara B. Rollins
and Michael Dahl

Fingerprints:
Crime-Solving
Science Experiments
by Kenneth G. Rainis



Geography: Find it!



1. What state is between California and Washington?

2. What ocean is to the west of the United States and Canada?

3. What body of water borders Alaska to the south?

4. What is the name of the major river that runs through Alaska and Canada?

5. Is Dawson City in Canada or the United States?

6. Instead of going over land from San Francisco to Alaska, what is another way the forty-niners could have traveled? _____

Golden Facts

- ▲ There are more than 3000 kinds of minerals on earth.
- ▲ Different kinds of minerals join together to form rocks.
- ▲ Most minerals are made up of more than one element but pure gold is made up entirely of gold atoms. Silver, platinum, and copper are also pure elements.
- ▲ Gold is both a mineral and a metal.
- ▲ Gold always looks shiny because it reflects light well. Silver and copper are other shiny metals.
- ▲ Gold is one of the heaviest metals.
- ▲ Gold does not tarnish, or lose its shine. Acids and most other chemicals do not harm gold. Seawater does not harm gold. (Good news for pirates!)
- ▲ Gold has been found in Wales, Italy, Hungary, South Africa, Russia, China, Canada, the United States, Brazil and Australia.



Mathematics: Calculate It!

1. If a miner started panning for gold in 1849 and finally struck it rich 23 years later, in what year did he find gold?

2. The forty-niners paid a high price for the things they needed. Using these 1849 prices, how much would a miner pay for the items on this shopping list added together?

1 pound of butter (\$6 per pound)

1 loaf of bread (\$2 per loaf)

4 eggs (\$5 each)



3. After the *Mystery Girl* was stolen in Bellingham, the adventurers flew in a rented plane from Bellingham to Sutter's Mill (691 miles), to San Francisco (114 miles), to Seattle (680 miles) to Dawson City (1430 miles). How many miles did they fly in the rented airplane?

4. The driving distance from Bellingham to Sutter's Mill is about 890 miles. As the crow (or *Mystery Girl*) flies, it is about 690 miles. How many more miles is the driving distance than the flight distance? Why is driving distance usually longer than flight distance?

5. If a prospector found 11 gold nuggets a year for 3 years, how many gold nuggets would he have found in all?

6. In 1849, an ounce of gold was worth about \$16. In 1980, the price of an ounce of gold hit an all-time high of \$850. How much more was an ounce of gold worth in 1980 than in 1849?

7. Go online with an adult to find the current cost of an ounce of gold. Compare the current price to the 1980 price. Is gold worth more or less today than in 1980? Why does the price of gold change?

8. Probability is the likelihood that an event will occur. The probability of an event can be described using these words: **likely, unlikely, certain, impossible**. Use one of these words to describe the probability of each of the following events.

a. What is the probability that it will rain today?

b. What is the probability that you are alive?

c. What is the probability that a dinosaur will stomp into your town today?

d. What is the probability that you will find a gold nugget today?

Gold Mining

❖ Gold forms deep inside the earth. Over time, gold is pushed up from beneath the earth's surface. The gold gathers in long cracks in rock, called veins. When these veins of gold are pushed to the surface, the rock surrounding the vein is slowly eroded by wind, water and ice.

❖ Streams and rivers wash gold and other materials out of the rocks and gravel. The heavy gold settles to the bottom. Places where loose gold is found at the bottom of streams are called placer deposits.

❖ During the Gold Rush, streams and rivers were panned out. This means that there was little gold left to be found. The miners had to dig underground to reach gold buried in the earth. This kind of mining is expensive and only companies or people with a great deal of money could afford to do it. At this point, many forty-niners gave up and went home.



