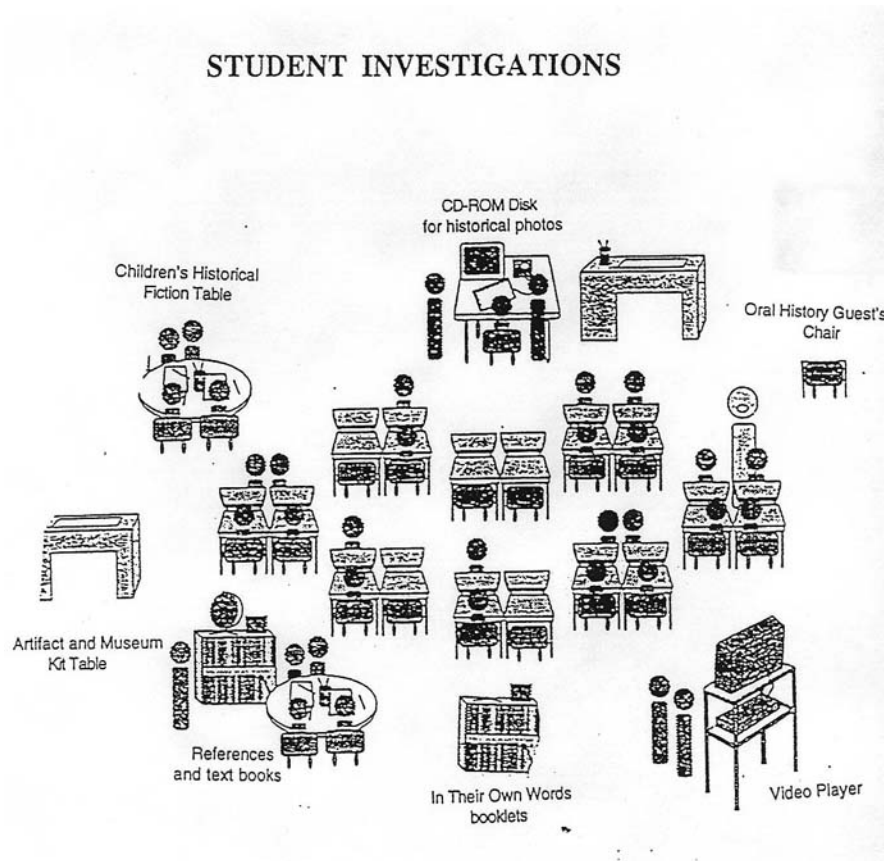


COLORADO MINING STUDENT INVESTIGATIONS

1. Set up the following “resource stations” in the classroom:
 - Computer station for CDROM disk or Internet website.
 - Reference and textbook station.
 - Hard copy photograph station (illustrated history or picture books about mining in Colorado).
 - VCR for quiet video viewing.
 - (The graphic on the next page shows additional possibilities for stations.)
2. Post a schedule to rotate students through the computer station.
3. Write the following synthesis question on the chalkboard:
 - What was it like to live and work in the mining regions of Colorado?
4. Divide the students into work groups (no more than three students per group) and give each group one of the six Mining Investigation Sheets (see below).
5. Explain to students that each group will become expert on one of the following themes:
 - Food, Clothing, and Shelter
 - Families, Children, and Schools
 - Mining Work and Tools
 - Mining Towns
 - Community Life
 - Transportation

The groups will gather information at the five resource stations to answer the questions on their Investigation Sheet.
6. Each group will be responsible for teaching the rest of the class about its theme. They must decide how best to teach this material. Some possibilities:
 - An oral report.
 - A poster.
 - A skit.
 - A mock press conference.
7. The students in each group must take notes about the themes that they have not investigated.

8. Finally, each student must submit a written piece that integrates the information by responding to the synthesis questions. Some possibilities include an essay, a short story or poem, a series of mock diary entries, a written dialogue between two historical characters.



The figure above illustrates some of the possibilities for work stations that students might use during their investigations.

