

Gold Rush of BC

Digital Field Trip Outline

Program Length: 30 minutes

Designed for: Grade 4

Program Description: In 1858, when gold was discovered in the Fraser River, what is now known as British Columbia became a destination for hopeful miners from around the world. For every gold seeker who rushed here, there were factors that drove them from their homelands and dreams that enticed to a new and foreign place. The impacts of the gold rush on British Columbia were large, and lasting.

Program Keywords/Vocab: Colonialism, Immigration, Migration, Prospectors, Discrimination, Diggings, Sluice, Waterwheel

Program Format:

1. The program begins with introductions to the Royal BC Museum, the presenter, and an overview of the program
2. We will discuss the allure of gold
3. Learn more about the people who participated in the Gold Rush of 1858
4. See different methods and tools for finding gold
5. Summarize how the gold rush changed the people, lands and economy of the province

Learning Objectives:

- Know the unique properties of gold
- Recognize a variety of reasons why immigrants came to Canada during the gold rush
- Understand the intended and unintended consequences of the gold rush on the development of British Columbia

BC Curricular Connections: Grades 4 Social Studies, examples of Big Ideas

- Social Studies 4 – The pursuit of valuable natural resources has played a key role in changing the land, people, and communities of Canada
- Social Studies 4 – British Columbia followed a unique path in becoming a part of Canada

First Peoples Principles of Learning:

- Learning involves recognizing the consequences of one's actions