

## California, Here We Come

### **Scenario:**

The year is 1849 and the gold rush is in full swing. People from all over the world are traveling to California in great numbers to stake their claim and strike it rich. With so many people trying to get to California, there are a lot of companies competing for their business. You are starting a new company in the belief that the real road to riches is not in the gold fields but in helping people get to California. You need financial backing to get started. To get this support, you are making a presentation to potential financiers. They need to be convinced that you are experts in methods of transportation and that your way will be the most profitable. They want to hear the sales pitch you will be using to attract potential travelers.

### **Possible topics to cover (these are only suggestions and are not a requirement for a superior presentation):**

1. What are two popular forms of transportation?
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of each method of transportation?
3. Choose a location for your company and explain why you chose this location.
4. Describe the popularity of each form of transportation.
5. Who are your most likely clients?
6. What goods would you recommend your clients carry?
7. What route will you use to send your clients to California?
8. To what part of California will you take your clients and why?
9. What kind of prices will you charge?
10. How will you advertise your services?

### **Bibliography**

Evernote allows you to easily capture information in any environment using whatever device or platform you find most convenient, and it makes everything accessible and searchable at any time, from anywhere. Use Evernote to capture your ideas, snapshots, voice memos, things you see online, and just about anything else that you want to remember. They have free and subscription editions. <http://www.evernote.com/>

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## Grade 4 2010 Resources

### California, Here We Come

#### *Possible Sources*

Newspapers, historians, music teachers, videos, CD's, encyclopedias, history textbooks  
Facts on File, United Streaming, and Associate Press Extensive Photo Archive

#### *Online Sources*

**Learn California:** <http://www.learncalifornia.org/doc.asp?id=1929>

Gives an overview of the major routes to the mines during the Gold Rush

**PBS:** <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/goldrush/index.html>

Presents maps and first-hand accounts of the Gold Rush.

#### **Department of Finance:**

[http://www.dof.ca.gov/HTML/FS\\_DATA/HistoryCAEconomy/gold\\_rush.htm](http://www.dof.ca.gov/HTML/FS_DATA/HistoryCAEconomy/gold_rush.htm)

Gives analysis of the economy during the Gold Rush.

#### **A World Transformed: firsthand accounts of California before the Gold Rush:**

<http://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=WEQ6sIjuS6cC&oi=fnd&pg=PR7&dq=transportation+%22California+Gold+Rush%22&ots=-4s7kyykJm&sig=J-oZ XK-0Czamg-JPie9BQY9wojo#v=onepage&q&f=false>

This online book presents first hand knowledge of California transportation before and during the Gold Rush.

#### **A Golden State: mining and economic development in gold rush California:**

<http://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=rXHd9UQMEBIC&oi=fnd&pg=PA1&dq=transportation+%22California+Gold+Rush%22&ots=sVcLDzCnFv&sig=YfsHts4S4Xf1P2F-fPOIireUaio#v=onepage&q=transportation%20%22California%20Gold%20Rush%22&f=false>

This online book presents first hand knowledge of transportation and the economy during and after the Gold Rush.

Images for trails to the California Gold Rush

[http://www.google.com/images?q=trails+to+california+gold+rush&oe=utf-8&rls=org.mozilla:en-US:official&client=firefox-a&um=1&ie=UTF-8&source=univ&ei=V\\_qsTNDdEoK8sQOdi925DA&sa=X&oi=image\\_result\\_group&ct=title&resnum=4&ved=0CDIQsAQwAw&biw=997&bih=580](http://www.google.com/images?q=trails+to+california+gold+rush&oe=utf-8&rls=org.mozilla:en-US:official&client=firefox-a&um=1&ie=UTF-8&source=univ&ei=V_qsTNDdEoK8sQOdi925DA&sa=X&oi=image_result_group&ct=title&resnum=4&ved=0CDIQsAQwAw&biw=997&bih=580)

Journey of the 49ers

<http://pbskids.org/wayback/goldrush/journey.html>

The forty-niners traveled by three main routes. Pick one and see what happened.

Historical Development of the California Trail

<http://www.emigrantrailswest.org/caltrail.htm>

This site provides information on the different trails used to get to California.

