









**Miner**Ages 5-6
Complete 3 activities



**49er**Ages 7-9
Complete 5 activities



**Prospector**Ages 10 & up
Complete 7 activities

OUR RANGERS welcome you to Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park where YOU can become a Junior Ranger! Junior Rangers are special people who help preserve this park for future generations. This Junior Ranger activity booklet will give you an incentive to thoroughly explore and experience this historic landmark, and you will learn how the discovery of gold started the California Gold Rush and shaped the future of California. You can then share your knowledge with others so that they may also enjoy the park. There is so much to do and see at Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park, we don't want you to miss a single thing. So let's get going!

This program is designed for ages 5 years and up.

#### Requirements to Become a Junior Ranger

- 1. All age groups must complete the Respect, Protect, and Be Safe exercise on the next page.
- 2. Complete a total of 3, 5, or 7 activities based on your age according to the key to the left. Activities include worksheets in this book, watching a film in the Visitor Center, listening to a docent or ranger give a talk, or paid activities such as gold panning or taking the Gold Discovery Tour.
- 3. When activities are completed, take your book back to the Visitor Center where you will be sworn in, your certificate will be signed, and you will become an official Junior Ranger! If you would like your very own Junior Ranger patch, you may purchase one in the Gold Rush Mercantile.

## Respect, Protect, and Be Safe!

This exercise is very important and should be completed before you explore the rest of **Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park**. Fill in the blanks using the words from the word bank.

# When hiking, I will stay on the \_\_\_\_\_ at all times. All structures within the park including buildings, monuments and the Indian Grinding Rock are for me to look at and I will not \_\_\_\_ them. I will look for \_\_\_\_ to pick up. Animals in the park are wild. For my own safety and the safety of the animals, I will not \_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_ them. I will respect other visitors to the park by speaking in a \_\_\_\_ voice. Everything in Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park is protected. I will not take anything from the park except memories and \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_, and I will leave only footprints.

#### **Word Bank**

feed soft trail litter touch pictures climb

# **Getting Started**

Choose at least ONE of the following. You can do more than one if you have time.

#### **GOLD PANNING**

COLD DISCOVEDY TOUR
My teacher was:
A 45-minute session, lesson included, at Bekeart's Gun Shop.

#### **GOTD DI2COAFKA LOAK**

#### PARK FILM

Name of film:	 
Share one thing you learned: _	 

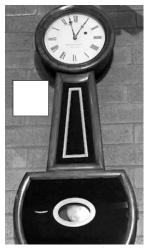


# **Scavenger Hunt**

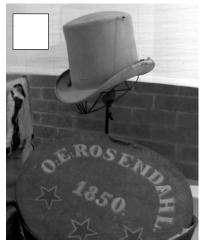
Go on a scavenger hunt inside the Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park Visitor Center. As you explore, search for the items below. Check them off as you make your discoveries. See if you can find them all.

#### **Prospectors**

Find the answer to this question to complete the activity: How many people could ride in the cabin of the stagecoach at one time?





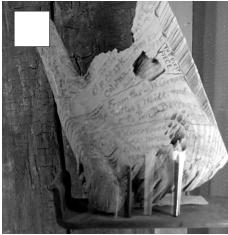
















Junior Ranger Program

Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park | 3

Word Search

# People of Coloma

During the 1800s gold was used as money all over the world. After James Marshall discovered gold in Coloma on January 24, 1848, people came to California from every continent except Antarctica to get their share. When the gold seekers arrived, they met the Native Americans who had been inhabiting the area for hundreds of years. In Coloma, they were called the Nisenan, a subgroup of the Maidu people, or "river people." Their diet consisted of acorns, fruits, seeds, freshwater fish, wildfowl, elk, deer, and small game. Visit the grinding rock and village site to get an idea of how they lived.

Chinese immigrants, mostly from southern China around Canton, were a large portion of the population in Gold Rush California. The 1860 census reported that Chinese people made up 33 percent of the population in the foothills. They were excellent placer miners and often successfully worked ground that had previously been mined by others. The Chinese operated stores and grew vegetables, two services that were in great demand by other miners. As the gold diminished, many worked building the Central Pacific Railroad. As you hike around the park, be sure to stop in the two stone buildings along Highway 49 which once housed Chinese businesses.