FOOD, CLOTHING, AND SHELTER INVESTIGATION SHEET

The task of your group is to find out all you can about the kind of FOOD people in the mining regions of Colorado ate, the CLOTHES they wore, and what kind of SHELTER they lived in. Use the Doing History/Keeping the Past CD-ROM disk or Internet site and as many other sources as you can find.

The questions below will help you get started. Add to this list any other questions that you can think of.

1. What kind of food did miners eat?

2. How and where did they cook their food?

3. What kind of clothes did men and women wear in mining towns?

4. What kind of clothes did children wear?

5. What kind of houses were built in mining towns? How big were they?
What were they made of?

6. What were houses like on the inside? What furniture did people have?

Write on the back of this sheet if you need more space.

FAMILIES, CHILDREN, AND SCHOOLS INVESTIGATION SHEET

The task of your group is to find out all you can about FAMILIES, CHILDREN, and SCHOOLS in mining areas in Colorado. Use the Doing History/Keeping the Past CD-ROM disk or Internet site and as many other sources as you can find.

The questions below will help you get started. Add to this list any other questions that you can think of.

1. What evidence can you find that miners brought their families with them to the mining towns of Colorado?

2. What kind of toys and games did children play with in mining towns?

3. What kind of pets did children have in the mining regions?

4. What were school buildings like in Colorado mining towns?

5. What were classrooms like in mining town schools?

Write on the back of this sheet if you need more space.

MINING WORK AND TOOLS INVESTIGATION SHEET

The task of your group is to find out all you can about mining WORK AND TOOLS in Colorado. Use the Doing History/Keeping the Past CD-ROM disk or Internet site and as many other sources as you can find.

The questions below will help you get started. Add to this list any other questions that you can think of.

1. How did miners recover flakes and nuggets of gold from rivers and stream banks? What kind of tools did they use?

2. How did miners get gold ore out of the mountains? What kind of tools did they use?

3. How was gold and silver separated from quartz rock and other minerals?

4. How did miners get coal out of the ground? What kind of tools did they use?

5. What kind of work did women do in mining regions?

Write on the back of this sheet if you need more space.

MINING TOWNS INVESTIGATION SHEET

The task of your group is to find out all you can about MINING TOWNS in Colorado. Use the Doing History/Keeping the Past CD-ROM disk or Internet site and as many other sources as you can find.

The questions below will help you get started. Add to this list any other questions that you can think of.

1. What were the buildings like in mining towns? How tall were they? What were they made of?

2. What were the streets like in mining towns? Were they paved or unpaved? What kind of sidewalks did they have?

3. What kind of stores and businesses did mining towns have?

4. What were stores and shops like on the inside?

5. What kind of houses did mining towns have? What were they made of?

Write on the back of this sheet if you need more space.

COMMUNITY LIFE INVESTIGATION SHEET

The task of your group is to find out all you can about COMMUNITY LIFE in the mining regions of Colorado. Use the Doing History/Keeping the Past CD-ROM disk or Internet site and as many other sources as you can find.

The questions below will help you get started. Add to this list any other questions that you can think of.

1. What kind of holidays and special times did people in mining regions celebrate?

2. What kind of churches did Colorado mining communities have?

3. What kind of sports teams did mining communities have?

4. What kind of music groups did mining communities have?

5. What else did people do for entertainment in Colorado mining communities?

Write on the back of this sheet if you need more space.

TRANSPORTATION INVESTIGATION SHEET

The task of your group is to find out all you can about TRANSPORTATION in Colorado mining regions. Use the Doing History/Keeping the Past CD-ROM disk or Internet site and as many other sources as you can find.

The questions below will help you get started. Add to this list any other questions that you can think of.

1. What were skis used for in mining regions?

2. Why did miners use burros for transportation? What were they used for?

3. What were horse-drawn wagons used for in mining regions?

4. Why were railroads built in the mining regions of Colorado?

5. How were locomotives and railroad cars used in the mines?

Write on the back of this sheet if you need more space.