## Science Near and Far

### **Scenario:**

You have a new idea for a Discovery Channel science program. The show would focus each week on a transportation technology that enabled the discovery of new scientific knowledge. The program producers have to be sold on the concept. Your team is presenting to the producers to get them excited about both the scientific and entertainment value of your series. In your presentation, you will provide three examples of transportation that lead to scientific discoveries. One of these examples will be the subject of your pilot show. The pilot show should highlight in detail a method of transportation, the scientific value of this discovery and the entertainment potential. The producers want to see the potential for a new hit show. In short, you want to “wow” them with your multimedia presentation.

### ***For this scenario, transportation will be defined as:***

*The movement of people, goods, scientific equipment from one location to another. Modes of transportation include travel through air, rail, road, water, cable, pipeline, and space.*

### ***Possible topics to cover (these are only suggestions and are not a requirement for a superior presentation):***

1. Give some relevant history that lead up to this discovery.
2. What was this transportation product originally designed to do?
3. What forms of transportation were/are used for similar types of exploration?
4. How was this transportation mode developed?
5. What was the scientific question or misconception prior to the discovery?
6. How does this transportation make it possible to attain new scientific knowledge?
7. Describe the scientific knowledge that was attained early in the use of the transportation.
8. Describe the scientific impact that was made both when it was first discovered and over time?
9. Describe how this mode of transportation has evolved into more sophisticated devices.

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## Grade 5 2010 Resources

### Science Near and Far

#### *Possible Sources*

Newspapers, historians, scientists, videos, CD's, encyclopedias, history textbooks  
Facts on File, United Streaming, and the Associate Press Extensive Photo Archive

#### *Online Sources*

##### **America On the Move:**

[http://americanhistory.si.edu/onthemove/themes/story\\_48\\_1.html](http://americanhistory.si.edu/onthemove/themes/story_48_1.html)

Presents a brief history of transportation in video format.

##### **Encyclopedia Smithsonian:**

[http://www.si.edu/encyclopedia\\_si/science\\_and\\_technology/Transportation\\_Technology.htm](http://www.si.edu/encyclopedia_si/science_and_technology/Transportation_Technology.htm)

Gives a brief history of transportation technology, as well as an in-depth history broken down by type of transportation.

**Fact Index:** [http://www.fact-index.com/t/ti/timeline\\_of\\_transportation\\_technology.html](http://www.fact-index.com/t/ti/timeline_of_transportation_technology.html)

Provides a timeline history of transportation technology.

**Enchanted Learning:** <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/explorers/page/p/polo.shtml>

Marco Polo: Explorer. Gives a brief history of his travels and discoveries.

**About.com:** <http://www.aboutdarwin.com/voyage/voyage03.html>

Summary of the voyage of Charles Darwin on HMS Beagle.

**Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute:** <http://www.whoi.edu/page.do?pid=8422>

Brief introduction to the use of submersible vehicles to explore the ocean depths.

**Jet Propulsion Laboratory:** <http://voyager.jpl.nasa.gov/>

Account of the Voyager spacecraft's discoveries.

## On a Roll

### ***Scenario:***

Several ancient cultures ruled vast areas of the world, creating amazing civilizations. Interestingly, they accomplished this without the use of the wheel. Evidence of wheeled vehicles appears from the mid-4th millennium BCE, but the question of which culture originally invented the wheeled vehicle remains unresolved and under debate. Your team are citizens of one of these cultures and have developed a working model of a wheel. Each of you shares a common vision of how your invention could revolutionize transportation and the potential for future civilizations. You are on a mission to bring the wheel to your civilization. To do so, you must convince your ruler and his council of advisors of the importance of your invention and how you will move forward to make your wheel useful. To accomplish your mission, you are making a presentation to the most powerful people in your society.

### ***Possible topics to cover (these are only suggestions and are not a requirement for a superior presentation):***

1. Describe the ancient culture in which you live.
2. Describe your culture's leaders and how much influence they have.
3. Give some history on the invention of the wheel and why it took so long to become widely used for transportation.
4. Keeping the time you live in mind, describe your wheel and its capabilities.
5. Describe changes in the first ancient cultures that started using the wheel.
6. What are effective methods to encourage the leaders to embrace the wheel?
7. What obstacles do you foresee in getting the wheel into widespread use?
8. What kind of infrastructure is needed to make the wheel more effective?
9. How can you get your people to begin using your wheel?
10. What personal gain is likely for your team in this society?

