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EDUCATION

John Deason and Richard Oates, the finders of the "Welcome Stranger" gold nugget, pose with a group at the site of their discovery in Victoria, Australia. © State Library of Victoria, Australia (accession no. H13298). Image Credit: Britannica School



216 lbs.

J Deason and Richard Oates
Unearthing the Welcome Stranger Nugget

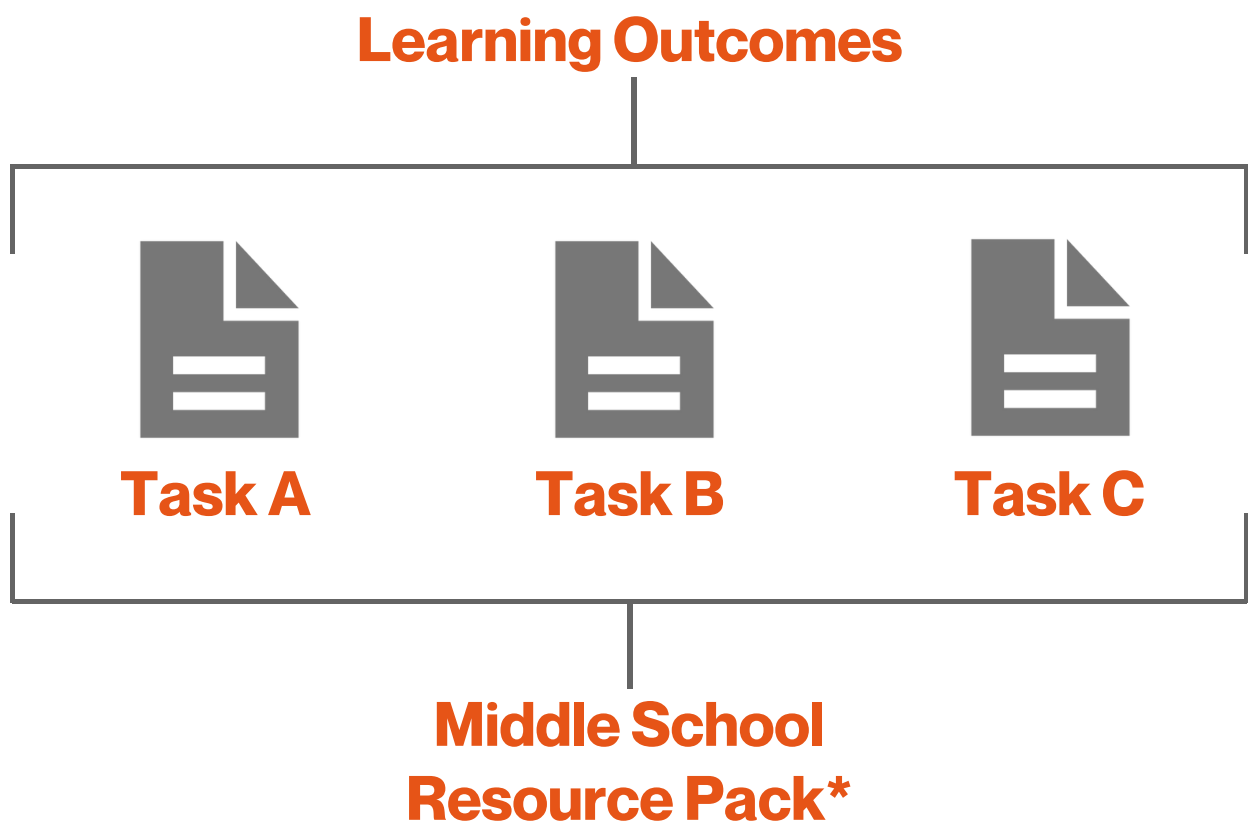
The Australian Gold Rushes: Making a Nation

Learning Resources and Activities aligned to
the Australian **Middle School** Curriculum

Introduction

Britannica's Curriculum Team has put together this series of Britannica School activity bundles to support your lessons around key curriculum topics and themes. Within each bundle, you will find a Britannica School resource pack containing differentiated, multimedia content related to the set topic, as well as supporting tasks and worksheets.

Here is what you will find in this thematic activity bundle:



***To use the contents in this resource pack**, you will need access to Britannica School. Check with your librarian to see if your school already has a subscription or start a free trial at elearn.eb.com/britannica-school/#free-trial

Australian Gold Rushes: Making a Nation

Activity Overview

Explore the gold rushes throughout Australia and how this significant period contributed to the shaping of Australia as a nation.



