

K-2ND GRADE RESOURCES

Kindergarten: Learning and Working Now and Long Ago

“Students in kindergarten are introduced to basic spatial, temporal, and causal relationships, emphasizing the geographic and historical connections between the world today and the world long ago.”

1st Grade: A Child’s Place in Time and Space

“Students in grade one continue a more detailed treatment of the broad concepts of rights and responsibilities in the contemporary world.”

2nd Grade: People Who Make a Difference

“Students in grade two explore the lives of actual people who make a difference in their lives and learn the stories of extraordinary people from history whose achievements have touched them, directly or indirectly.”

These resources are simple activities that help introduce younger students to Placer County History.

Recommended Online Activity Pages		
Auburn Coloring Book	K.4 1.4	Students can learn about historic structures in Auburn through coloring.
Placer County Activity Packet	K.6.3 1.4.1-3 2.1.2, 2.4.1	Students can have fun drawing, coloring, and completing other simple activities to learn about their community.
Museum of Me		Students can build their own museum exhibit that tells their story.

3RD GRADE RESOURCES

Change and Continuity

“Students in grade three learn more about our connections to the past and the ways in which particularly local, but also regional and national, government and traditions have developed and left their marks on current society, providing common memories.”

These resources introduce students to the early settlers of Placer County, and how the area has changed over time. The online reading pages highlight people, resources, and events while the activities prompt students to think critically about life during the 19th century.

Recommended Online Reading Pages		
Bernhard Museum 3rd Grade Living History Tour	3.3.1-3, 3.5.1	Students will learn about the role of children on the 19th century farm house in Auburn.
The Bernhard Museum Complex Self-Guided Tour of the Grounds	3.3.1-3, 3.5.1	Tour the Museum’s grounds to learn more about the area’s history.
A Legacy in Stone	3.3.1-3, 3.5.1	Learn how an early settler utilized a natural resource to build a successful manufacturing business.
A History of Newcastle, CA	3.3.2	Learn how the settlers of Newcastle developed one of California’s largest fruit industries.
A Journey Through the Sierras	3.1.2	Students learn how transportation and travel has changed in their local region.
The Placer County Courthouse	3.4	Students learn about a local landmark that is essential to local government.
The Gold Rush	3.1.2, 3.3.2-3,	An introduction to the Gold Rush.

Recommended Online Videos		
Bernhard Museum Living History Tour (11:37 min)	3.3.1-3, 3.5.1	This video explains the role of children on a 19th century farm in a tour of the Bernhard Museum.
Historical Population Numbers for The Nisenan		An explanation of the decline of the local Native American Tribe during the 19th century.
Newcastle Pear Packing (10:36 min)		Learn about the local pear packing industry of Newcastle.
Mastering the Mountains (10:25 min)		This short video introduces students to the Trans-continental Railroad through Placer County.
Bear Trap Artifact (2:56 min)		Our Exhibit Technician explores one of our larger—and more dangerous—artifacts.

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Recommended Online Activity Pages		
Placer County Activity Packet	3.5.1	Students can have fun drawing, coloring, and completing other activities learning about their community.
Work on the Farm	3.1.2, 3.3.3, 3.5.1	Learn about 19th century farm tasks through word searches and drawing prompts.
Pioneer Family Activity	3.3.3,	Students will have the opportunity to create their own pioneer family based on Placer County history.
Artifact Analysis	3.1, 3.3	A primary and secondary source exercise.
Coming to California	3.3.3	Students will receive and introduction to the main routes to California during Gold Rush, based on early Placer County settlers.

4TH GRADE RESOURCES

A Changing State

"Students learn the story of their home state...its many waves of immigration beginning with pre-Columbian societies, its continuous diversity, economic energy, and rapid growth."

These resources will help students learn about the California Gold Rush and the complex and diverse communities that began to develop throughout Placer County.

Recommended Online Reading Pages		
The Gold Rush	4.2.2-3, 4.4.2-4	A comprehensive introduction to the California Gold Rush.
The Gold Rush Museum: A Tour of the Grounds	4.3.2-3, 4.4.2, 4.4.7	Students can tour the grounds of the Museum to learn more about the Gold Rush.
Hidden Treasure Mine	4.4.2	This online exhibit offers a brief history of the Hidden Treasure Mine near Iowa Hill.
A Legacy in Stone	4.1.3, 4.3.3, 4.4.2-3	Students can learn about the successful creation of an industry around the abundant granite of Placer County.
Geology of Placer County		An introduction to the unique geological foundation of Placer County.
Hawver Cave		Students can learn about the discovery, excavation, and fossil finds in Hawver Cave.
A History of Newcastle	4.3.3, 4.4.2-3	Learn how the settlers of Newcastle developed one of California's largest fruit industries.
Placer County Courthouses	4.5	Explore one of Placer County's most well-known landmarks.
Chinese in Placer County		Learn about the integral role Chinese immigrants played in the growth of Placer County.
Dutch Flat Chinatowns		Explore the rich history of Dutch Flat's Chinese community.
Auburn Joss House		Read about a long-standing, and integral part of Auburn's Old Town.