1. Imagine that you traveled in a Conestoga wagon on the Oregon Trail from Missouri to Oregon. Now imagine traveling by car along the same route today. Make a list of ways that the two trips would be the same. Make a list of how the trips would be different.
2. Pretend that you were invited to be a character in this book. Make a packing list of things you'll need on this golden adventure. (Remember, it was COLD in Dawson City!)
3. As the travelers were leaving Dawson City, a photographer took their picture for the *Dawson City News*. Write a newspaper article about The Gold Bug to go with the picture. Make sure your article answers the questions: Who? What? When? Where? and Why?
4. Pretend you are a forty-niner who found gold! Write a letter home to tell about your discovery!
5. Pretend you are a forty-niner who "went bust." Write a letter home giving the sad news.
6. Miners had to shop, too. Make a shopping list for things a forty-niner might need to buy when he or she went into town.
7. Make a poster inviting people to come to California during the days of the Gold Rush. Make your poster exciting so that people will want to come to California to find gold!
8. Imagine that you had a hidden gold mine and you wanted your best friend to meet you there. Write directions to the secret mine. Be sure to be very descriptive so your friend can find it. Here's an example: Go 2 miles out of town down the long dirt road. Turn west at the old shack. Follow the stream until you come to a clump of trees. Turn left. Walk 7 paces. The entrance to the mine is hidden behind the boulder.



Working With Gold

- ❖ An ounce of gold can be made into a gold wire more than one mile long.
- ❖ An ounce of gold can be hammered into a thin sheet that will cover 100 square feet.
- ❖ The purity of gold is measured in karats. Karats are not the same as carats, which is how the weight of gemstones is measured. And karats are not the same as carrots, the crunchy orange vegetable.
- ❖ One karat is the same as 1/24 pure gold. This is why pure gold is known as 24 karat gold.
- ❖ 18-karat gold contains 18 parts gold mixed with 6 parts of another metal.
- ❖ Most gold jewelry has the purity (number of karats) stamped on it.



Vocabulary: Spell It!

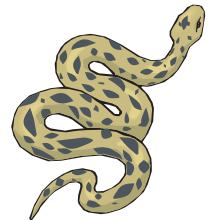
Study the words below. All of them are taken from the mystery book. Fold the page in half and take a spelling test! Check your work in the dictionary and write its definition on a separate piece of paper.

mystery _____
utopia _____
emporium _____
claim _____
discovery _____
thundersnow _____
ominous _____
moose _____
necklace _____
bearded _____
nugget _____
frigid _____
souvenir _____
bolo _____
garbled _____
feud _____
snitch _____
merchant _____
exhibit _____
ranger _____
rowdy _____
commotion _____
cranky _____
famous _____
quiver _____

Mining Hazards

Gold mining is hard, dangerous work. Whether panning for gold in a river, or digging for it underground, these are some of the dangers miners face.

- ❖ snakes
- ❖ claim jumpers
- ❖ cold weather
- ❖ explosions
- ❖ theft
- ❖ tarantulas
- ❖ mine fires
- ❖ frostbite
- ❖ heat stroke
- ❖ wild animals
- ❖ wild people
- ❖ starvation
- ❖ loneliness
- ❖ disappointment
- ❖ campfire
- ❖ fights
- ❖ malnutrition



Art: Create It!

Create a diorama of a scene from the Gold Rush. Here are some ideas to get you started:

1. Paint or cover the inside of a shoebox.
You can paint or cover the outside if you want.
2. Draw or paint the “back wall” of the diorama to show the scenery near where your mine is located. Is it in the desert? The mountains? The snowy north?
3. Use brown and blue paper or crumpled, painted tin foil to create hills, mines, rivers, etc.
4. Draw and cut out miners to go in your diorama.
5. Add real dirt, rocks, sticks, greenery, and other props to create a realistic-looking scene.
6. Use a bottle cap for a gold pan.
7. Use gold glitter to represent the gold.
8. Try adding a tent, campfire, mining tools, or other details to your diorama.
9. Make sign posts with toothpicks stuck into clay.
Write the mine name on the sign.



Did You Know?

- ❖ A one-ounce gold nugget will bring \$2,000 to \$4,000 on the collectors market.
- ❖ A line of gold mines and gold prospecting sites extends from near Montgomery, Alabama to Washington, D.C.
- ❖ Georgia, North and South Carolina, Virginia, and Alabama have many gold mines and prospecting sites. These states were a main source of gold for 45 years before the California gold discovery.
- ❖ Lumps of gold are called nuggets. One of the largest nuggets ever found weighed 156 pounds, as heavy as a medium-size man. This huge nugget was found in Australia in 1869 when a wagon ran over it, and pulled it from the earth. The nugget was named the Welcome Stranger.
- ❖ The biggest California gold nugget weighed 54 pounds. A 195-pound mass (not a true nugget) was also found in California.