W	Н	Α	L	J	S	С	Υ	Т	В	Α	Т	Е	Α	М
0	D	Z	R	Α	Ε	Z	0	S	G	Α	G	G	F	0
M	Н	Χ	M	R	Ε	J	Т	U	K	R	Α	0	Χ	Ν
Е	L	В	G	0	Α	Н	Z	Т	Ν	Z	C	L	В	R
N	C	Н	I	Ν	Ε	S	Ε	Р	Z	Т	0	D	U	0
W	0	R	L	D	W	Α	Т	C	Z	L	R	D	R	Ε
Ε	K	N	Χ	Р	0	Q	M	R	W	K	N	I	G	G
M	1	Ν	I	Ν	G	S	Χ	Ε	Ε	R	F	L	Ε	D
W	Ν	D	U	1	I	W	W	K	R	Z	Н	F	S	S
M	Α	Z	Р	0	Р	U	L	Α	Т	I	0	Ν	S	Α
U	Т	0	R	F	F	Q	0	1	D	R	C	Υ	Α	I
S	1	V	Ε	G	Ε	Т	Α	В	L	Ε	S	Α	Χ	L
Ε	V	Α	L	S	Р	Α	Ν	1	S	Н	J	Ε	Ν	N
U	Ε	Ν	I	S	Ε	Ν	Α	Ν	C	L	U	V	R	S
M	K	F	S	Р	V	В	Р	L	Α	C	Ε	R	Χ	0
ACORN			COUNTRIES			NATIVE			VEGETABLES					
AMERICANS			GC	GOLD			NISENAN			WOMEN				
ARI	ARRASTRE MINING			PLACER			WORLD							
BA	ГЕА			MC	ONRO	DE	POPULATION			N	BURGESS			

Spanish-speaking miners came to California in large numbers from Chile, Peru, and Mexico. Many of these miners brought mining technology from their homeland, including the batea (a wooden gold pan), and the arrastre (a method of grinding quartz to separate out the gold). Today we still use Spanish terms introduced by these miners, such as placer, an ancient word describing sand banks that contain gold.

**MUSEUM** 

**CHINESE** 

African Americans were part of the Coloma community as well. Some came west as slaves, but gained their freedom when California entered the union as a free state. As you look through the museum, you will learn about the Gooch-Monroe and Burgess families. Both were prominent and well-respected families that once owned and farmed much of the land our state park is built on today.

**SPANISH** 

American and European settlers came in large numbers, but a vast majority of them were men. Women were a rare sight during the Gold Rush. Women made up only eight percent of the population of California in 1850. In mountain towns, outside of the big cities, women made up just two and a half percent of the population.

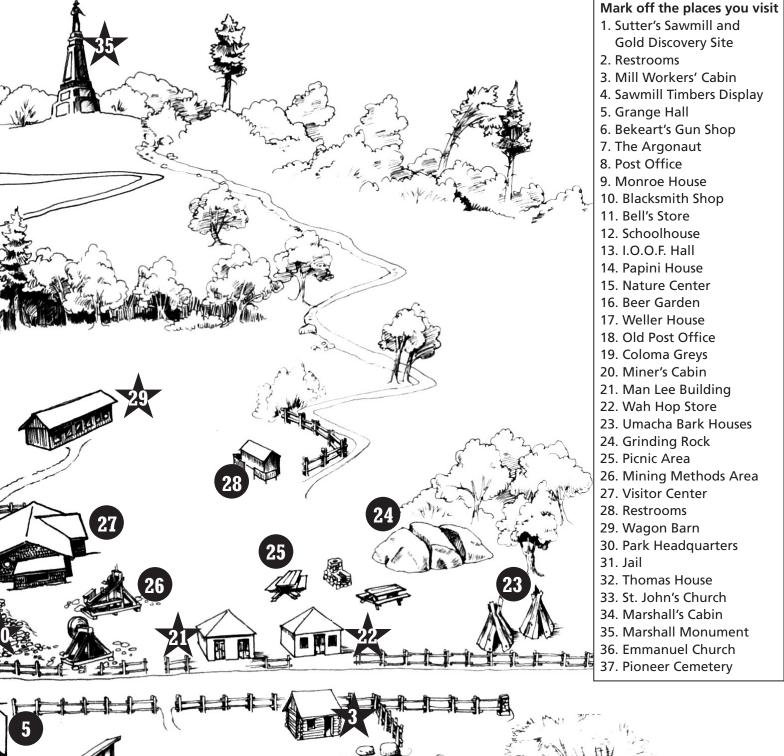
The world truly rushed in during the California Gold Rush as seen in the diverse people found in the gold fields.

# What's Wrong With This Picture?

Everything in Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park is protected. As a Junior Ranger, you can help preserve the park for future generations! Look at this picture of people visiting Coloma and circle those who are doing something to help protect the park. Put an X on the people doing things that might harm the park.



