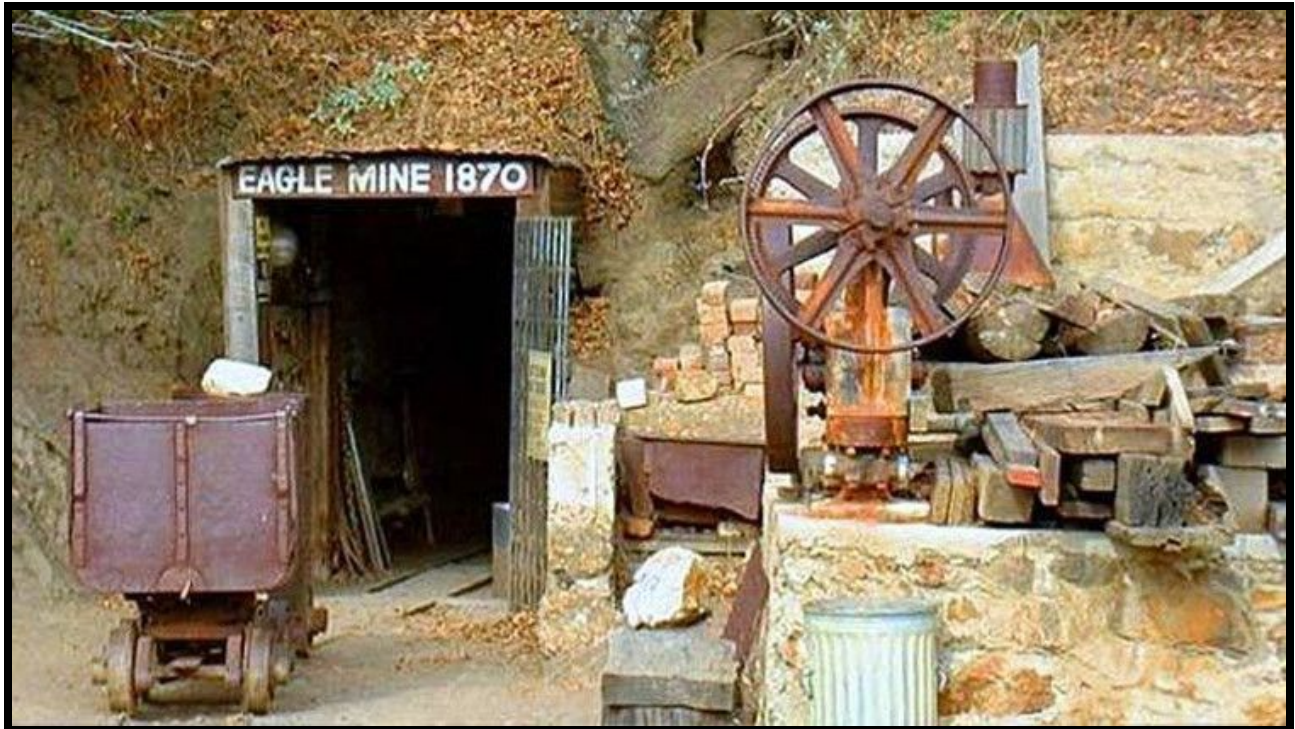


Social Studies: IMMIGRATION UNIT

Lesson Focus Question:

How did European colonization and settlement shape communities in California?

Lesson 2.4 How did the development of California impact natives and the environment?



Lesson 2.4: How did the development of California impact natives and the environment?

Assignment Directions

- Complete Lesson 2.1 Packet - How did Spanish colonization shape new communities?
- Complete Lesson 2.2 Packet - How did the Mexican ranchos shape new communities?
- Complete Lesson 2.3 Packet - How did the Gold Rush impact the development of California?

Complete the “America the Story of Us: Gold Rush” Video Analysis

- Read the **Background Information** and then watch the **YouTube Video** (You will need a computer to complete this).
- Complete the chart** that is attached.
- Write a caption** (or title) that uses the sentence starter provided.
- Read and then answer the **3 questions** on the next page.

Complete the “Environmental Impact” Visual Analysis

- Examine the **1st image**. Complete the chart that is attached.
- Write a caption (or title) that uses the sentence starter provided.
- Examine the **2nd image**. Complete the chart that is attached.
- Write a caption** (or title) that uses the sentence starter provided.
- Write one paragraph** using the sentence starters provided.

Complete the “Land and People” Reading Analysis

- Read the Background Information and the 1st text box.
- Create a title for what you read in the 1st text box using 5 words or less.
- Circle or highlight the words that helped you come up with your title.
- Write a sentence that explains how the words you circled help to explain the Lesson 2.4 Focus Question (On top of the page).
- Repeat these steps for the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th text box.