Vocabulary

- Aboriginal
- Australia
- Chinese
- Conditions
- Cultural
- Eureka
- Stockade
- Gold Rush
- Goldfields
- Immigration
- Impact
- Mining licence
- Multicultural
- Racism
- The Harvest of Endurance Scroll

Learning Outcomes

ACDSEH089

Experiences of non-Europeans in Australia prior to the 1900s (such as the Japanese, Chinese, South Sea Islanders, Afghans).

Elaboration

Outlining the migration of Chinese to the goldfields in Australia in the nineteenth century and attitudes towards the Chinese as revealed in cartoons (for example, 'The Mongolian Octopus').



During the Australian gold rushes, many Chinese immigrants planted market gardens to supply sorely needed fresh vegetables to the goldfields. © State Library of Victoria, Australia (accession no. H26629). **Image Credit: Britannica School**

Background Information

Before the 1850s, Australia was a remote, little-known colony populated mainly by British convicts. But within months of the discovery of gold in 1851, Australia had an international reputation.

The gold rushes had an immense impact on Australia's population. News of the 1851 discoveries attracted people from countries around the world. This was Australia's first taste of a multicultural population.

The changes brought about by the first gold rushes transformed Australia and set its course of development for decades to come. Just 50 years after the fateful find at Bathurst, the British colonies would unite to become the independent Commonwealth of Australia.

Task 1

Imagine you are a woman experiencing life on the goldfields, write a letter to your family back home describing your experiences.

Task: Letter from the Gold Fields

Study sources that depict life on the gold fields. Watch the video 'Australia: Victoria Gold Rush', examine Samuel Thomas Gill's painting and read about women on the gold fields in the Britannica School article 'Australian Gold Rushes'.

Imagine you are a woman experiencing life on the goldfields, write a **letter to your family** back home describing your experiences. Include details of the conditions in which you live and your feelings about living and working on the goldfields. Explain the responsibilities you have as a woman.



Tip: You can find videos, images and articles about life on the Australian gold fields in the Britannica School 'Making a Nation' resource pack.



Task: Impacts on Immigration

During the 19th century, the prospect of gold attracted people from around the world to Australia.



Investigate the cultural differences and racism in the gold fields. Prepare a 3-5min speech to share your research.



Tip: Take a look at 'The Harvest of Endurance' Scroll, a 50m long depicting the history of Chinese contact with and emigration to the goldfields. The scroll depicts the hardships, survival and perseverance of the Chinese miners.



Task 2

Investigate the cultural differences and racism in the goldfields, prepare a 3-5 min speech to share your research.

Task: Eureka Stockade

Learn about the Eureka Stockade. Why is the event significant to Australia as a nation?



Tip: You can find information and images on the Eureka Stockade in the Britannica School 'Making a Nation' resource pack.



Build a profile of this significant event in Australia's history. Include researched information, images and video where appropriate.



Task 3

Build a profile of the Eureka Stockade. Include researched information, images and video where appropriate.

Task 4

How did the gold rush affect the Australia Aboriginal Peoples?

Task: Effects on Australian Aboriginal Peoples

How did the gold rush affect the Aboriginal People?

Create a list of **advantages** and **disadvantages** for Indigenous people.



Tip: You can find information on this subject as well as links to help further your research in the Britannica School 'Making a Nation' resource pack.

Advantages	Disadvantages

Support this activity with differentiated multimedia using **Britannica School** resource packs.

Teacher Tip:
Ideal for independent research tasks, inquiry-based learning and curiosity-led discovery!



Open "Making a Nation" resource pack→

Middle

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Making a Nation Middle

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Resources

In This Pack: 9 IMAGES, 1 VIDEO, 4 ARTICLES

You have uploaded the following documents:

[Oral_Presentation_Rubric.pdf](#)

[Australian gold rushes: license](#)

IMAGE

A license issued in Victoria, Australia, in 1852 grants the miner the right to "dig, search for, and remove Gold" in Upper Loddon.

Note

Activity 3

[Lalor, Peter](#)

IMAGE

Peter Lalor.

Note

Activity 3

[Eureka Stockade](#)

ARTICLE - LEVEL 2

The Eureka Stockade has been called the birthplace of Australian democracy. In 1854 gold miners clashed with government forces at this fortification in the Eureka goldfield.

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A painting of a person in a dark suit and hat, holding a rifle, standing in a desert landscape under a cloudy sky. The person is seen from behind, looking out over the horizon.



216 lbs.
J. Deason and Deason 12 bats
Unearthing the Welcome Stranger Nozzle



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