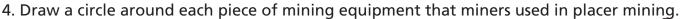




# **Mining Methods**

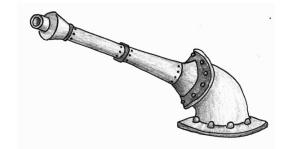
Learn about the different mining methods used in the gold fields when you visit the exhibit in the Man Lee Building.

- 1. What method of mining uses high-pressure water transported through a series of pipes?
- 2. What mining method had mine shafts?
- 3. What type of rock did miners look for when they were hard rock mining?





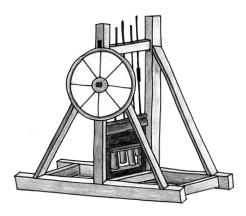
Gold Pan



Hydraulicking Pipe



Rocker



Stamp Mill

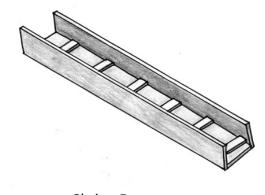
#### **Bonus Question**

**Q:** What poisonous substance was used to attract gold?

**.** 



Shovel



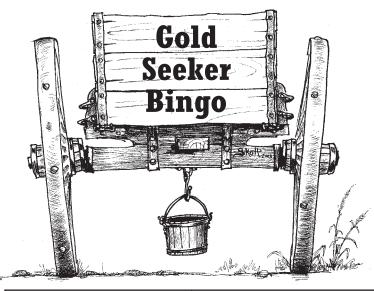
Sluice Box
8 | Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park



Ore Cart



Junior Ranger Program



There are many historic sites to see and learn about in Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park. As you explore the park and each site, answer the question associated with it below.

Write your answer in the appropriate box. Answer four in a row for Bingo and to complete this activity, OR take the challenge and complete them all for a blackout!

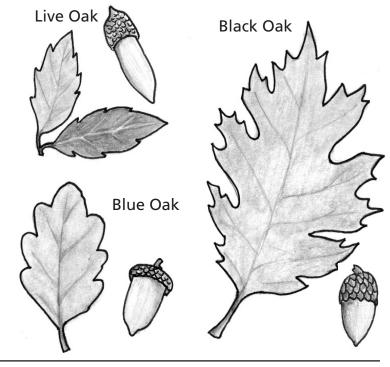
**NOTE:** All sites on this page are marked with a ★ on the map on pages 6-7.

Schoolhouse The second story of what building was originally used as Coloma's school house?	Miner's Cabin Where did miners usually get the canvas to make their tents?	Bekeart's Gun Shop Who was Frank Bekeart's good friend?	Sutter's Mill What was harnessed to power the sawmill?
Wa Hop Store Name two services that were provided in the Wa Hop Store.	Jail Ruins What material was used to build Coloma's first jail?	Papini House Who ran a bakery on the property where the Papini House now stands?	Blacksmith Shop Who built the blacksmith shop that still stands in Coloma today?
St. John's Church How many churches were in Coloma at one time?	Weller House What was the name of the Hotel the Bramer Brothers operated on this site?	Wagon Barn Over which trail did John Bemmerly travel to come to California?	Millworkers' Cabin What war did the Mormon Battalion participate in?
Coloma Greys Name one of the wagons that is on display inside the Coloma Greys building.	Marshall's Cabin How many years did James Marshall occupy this cabin?	Man Lee Building How many washed pans was a miner's daily labor quota?	Marshall Monument Who is buried at the monument site?

#### **Plants of Coloma**

There are many different trees that grow in the Coloma Valley. Oak trees were some of the most important trees to the Native Americans. Oak trees that grow here are the Blue Oak, the Black Oak, and the Live Oak. Although it may seem difficult to tell the three apart, looking a little closer at their leaves and acorns can help.

Who or what eats the acorns made by these oak trees?



The **Tree of Heaven** is another tree that grows in this valley. Chinese miners brought these trees to the gold fields to be reminded of their homeland.

What are some things that remind you of home?

Following the Gold Rush, many people turned to agriculture to make a living. James Marshall had a vineyard, the Monroe and Burgess families operated large orchards, and most people had backyard gardens. Some agricultural plants you can find in the park today are fig, pear, apple, persimmon, peach, olive, and walnut trees, as well as grapevines.

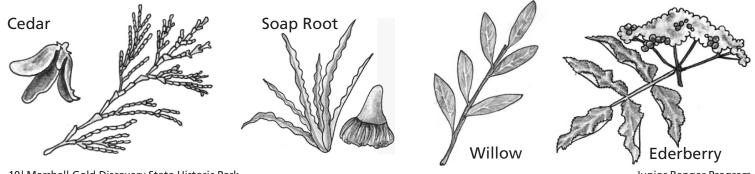
What fruits and vegetables would you grow if you were a farmer?