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## Grade 6 2010 Resources

### On a Roll

#### *Possible Sources*

Newspapers, historians, scientists, videos, CD's, encyclopedias, history textbooks  
Facts on File, United Streaming, and the Associate Press Extensive Photo Archive

#### *Online Sources*

##### **America On the Move:**

**Ideafinder:** <http://www.ideafinder.com/history/inventions/wheel.htm>

Fascinating facts about the invention of the wheel. Also provides links to additional resources.

**Social Studies for Kids:** <http://www.socialstudiesforkids.com/subjects/ancientcivilizations.htm>

Lists some ancient civilizations and provides information on each.

**The British History Site:** [http://www.etrusia.co.uk/city\\_tech\\_6.php](http://www.etrusia.co.uk/city_tech_6.php)

Provides one view of the effect of the wheel on ancient civilizations.

## My Favorite Martian

### **Scenario:**

On January 14, 2004, United States President George W. Bush announced an initiative of manned space exploration. It included developing preliminary plans for a lunar outpost by 2012 and establishing an outpost on Mars by 2020. However, Congress holds “The Power of the Purse Strings,” and makes decisions on funding. The Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics of the Congressional Committee on Science and Technology has asked your team to make a multimedia presentation on manned versus unmanned space exploration. They are trying to decide if a future mission to Mars should include a manned flight. They want you to analyze the costs vs. unmanned flights. They would also like to know how a manned flight would benefit the scientific community compared to an unmanned flight. The committee wants more than just the costs and technical challenges; they also want to know what their voters will most likely support.

### **Possible topics to cover (these are only suggestions and are not a requirement for a superior presentation):**

1. What is NASA’s position on manned and unmanned missions?
2. Do a poll on public opinion of manned vs. unmanned missions (recommended).
3. What would the journey to Mars and back probably be like?
4. What can we do with probes that do not require humans to be present?
5. What tools are we currently using on Mars and what can we learn from them?
6. What would be involved in colonizing Mars?
7. How do the challenges compare between sending humans to the moon versus Mars?
8. Describe the surface of Mars; how severe is it?
9. Describe what we learned on exploration of the Moon and how it can be used for trips to Mars.
10. What is your recommendation to the committee?

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## Grade 7 2010 Resources

### My Favorite Martian

#### *Possible Sources*

Newspapers, historians, scientists, videos, CD's, encyclopedias, history textbooks  
Facts on File, United Streaming, and the Associate Press Extensive Photo Archive

#### *Online Sources*

**Committee on Science and Technology, Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, U.S.**

**House of Representatives:** <http://science.house.gov/subcommittee/space.aspx>

Information about the Subcommittee's position on space exploration.

**MSNBC:** <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/4031857/>

A cost analysis of sending manned versus unmanned crafts to space.

**NewScientist:** <http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn4551-bush-to-announce-manned-mission-to-mars.html>

Gives public opinion of sending manned craft into space.

#### **Debatepedia:**

[http://debatepedia.idebate.org/en/index.php/Debate: Manned mission to Mars#Public opinion: Does the public support a mission to Mars.3F](http://debatepedia.idebate.org/en/index.php/Debate:_Manned_mission_to_Mars#Public_opinion:_Does_the_public_support_a_mission_to_Mars.3F)

Gives public opinion of manned versus unmanned flights. Also gives stats and information as to the cost effectiveness of each.

**The Space Review:** <http://www.thespacereview.com/article/602/1>

Reviews concerns about a mission to Mars. Gives ideas of obstacles that could be faced on such a mission, including ideas about manned and unmanned missions to Mars.

## Made in the USA

### **Scenario:**

“Buy American” has become a popular slogan over the last few decades as our country tries to keep jobs and support our industries, especially during the most recent recession. Because of this, several companies use the label, “Made in the USA,” with the hope that people will select these products over products from other countries. With the increase in transportation of goods back and forth between different countries, products are not entirely manufactured and assembled in one country. You are a research team working for the television show, *60 Minutes*. Your team is working on the concept that people assume a product is made in America because of the brand name or because there is a label that says, “Made in the USA.” The show segment would investigate how some automobiles are manufactured and assembled, and what standards are used to allow a company to call their product, “Made in the USA.” You are pitching your idea to producers and directors from *60 Minutes* to get their approval.