Lesson 2.4: How did the development of California impact natives and the environment?

Background: The population of *California continued to grow* as a result of the Gold Rush. The presence of newcomers meant changes for the Native people, but also the environment of the state itself. *New technologies* were developed to mine the land for gold, and support all the people working to do so. Uses for natural resources like water and timber changed, which caused new Californians to settle in specific places. Those lands were often occupied by native people, which inevitably *led to conflict*.



“America the Story of Us: Gold Rush” (2010)

This documentary video was created as part of a mini-series for the History Channel in 2010. The director was Marion Milne, and the film describes the context of the California Gold rush and the impacts this time in history had on the land and the people living in and moving to that state.

Video URL: <https://youtu.be/gDkqvqqjMAA>

Watch the video, and then fill in the chart below:

| List 3-5 events that occurred in the video. | Explain what each of those events tells you about how the development of California impacted people and the environment. | What questions do you have? |
|---|--|-----------------------------|
| I saw... | It tells me... | I wonder... |
| | | |

Write a caption: This video shows how development of California impacted people and the environment because...

Lesson 2.4: How did the development of California impact natives and the environment?

What are some of the problems that come with searching for gold, or acquiring "mineral wealth," that were described in the video?

In the video Stephen Johnson says:

"The great breakthrough of the Gold Rush was not creating fortunes from this precious metal found in the hills of California, it was the invention of California itself."

What about the Gold Rush contributed to the "invention of California?"

During the video a commentator named H.W. Brands says:

"In Gold Rush California success followed a willingness to try and fail... In New England, where American culture originated, there wasn't a tolerance of failure like this. Failure was equated with sin."

How might a native person living in California respond to that statement? Why do you think the opinions of H.W. Brands and native people might be similar or different?

Lesson 2.4: How did the development of California impact natives and the environment?



Background: The gold mine at Long Gulch, near Yreka, California was owned by Daniel Jenks who bought his mining claim at Long Gulch on December 24, 1859. Gravel was dredged from the river and then screened and washed to separate rock from gold and sand. The heavy material was placed into barrels where mercury-covered copper plates trapped the gold. The waste rock was dumped out the rear of the dredger into huge piles called tailings.


[SOURCE] This drawing is titled "View of the mine at Long Gulch," created by Daniel Jenks, (1860). This image is part of a collection held by the Library of Congress.

Examine the image(s) and fill in the chart below:

| List 3-5 things you see in this image. | Explain what each thing you named tells you about the impact on the environment of California. | What questions do you have? |
|--|--|-----------------------------|
| I see... | It tells me... | I wonder... |

Write a caption: The image(s) shows how the development of California impacted the environment because...

Lesson 2.4: How did the development of California impact natives and the environment?



Background: The process of hydraulic mining, which became popular during the Gold Rush era, caused permanent environmental destruction. The image shows California's largest hydraulic mine — Malakoff Diggings, in Nevada County — in action. (Malakoff Diggings is now a state park and open to visitors.) The sediment washed away by hydraulic mining clogged riverbeds and lakes, threatening agriculture throughout the Central Valley. Hydraulic mining essentially came to an end because of legislation created in 1884.

[SOURCE] This photograph shows the Malakoff Diggings hydraulic mine in 1870. The photograph was taken by Carleton E. Watkins and is part of a collection held by the California Department of Conservation.

Examine the image(s) and fill in the chart below:

| List 3-5 things you see in this image. | Explain what each thing you named tells you about the impact on the environment of California. | What questions do you have? |
|--|--|-----------------------------|
| I see... | It tells me... | I wonder... |

Write a caption: The image(s) shows how the development of California impacted the environment because...

Lesson 2.4: How did the development of California impact natives and the environment?

Write a paragraph to explain how these images help answer the focus question.

CLAIM: The Gold Rush impacted the environment by

because...

EVIDENCE 1: In the first image you can see....

EVIDENCE 2: In the second image you can see....

ANALYSIS: The images tell me that the Gold Rush impacted the environment of California because...

Lesson 2.4: How did the development of California impact natives and the environment?

While the Gold Rush was the start of California as a part of the United States, it was the end for many Native American peoples in the state. The arrival of Europeans had begun the process of systematic extermination of many native peoples. However, until the Gold Rush, the European presence was largely confined to coastal areas, with some development in the Central Valley. The Gold Rush brought large numbers of people to the last remaining sanctuaries for Native Californians, the hills and mountains.