The Nisenan relied heavily upon the plant life of Coloma. They were very good observers and recognized that different plants could be used in different ways.

•Cedar bark to make their homes

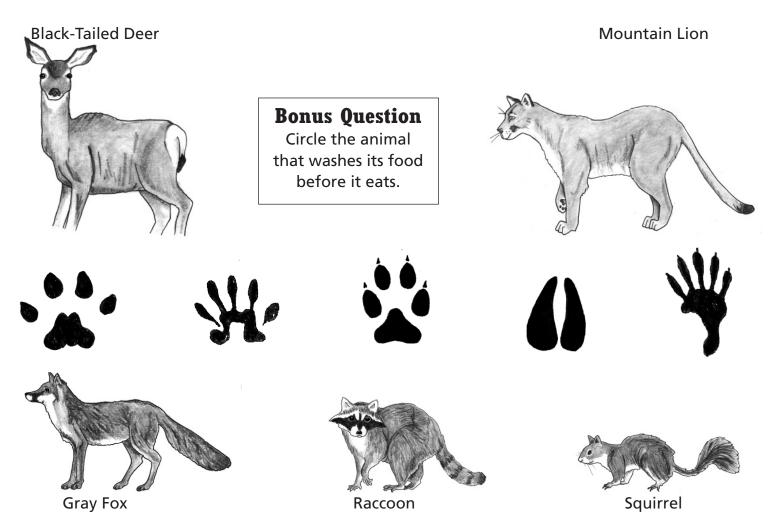
- •Willow branches to make their baskets
- Fibrous root of the **soap plant** to make brushes. **Elderberry** branches to make instruments

Name some things in your home that are made from plants.



## Wildlife

Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park is home to a lot of wildlife. Below are some animals you might see in the park. Can you match each animal with the track they make?



#### **Birds**

White-Breasted

Canada

Many birds call Coloma home, too. Below are some birds you might see (or hear) while exploring. Rank each bird by number based on its given size -- 1 being the smallest and 5 being the largest.

Acorn

Northern

Willie Dicastea	Carrada	7100111	1101 (110111	Juk
Nuthatch	Goose	Woodpecker	Flicker	Titmouse
5-7 inches	2-4 feet	9-11 inches	12-14 inches	5-7 inches

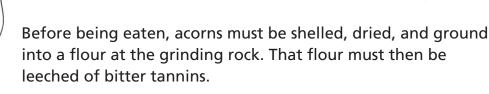
Oak

#### Cull-uh-mah

The Nisenan Indians lived peacefully in this valley for many, many years prior to James Marshall's discovery of gold. The town's name of Coloma comes from a Nisenan term cull-uh-mah which means "beautiful valley." The Gold Rush changed these people's lives forever as they were not treated kindly by many gold seekers. Read on and complete the pictures below to learn more about Coloma's natives.

The Nisenan lived in structures called *umachas*. These conical homes were made of cedar bark. A family of 4-6 would have lived in one umacha.

Acorns were a very important part of the Nisenan diet. Acorns were gathered in autumn and stored in a *chaka*, or acorn granary, until needed. A family of 4 would need 2,000 pounds of acorns for one year.



#### Scramble for Gold

Unscramble the bold, underlined letters in the following paragraph to *o* complete the sentence.

Swiss immigrant John Sutter founded New Helvetia. It was later named Sacramento. He neede<u>d</u> lumber to build his settlement and agricultural empire in the Sacramento Valley and a sawmill t<u>o</u> cut the lumber. Sutter and James Marshall became partners in Sutter's Mill. A site in the Coloma Valle<u>y</u> was chosen because it had a river for power and large Ponderosa Pine trees for lumber. On January 24, 1848, while



inspecting the sawmill, Marshall spotted some shiny flecks. He placed them in the crown of his hat and hurried to announce to the mill workers, "Boys, I believe I've found a gold mine." Four days later, Marshall rode to the fort with a sample of gold and held a private meeting with Sutter where the men agreed to keep the discovery a secret. This was a secret that could not long be kept. Store owner Sam Brannan ran through the streets of San Francisco with a bottle of gold shouting, "Gold! Gold! Gold from the American River!" The world rushed in. Thousands of gold seekers poured into the Coloma Valley as the news spread throughout the world.

The world rushed	in because of the	0.	f.