### **Possible topics to cover (these are only suggestions and are not a requirement for a superior presentation):**

1. Describe how different automobiles are built using varying amounts of foreign parts or are manufactured outside the USA.
2. Describe how this has changed over time.
3. What changes in car manufacturing have made it more cost effective to transport products to multiple countries before coming to market?
4. Compare an automobile to other types of products that are allowed to have the label “Made in the USA” but were made, in part, outside the USA.
5. Talk about the journey the parts and the final automobile take to reach the car dealer.
6. How do other countries produce products that cost less than in the USA?
7. What standard is currently in place for your product to get the “Made in America” label?
8. How much does this label affect the way people purchase products? (a survey may be good)
9. Are people aware that products that are sold as American are, in part, made in other countries? (possible local survey)
10. Is there a perceived difference in the quality of products depending on the country?

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## Grade 8 2010 Resources

### Made in the USA

#### *Possible Sources*

Newspapers, historians, scientists, videos, CD's, encyclopedias, history textbooks  
Facts on File, United Streaming, and the Associate Press Extensive Photo Archive

#### *Online Sources*

##### **Bureau of Consumer Protection:**

<http://business.ftc.gov/documents/bus03-complying-made-usa-standard>

Basic information about "Made in America" claims.

**What's Made In America?:** [http://www.whatsmadeinamerica.org/html/u\\_s\\_standards.html](http://www.whatsmadeinamerica.org/html/u_s_standards.html)

Goes into more detail about items claiming to be "Made In America." Also gives public opinion.

**MSNBC:** [http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/35821593/ns/business-us\\_business/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/35821593/ns/business-us_business/)

**Federal Trade Commission:** <http://www.ftc.gov/opa/1997/05/examples.shtm>

FTC Proposed guidelines for the use of U.S. Origin Claim.

**Automotive News:** <http://www.automotiveaddicts.com/inthenews/07-10-06.html>

Provides a list of cars and the percentage of American-made products on each car. Presents information on the process of cars being made in America, while parts are imported.

**All Business:** <http://www.allbusiness.com/government/government-bodies-offices-us-federal-government/10586272-1.html>



**High School-2010**

## Transportation Turkeys

### ***Scenario:***

The Travel Channel is always looking for new shows relating to transportation that have high entertainment value. You have an idea that you believe will be a sure-fire hit. The concept is that each week, the show will feature a transportation invention or experiment that failed in some way. The channel's producers ask that you make a multimedia presentation, giving examples of transportation failures that might be good show topics. The main part of your presentation should give details of one failed invention or experiment for the pilot show. You want them coming away excited and feeling this has the makings of a great series.

### ***Possible topics to cover (these are only suggestions and are not a requirement for a superior presentation):***

1. Briefly describe some transportation failures that have the potential to be interesting to the TV audience.
2. Describe, in detail, the transportation invention or experiment that you will be using in the TV pilot.
3. List the reasons that most likely caused this invention to not become a commercial success.
4. Compare the invention to similar items that did become successful.
5. Where will you find the resources you need to make the show interesting, including primary documents, interviews, photographs, news reports, video, etc?
6. What kind of educational value will this show have?
7. Describe the show format and compare it to a similar TV format.
8. What demographics are you targeting, and why?
9. What special features of your show will make it successful?
10. Who are the likely sponsors for your program, and why?

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## **High School 2010 Resources**

### **Transportation Turkeys**

#### ***Possible Sources***

Newspapers, historians, scientists, videos, CD's, encyclopedias, history textbooks  
Facts on File, United Streaming, and the Associate Press Extensive Photo Archive

#### ***Online Sources***

#### **U.S. Army Camel Corps**

<http://www.texasescapes.com/CFEckhardt/US-Armys-Camel-Corps.htm>

Brief history of a great idea that just didn't work out.

#### **History of Transportation Timeline**

[http://inventors.about.com/library/inventors/bl\\_history\\_of\\_transportation.htm](http://inventors.about.com/library/inventors/bl_history_of_transportation.htm)

List of transportation inventions from 3500 BCE to present; some worked, some didn't.

#### **History of Transportation Technologies**

<http://www.fi.edu/learn/case-files/transportation.html>

Transportation in America; a discussion of successes and failures.

#### **The Pony Express: History and Myth**

<http://www.nypl.org/blog/2010/02/01/pony-express-history-and-myth>

Interesting account of an experiment in transportation that didn't last very long, but still lives on in our country's memory.