



Gold Discovery

The Australian Colonies – S3

Through students participating in a recreation of a day in the life of a miner on the Australian Goldfields of the 1850s, this learning program adds a comprehensive practical component to a classroom based study of Australian history and key changes and developments from the past. An entirely hands on day that encourages teamwork and cooperation, the goldrush provides a platform to study broad concepts related to change, significance of key events and experiences of people in the development of Australia.

LEARNING EXPERIENCES

- Introduction to site, outlining historical significance
- Sheep mustering/insight into early rural settler lifestyles
- Teamwork and cooperation
- “Money” management, budgeting and equipment purchasing
- Blacksmithing
- Miners camp construction
- Wagon transport to “Goldfields”
- Panning and digging for Gold
- Whole group post experience discussion

Authentic, Contextual Learning

Syllabus Links

HT3-1 – Describes and explains the significance of people, groups, places and events to the development of Australia

HT3-2 – Describes and explains different experiences of people living in Australia over time

Content

Students identify events that have shaped Australia’s identity and discuss why they were significant

Cross Curricular

Sustainability

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures



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