Science: Cook It!

Could this be the "Mystery Meal" that Mimi and the kids ate at the Dawson City Dead End Hotel? Try it for yourself!

Tuna Surprise

Serves 4

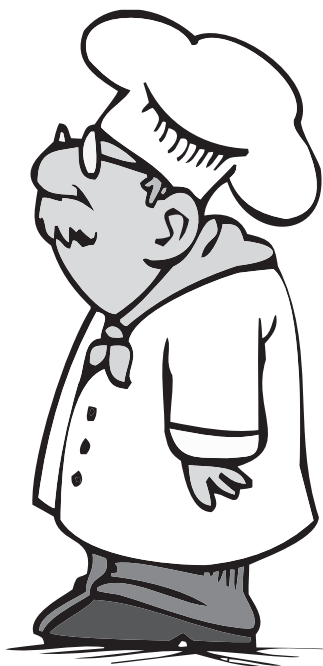
Ingredients

- 1 6.5 ounce can of tuna
- 1 tsp garlic powder or garlic salt
- dash of salt
- dash of pepper
- 1/2 cup of Italian bread crumbs
- 3/4 cup Ranch dressing
- 1/2 bag of noodles
- 1 cup of grated cheddar cheese

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Cook noodles according to package directions; drain.
3. Drain water from tuna and put it in a bowl.
4. Add all remaining ingredients except cheese.
5. Stir in cooked noodles. Top with cheese.
Bake at 350° for 30 minutes.

Enjoy!



NOTE: The preparation of all dishes should be carried out with the supervision of an adult.



Yukon Territory

The Yukon Territory was the site of the famous 1896 Gold Rush.



Prospectors rushed to this area in the Great Klondike Stampede!

Today, this is the land of native peoples, tourists, trappers, sportsmen, and wildlife such as moose, caribou, mountain sheep and goats, bears, birds, and fish.

Whitehorse is the capital and center of forest and mining industries.

The Yukon is home to the Kluane National Park, Teslin Lake, and other attractions of great history and beauty!