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Recommended Online Videos		
A Panning We Will Go! (5:19 min)		In the style of an silent film, this is a video primer on simple methods of placer mining in the river.
Bernhard Museum Living History Tour (11:37 min)		This video explains the role of children on a 19th century farm in a tour of the Bernhard Museum.
Historical Population Numbers for The Nisenan (3:26 min)		An explanation of the decline of the local Native American Tribe during the 19th century.
Newcastle Pear Packing (10:36 min)		Learn about the local pear packing industry of Newcastle.
Mastering the Mountains (10:25 min)		This short video introduces students to the Transcontinental Railroad through Placer County.
Bear Trap Artifact (2:56 min)		Our Exhibit Technician explores one of our larger—and more dangerous—artifacts.

Recommended Online Activity Pages		
Coming to California	4.3.2, 4.4.3	An introduction to the main routes to California during Gold Rush.
Gold Rush Jobs	4.3.3, 4.4.2	Students will learn about a variety of jobs during the Gold Rush.
Mining Maze		A simple Gold Rush themed maze.
Gold Rush Word Search		A Gold Rush vocabulary word search.
Pioneer Family Activity	4.3.2, 4.4.3	Students will have the opportunity to create their own pioneer family based on Placer County history.
Artifact Analysis		A primary and secondary source exercise.

5TH GRADE RESOURCES

Making a New Nation

“Students in grade five study the development of the nation up to 1850, with an emphasis on the people who were already here, when and from where others arrived, and why they came.”

These resources focus on the people who came to Placer County during the Gold Rush. Students can study more about who came to Placer County and why.

Recommended Online Reading Pages		
The Gold Rush	5.4.6, 5.8.4	Students can use this resource to help further analyze the experiences of miners coming west to California. Students can also research how enslaved people were treated in California, a supposedly “Free State.”
The Gold Rush Museum: A Tour of the Grounds		Students can see artifacts relating to the Gold Rush Period.

Recommended Online Videos		
Mastering the Mountains (10:25 min)	5.8.4	This short video introduces students to the Trans-continental Railroad through Placer County. Students can analyze how the Railroad changed westward travel.

Recommended Online Activity Pages		
Coming to California	5.8.4	An introduction to the main routes to California during Gold Rush.
Pioneer Family Activity	5.8.4	Students will have the opportunity to create their own pioneer family based on Placer County history.
Artifact Analysis		A primary and secondary source exercise.

6TH-8TH GRADE RESOURCES

Historical and Social Sciences Analysis Skills

“Chronological and Spatial Thinking; Research, Evidence, and Point of View; Historical Interpretation.”

Six and seventh grade students study world history, while eighth grade students return to a more complex study of America’s growth. All students focus on intellectual reasoning, reflection, and research skills.

Recommended Online Reading Pages		
The Gold Rush	8.8, 8.9	Using the settlement of California during the Gold Rush, students can analyze how and why people moved westward. Students can also analyze how the abolition movement was realized or unrealized in California, especially during the Gold Rush.

9TH-12TH GRADE RESOURCES

Historical and Social Sciences Analysis Skills

“Chronological and Spatial Thinking; Research, Evidence, and Point of View; Historical Interpretation.”

Students in grades nine through twelve study the major turning points that shaped the modern world, and the complexities of 20th century history. These resources can support students as they learn more about the nation and the world.

Recommended Online Reading Pages

1918 Influenza		Students can learn about the 1918 Influenza pandemic which had lasting effects on the United States and the world.
The DeWitt Historic Site	10.8, 11.7, 11.9	This brief introduction to the DeWitt Center is a good starting point for students to explore the Second World War, the Cold War, health care, and local government.
The Esoteric Fraternity		Students can study the formation of a local religious group and apply this analysis to larger themes on religious practices in the United States.

Recommended Online Videos

DeWitt Government Center History (3:53 min)		This video outlines important dates and interesting facts concerning the history of the DeWitt Army Hospital and DeWitt State Hospital.
Highways of Time (10:32 min)		This short video teaches students about modern changes in transportation in their local region.

Recommended Online Activity Pages

Artifact Analysis		Students can analyze objects from the collection to better understand historical events.
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