

Unearthed: Mining Stories from the Mid West Teacher Resource

The *Unearthed – Mining Stories from the Midwest* includes links to the curriculum, student activities, and a selection of website sources.

The range of activities has been designed for Years 6 -9 however teachers will find them adaptable to other year groups.

Activities include an interactive, self evaluation Miners to Magnate quiz. Students choose the path of *Mining in the Olden Days* or that of a *Modern Day Miner* and they are rewarded with points that advance them through the ranks of miner to mining magnate after successfully completing each level of the quiz. Teachers will find this a comprehensive and valuable tool for providing students with background information, prior to undertaking further research. It is suggested that students complete both formats.

There are activity sheets available for pre-visits, self-guided visits and classroom follow-up.

Additional information is available on selected topics for a broader understanding of contemporary mining topics.



Mayflower Mining Camp
circa 1896

Image courtesy H. Faust

UNEARTHED

MINING STORIES FROM THE MID WEST



museum.wa.gov.au

Curriculum

History

Australian Curriculum

Year 5 The Australian Colonies

- *Founding of British colonies and the development of the Swan River Colony.*
- *Factors that influenced settlement in the Mid West region of Western Australia.*
- *Life in colonial times.*
- *The impact of significant events such as the discovery of lead and gold in the Mid West in the 1800s.*
- *The role significant individuals or groups played in shaping the Mid West.*

Year 6 Australia as a Nation

- *The way of life of people who migrated to Australia.*
- *The contribution of migrants to Australia's economic and social development.*
- *The factors that led to Federation including the influence of gold miners who arrived from the Eastern States.*

Year 9 Making a Nation

- *Industrialisation and rapid changes in the way people lived, worked and thought.*
- *Changes in the way of life of people who moved to Australia.*
- *The impact of the goldrushes on the development of towns and cities.*
- *Identification the main features that influenced living and working conditions in Australia.*
- *Exploration the role of Afghan cameleers and attitudes towards them.*

Resources Information

■ General

<http://www.mwdc.wa.gov.au/about.aspx>

Mid West Development Commission – maps, history, major projects in the Mid West.

<http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/8494.aspx>

Department of Mines and Petroleum website with an education section. Useful maps and current information.

<http://www.peopleforthefuture.com.au/Learning-Resources/Educational-Resources>

An excellent set of lesson plans and classroom activities for both primary and secondary students.

<http://www.oresomeresources.com/>

Queensland based – very informative; offers teacher resources, mineral information, interactive opportunities and videos for students.

<http://www.ga.gov.au/minerals/mineral-resources/aimr.html>

Resources in Australia with reference to Western Australia.

<http://www.australianminesatlas.gov.au/>

A good general overview of present day mining in Australia, complete with Education section.

<http://www.mii.org/>

An American site but lots of useful information and facts for teachers; uses for minerals in the 21st century.

■ Attapulgitite

<http://www.higl.com.au/index.htm>

Follow the product link for consumer and industrial uses.

■ Clay

<http://www.midlandbrick.com.au>

Midland Brick; Community and Education; from Clay Pit to Brick

■ Garnet

<http://www.garnetsales.com/>

Very informative site – location of, processing of and uses of garnet from the company at Port Gregory Western Australia.

http://www.ehow.com/info_8033144_uses-garnet.html

General overview of the uses for the garnet gem with links to other sites for the different uses.

■ Gold

http://slwa.wa.gov.au/find/guides/wa_history/gold

Books and information on searching for information on gold using resources at the Battye Library in Perth. A good source for viewing photographs.

<http://www.newmont.com/asia-pacific>

Features a video of the Newmont Mine at Boddington, WA's latest goldmine. The video shows the steps involved in open pit mining and processing.

<http://www.reedresources.com/meekatharra-gold.php>

Location of the Reed Resources mine at Meekatharra, good visual images and graphics.

<http://goldoz.com.au/34.0.html>

Lists Western Australian goldmines and has a glossary of geological and mining terms.

■ Iron Ore

<http://www.gioa.com.au/index.phtml>

Links to each member of the Geraldton Iron Ore Alliance

<http://www.gindalbie.com.au/>

Gindalbie homepage. Link to an excellent DVD on hematite and magnetite iron ore.

<http://www.mtgibsoniron.com.au/index.asp>

Wonderful photo gallery to support elements of the mining process

http://www.sinosteelmidwest.com.au/images/site/files/1007_07%20Fact%20Sheet-Weld%20Range.pdf

Fact sheets provided by Sinosteel Midwest which demonstrate the mining process

http://www.morawa.wa.gov.au/uploaddocs/1006_18%20koolanooka%20historical%20brochureprint.pdf

A detailed history of early iron ore mining at Koolanooka.

■ Lead

[http://register.heritage.wa.gov.au/PDF_Files/G%20-%20A-D/Geraldine%20Lead%20Mine%20\(P-AD\).PDF](http://register.heritage.wa.gov.au/PDF_Files/G%20-%20A-D/Geraldine%20Lead%20Mine%20(P-AD).PDF)

Information on the Geraldine Lead Mine.

<http://www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2011/02/01/3127229.htm>

Interview with farmer John Ralph at the Geraldine Mine.

■ Lime and Gypsum

<http://www.cockburncement.com.au/productinfo/range/lime.htm>

Different forms of lime and uses. Safety procedures when using lime.

<http://www.mannaenterprises.com.au/productareas.html>

Basic information about the uses of lime and gypsum.

■ Mineral Sands

http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/documents/GSWA_MineralSandsPamphlet.pdf
Fact sheets on the minerals and its uses.

<http://www.iluka.com/?page=mineralsandsproductsandtheiruses>
Fact sheets on minerals and uses. Easy to read and informative.

■ Nickel

http://www.australianminesatlas.gov.au/aimr/commodity/nickel_10.jsp
Basic information about nickel mining in Western Australia and its uses.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VpiWqLR4d90&feature=related>
Mining at Mount Keith – charges are set and explosions follow – powerful images.

■ Oil and Gas

<http://www.rocoil.com.au/Activities/Australia-and-NZ/Cliff-Head/Cliff-Head-in-depth.aspx>
History of the Cliff Head off shore platform and the Roc Oil Company.

■ Talc

http://www.luzenac.com/fascinating_facts.htm
Useful site showing production and uses of talc.

■ Vanadium

<http://www.reedresources.com/vanadium.php>
The case for Vanadium: Power point presentation on the mining, processing and uses for vanadium in 21st century. Very informative and easy for students to understand.

■ Zinc, Copper and High Precious Metals (HPM)

<http://www.copper.org/>
American site with education link: Copper and kids. Some fun facts about copper and different activities for students. Also shows the production of copper from ground to final product.