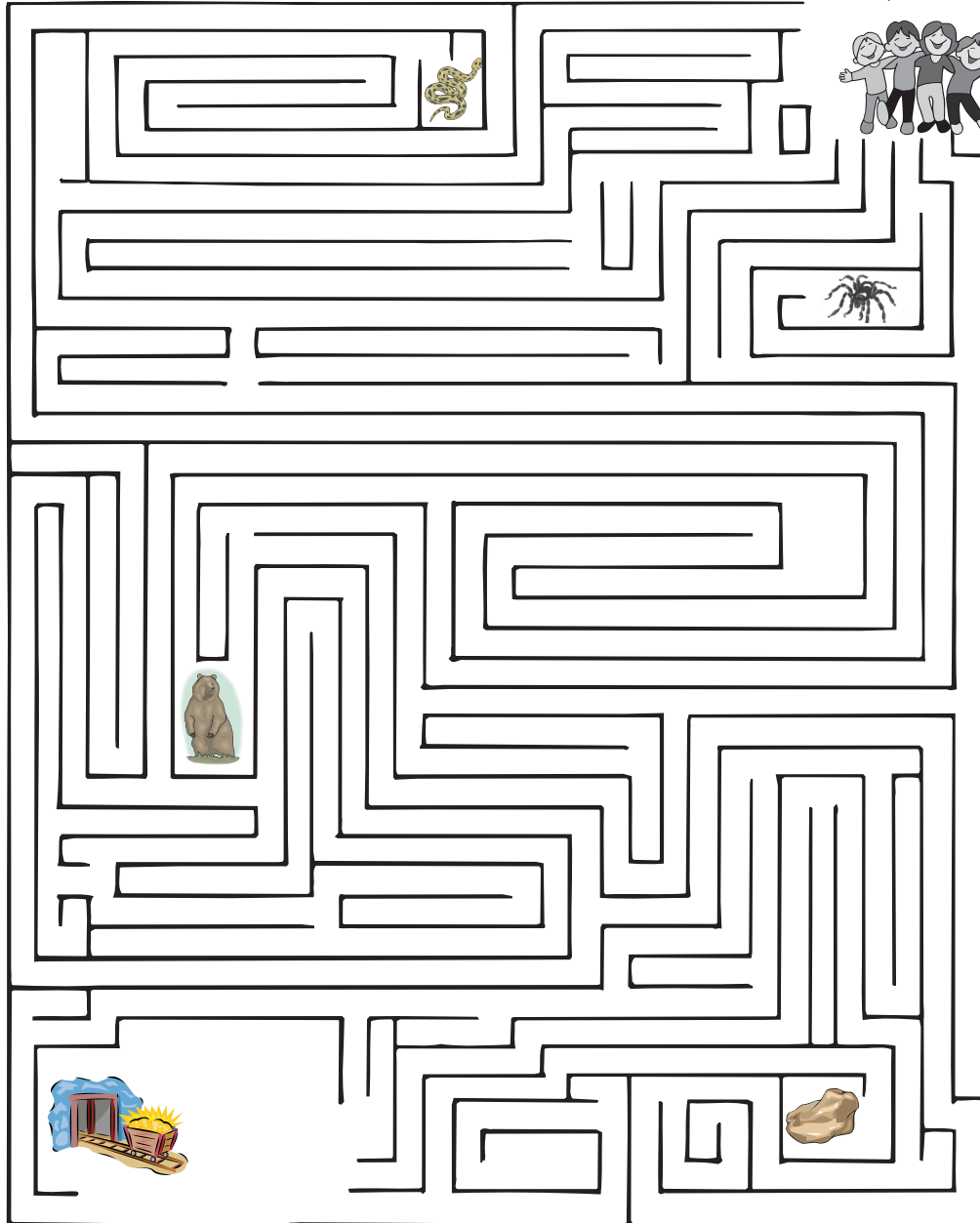


The "Gosh Awful!" Gold Rush Mystery Maze



Help Christina, Grant, Alex, and Zac find their way out of the Gold Mine. Watch out for cave-ins! And claim jumpers! And snakes!

START



FINISH



The "Gosh Awful!" Gold Rush Mystery Pair Up



Match the words on the left with the correct words on the right!



