Go to two online sources and read about the Gold Rush.

[www.kidport.com](http://www.kidport.com)

[www.goldrushglimpes.com](http://www.goldrushglimpes.com)

[www.myteacherpages.com](http://www.myteacherpages.com) (social studies)

[www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com) search for California gold rush

Using two online sources, complete a flow map of the key events of the California Gold Rush.

Sources for Gold Rush Unit

1. Interact –Learning Through Involvement

[www.interact-simulations.com](http://www.interact-simulations.com)

Gold Rush – A simulation of life and adventure in a frontier mining town

INT82-WB4 $79.99 simulation, CD includes teacher’s guide with reproducible student guide (I would only order this and make copies of the included student guides)

INT82SG-WB4 $35.00 for 35 printed student guides (you get the same guide with the above kit, but you have to print them out)

Students form mining teams and compete to find the most gold and control the most claims. A great in-depth learning experience that goes way beyond the textbook. Students also learn outlining skills as they take notes. A Miner’s Journal is kept as a reflective end of each lesson assessment. This unit is eagerly anticipated by students and allows for healthy competition and discussion among teams.

1. Book – Recommend one copy per student

By The Great Horn Spoon! by Sid Fleischman

Literature Unit for By The Great Horn Spoon! – included in this unit

This book follows the adventures of a 12 year-old boy and his butler as they travel from Boston to California hoping to strike it rich. A great read aloud and a favorite among students. It contains many interesting details that make the gold rush times come alive.

1. Musical Gold Dust or Bust – Bad Wolf Press $39.99

[www.badwolfpress.com](http://www.badwolfpress.com)

This musical comes with a CD with all the songs. The first set of recordings includes the words sung to the music, then the second half has the same background music without singing so it can be used once students memorize the songs. We have done this musical several times and it is always a wonderful experience. No musical knowledge is needed to do this. The order comes with all the lyrics and a play that goes along with the songs. Parts are for your whole class – highly recommended and great fun.

1. Downloaded Worksheets – print one copy per student – see weekly outlined lesson plans