The Native people shared none of the wealth and glory of the Gold Rush. They were massacred and their children kidnapped. They had no legal recourse, and, in fact, the law protected those who perpetrated violence against Native Californians. The Act for the Government and Protection of Indians was passed by the California legislature in 1850. This act set up a variety of legal disadvantages for Native Californians. For example, it was legal to evict Indians from their land and force them to move to another place. It also made it legal to take Indian children and force Indians to work for the highest bidder, with wages going to the courts, not to the Indians. While the period of the Gold Rush has a special place in American history, it was also one of the worst periods for Native Californians.

[SOURCE] An excerpt from The Oakland Museum of California's "Picture This" teaching project

1. What is a heading you would give to this section of the text?

Your heading should use FIVE WORDS OR LESS

2. Highlight or circle the exact words or phrases that work as evidence to support your choice of a heading for that section.

3. Write a sentence to explain how that evidence helps you think about the focus question (found on top of the page).

In 2006 April Moore, a Nisenan Maidu and educator wrote about her family's experience for the PBS series, The American Experience. "My family had resided in these geographical areas way before there were any European people, even way before the Gold Rush. It just so happens it was the area where they found the gold at Sutter's Mill along the American River. And this gold strike brought thousands of people from every place known to man into our traditional territory. And because it was such an environmentally productive area, in the beginning they didn't have a problem with eating, but because there were so many people, they overused the area and created drought and created starvation for themselves, and along with them for the indigenous peoples.

The Nisenan Maidu just happened to be right in the middle of this whole chaotic event. And the end product was that they were almost obliterated as a group of people."

[SOURCE] The website for PBS's Series "The American Experience" (Public Broadcasting System)



4. What is a heading you would give to this section of the text?

Your heading should use FIVE WORDS OR LESS

5. Highlight or circle the exact words or phrases that work as evidence to support your choice of a heading for that section.

6. Write a sentence to explain how that evidence helps you think about the focus question (found on top of the page).

Lesson 2.4: How did the development of California impact natives and the environment?

The Native Californians were not the only community to suffer the consequences of the massive influx of people and explosion of mining operations in California. The environment itself including the landscape and plants and animals also suffered immense effects.

As the mining turned from small claims to large operations, the techniques to move water to get at the gold had a widespread impact on the environment. Dams which were constructed to help supply water to the mines during the dry summer months, changed the course of rivers. Wood needed for canal systems and for energy for the new techniques created a demand for logging, affecting the forests. The sediment washed away by hydraulic mining clogged riverbeds and lakes, threatening agriculture throughout the Central Valley. Conflicts over water arose between mining and farming interests.

[SOURCE] An excerpt from "The Gold Rush Era" exhibition on the Calisphere website, first published in 2005. Calisphere is a service of the University of California Libraries.

7. What is a heading you would give to this section of the text?

Your heading should use FIVE WORDS OR LESS

8. Highlight or circle the exact words or phrases that work as evidence to support your choice of a heading for that section.

9. Write a sentence to explain how that evidence helps you think about the focus question (found on top of the page).

The environmental results were catastrophic. In 1868, Samuel Bowles, a journalist and publisher visited California. He reported, "Tornado, flood, earthquake and volcano combined could hardly make greater havoc, spread wider ruin and wreck, than are to be seen everywhere in the track of the larger gold-washing operations. None of the interior streams of California, though naturally pure as crystal, escape the change to a thick yellow mud from this cause, early in their progress from the hills. The Sacramento River is worse than the Missouri. Many of the streams are turned out of their original channels, either directly for mining purposes, or in consequence of the great masses of soil and gravel that come down from the gold-washing above. Thousands of acres of fine land along their banks are ruined forever by the deposits of this character. A farmer may have his whole estate turned into a barren waste by a flood of sand and gravel from some hydraulic mining upstream; more, if a fine orchard or garden stands in the way of the working of a rich gulch or bank, the orchard or garden must go. Then the tornout, dug- out, washed to pieces and then washed over side- hills, masses that have been or are being subjected to the hydraulics of the miners, are the very devil's chaos indeed. The country is full of them among the mining districts of the Sierra Nevada, and they are truly a terrible blot upon the face of Nature."

[SOURCE] An excerpt from an article titled "Monitors - Water Cannons of Hydraulic Mining" by the Snowy Range Reflections magazine staff at Sierra College in California. It was Published in Spring 2009.

10. What is a heading you would give to this section of the text?

Your heading should use FIVE WORDS OR LESS

11. Highlight or circle the exact words or phrases that work as evidence to support your choice of a heading for that section.

12. Write a sentence to explain how that evidence helps you think about the focus question (found on top of the page).