GEORGIA

HISTORY

LONG

TOM

GOLD

OUTAGE

LEVI

DOME

CLAIM

JUMPER

GOLDEN

CITY

CHILKOOT

STAIRS

DAWSON

STRAUSS

ANCIENT

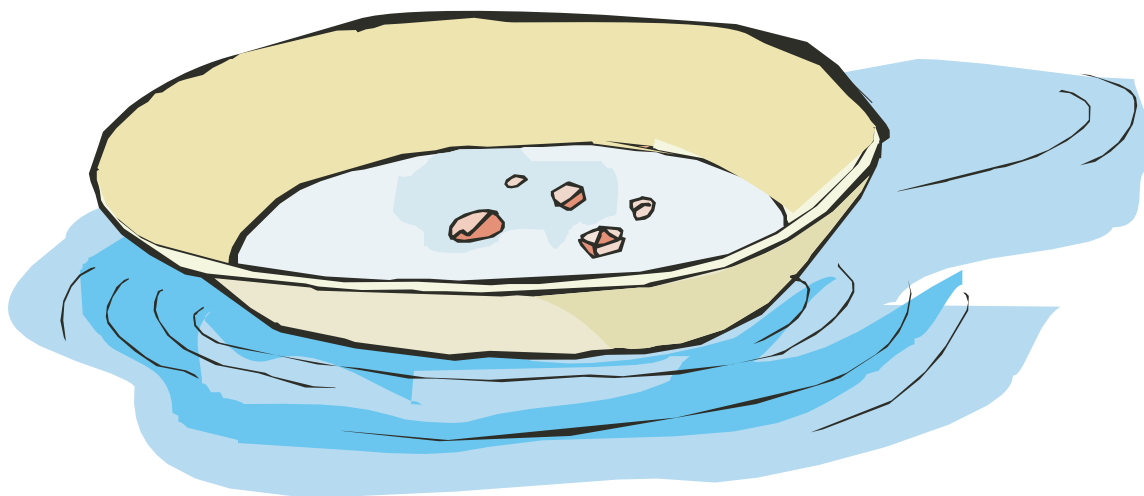
TRAIL

POWER

RUSH



The "Gosh Awful!" Gold Rush Mystery Golden Nuggets



1. Color the pan. Make it look old.
2. Cut out the pan.
3. Using a Q-tip, spread a thin layer of glue over each gold nugget.
4. Sprinkle gold glitter over the glue. Shake off the excess.
5. Using a Q-tip, spread a thin layer of glue around the "bottom" of the pan.
6. Sprinkle dirt onto the glue. Shake off the excess.

Congratulations! You've found gold!

The "Gosh Awful!" Gold Rush Mystery Clue Scramble



Unscramble the words below to find the mystery clues!

1. T E N O _____
2. P R A I N A L E _____
3. K L E E N C A C _____
4. N I M R E _____
5. G L O N M O T _____
6. O O M E S _____
7. S T N I R P R E G N I F _____
8. T O E H L _____
9. L I W L _____
10. D L O G N E M I _____



The "Gosh Awful!" Gold Rush Mystery Word Search



Search for the mysteriously hidden words below!

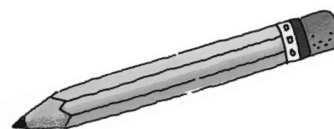
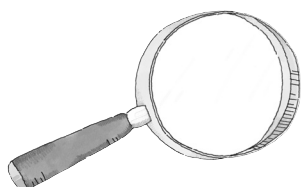
D	K	W	C	H	I	L	K	O	O	T	K	D	N	K
E	T	O	O	D	H	C	X	H	J	L	Z	A	S	L
T	P	K	W	N	U	G	G	E	T	P	A	H	U	O
N	F	P	R	O	S	P	E	C	T	O	R	L	O	N
U	I	C	U	A	C	R	E	N	I	M	T	O	I	D
A	D	K	A	X	E	C	E	J	Y	O	A	N	C	I
H	N	N	J	L	X	U	V	D	B	E	C	E	I	K
E	C	N	A	T	I	R	E	H	N	I	L	G	P	E
A	K	C	C	L	G	F	U	B	V	U	A	A	S	Y
S	L	S	F	O	Z	U	O	H	M	T	H	I	U	U
E	C	A	L	K	C	E	N	R	N	O	K	T	S	K
U	B	D	S	I	E	R	U	T	N	E	V	D	A	O
A	I	O	T	K	J	X	E	A	E	I	R	M	J	N
N	S	N	O	Q	A	R	Z	B	R	H	A	C	E	E
L	E	T	G	X	U	U	M	J	F	N	U	J	T	P

DAHLONEGA
ADVENTURE
SUSPICIOUS
INHERITANCE

PROSPECTOR
GOLD
NUGGET
ALCATRAZ

CHILKOOT
CALIFORNIA
ALASKA
KLONDIKE

YUKON
THUNDERSNOW
HAUNTED
NECKLACE



The "Gosh Awful!" Gold Rush Fill-in-the-Blank



Fill in the blanks to answer the questions.

1. The name of Mimi's inheritance:

___ O ___ G

2. Where Mimi, Papa, and the kids panned for gold:

___ T ___ ' ___ I ___

3. Alex and Zac won a contest so they could be _____ in Mimi's book:

___ H ___ A ___ R ___

4. Before Levi Strauss made jeans, he made:

___ E ___ S

5. A miner who looked for gold on another miner's claim was called a:

___ M ___ P ___ R

6. What fell on the strange businessman while he waited for the police?

___ O ___ H ___

7. What is Mimi going to do with the money from The Gold Bug?

P ___ Y ___ F ___ C ___ G ___



The "Gosh Awful!" Gold Rush Matching Characters



Match these mystery characters with their descriptions!

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1. Mimi | A. a girl from Bellingham,
Washington |
| 2. Grant | B. a boy from St. Louis who had
a heavy backpack |
| 3. Christina | C. attacked the men who came
into his room |
| 4. Papa | D. is a lawyer |
| 5. Alex | E. gave the secret away to the
shoppers in the Levi Strauss
store and told the ranger
about Mimi's inheritance |
| 6. Zac | F. lost a necklace |
| 7. Long Tom | G. wears cowboy boots |
| 8. Ms. Rogers | H. the mysterious bearded man |



The "Gosh Awful!" Gold Rush Quiz



Use the clues to recall some interesting information about the Gold Rush!



1. The biggest gold nugget ever found was as big as a:

2. The children visited Chinatown in:

3. On the top of the Georgia state capitol building there is:

4. The name of the famous island in San Francisco Bay:

5. The trail that many forty-niners used to travel across country:

6. Where the Golden Gate Bridge is located::

7. The name of the very tall and very famous landmark in Seattle:

8. A kind of covered wagon used by some forty-niners when they traveled across country:

9. A town in Georgia that was a famous mining town:

10. The town on the other side of the Chilkoot Trail:



The "Gosh Awful!" Gold Rush Mystery True or False



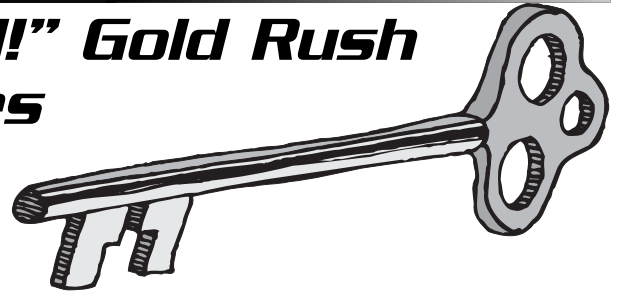
Mark each statement true or false.

- _____ 1. Long Tom was the name of the miner's burro.
- _____ 2. Mimi, Papa, and the kids stayed at the Dead End Hotel.
- _____ 3. John Sutter was the first person to find gold at Sutter's Mill.
- _____ 4. The "Golden Stairs" are made of real gold.
- _____ 5. The Gold Bug gold mine was full of fool's gold.
- _____ 6. White Pass Route is nicknamed Dead Horse Trail because the mountains are shaped like horses.
- _____ 7. There was so much gold during the Gold Rush that everyone who panned for gold got rich.
- _____ 8. Dawson City is in Canada.
- _____ 9. The *Mystery Girl* was stolen by the mysterious bearded man.
- _____ 10. Grant found small flakes of gold in his pan.



Answer Key...

to The “Gosh Awful!” Gold Rush Activities



Geography Questions:

1. Oregon
2. Pacific Ocean
3. Gulf of Alaska
4. Yukon River
5. Canada
6. By water

Math Activities:

1. 1872
2. \$28
3. 2,915 miles
4. 200 miles (The shortest distance between any two points is a straight line. A plane usually flies in a straight line directly to a destination. Roads loop and curve.)
5. 33 nuggets
6. \$834 more
7. Answers will vary.
8. a. answers will vary b. certain c. impossible d. unlikely

The “Gosh Awful!” Gold Rush Mystery Pair Up

Georgia Dome; Long Tom; Gold Rush; Levi Strauss; Claim Jumper; Golden Stairs; Chilkooot Trail; Dawson City; Ancient History; Power Outage

The “Gosh Awful!” Gold Rush Mystery Clue Scramble

1. note
2. airplane
3. necklace
4. miner
5. Long Tom
6. moose
7. fingerprints
8. hotel
9. will
10. gold mine

The “Gosh Awful!” Gold Rush Mystery Fill-in-the-Blank

1. The Gold Bug
2. Sutter’s Mill
3. characters
4. tents
5. claim jumper
6. moose head
7. pay for college

The “Gosh Awful!” Gold Rush Mystery Matching Characters

1. F
2. C
3. E
4. G
5. A
6. B
7. H
8. D

The “Gosh Awful!” Gold Rush Mystery Quiz

1. pillow
2. San Francisco
3. gold
4. Alcatraz
5. Oregon Trail
6. San Francisco
7. Space Needle
8. Conestoga Wagon
9. Dahlenega
10. Dawson City

The “Gosh Awful!” Gold Rush Mystery True or False?

1. F
2. T
3. F
4. F
5. F
6. F
7. F
8. T
9. F
10. F

