

UNIT 7.4

GOLD RUSH



1

Who is a 49'er?



1

49'er -
someone
who went to
California to
look for gold,
starting in
1849



2

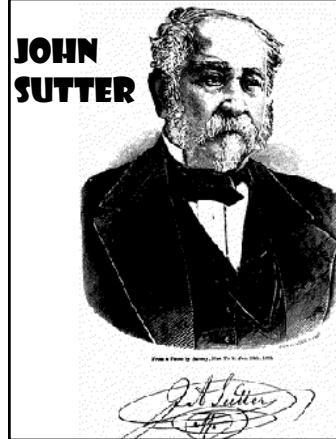
Who is JOHN SUTTER?

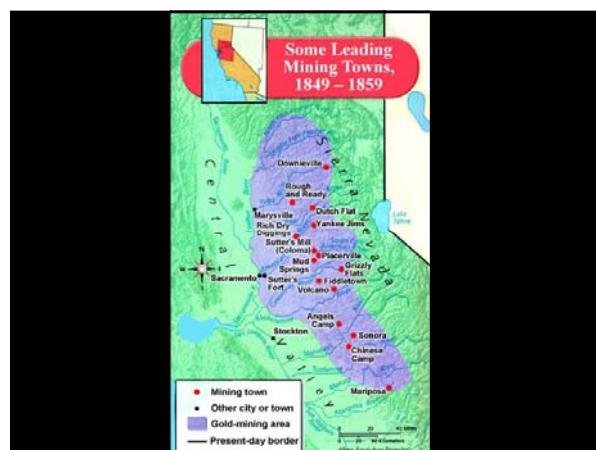
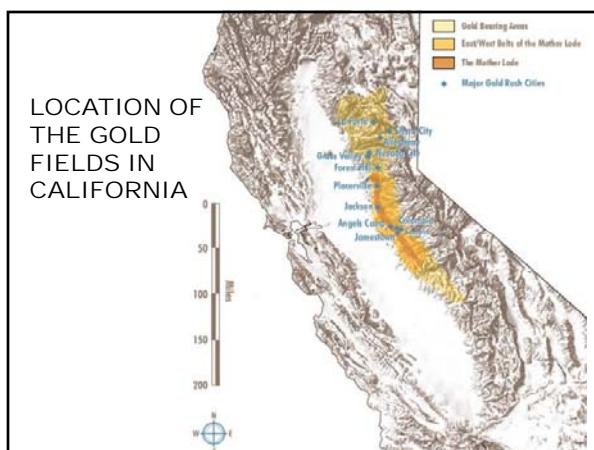
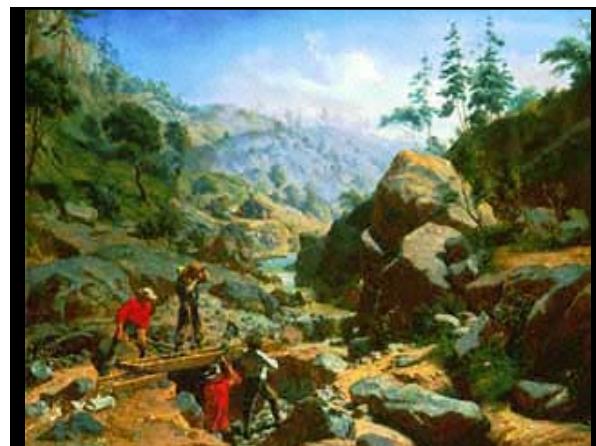
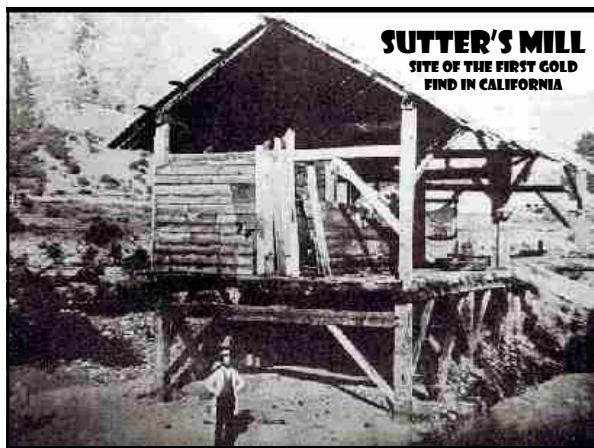


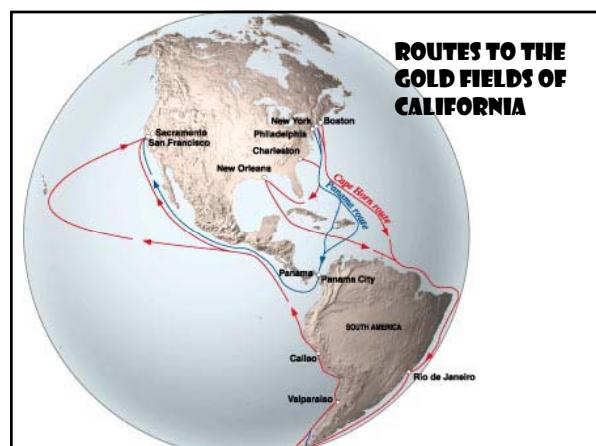
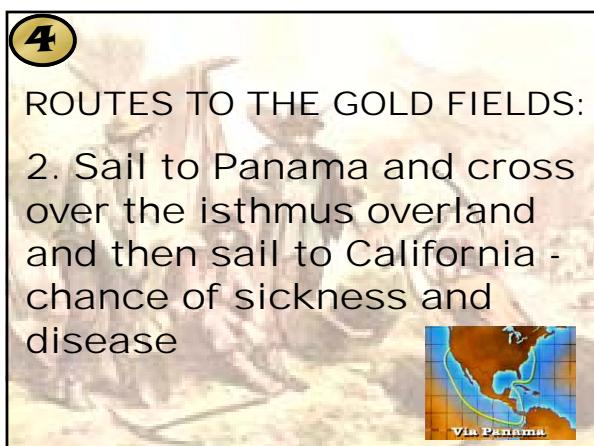
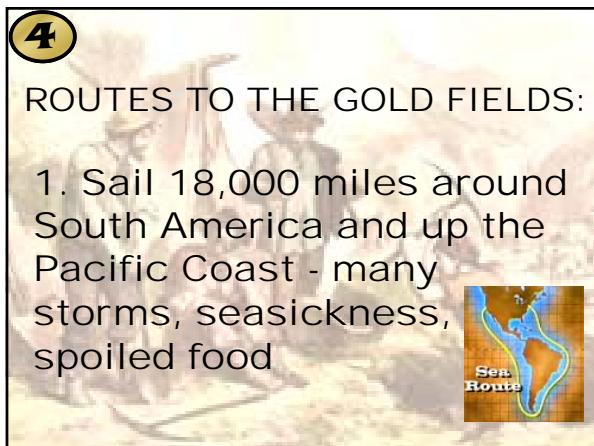
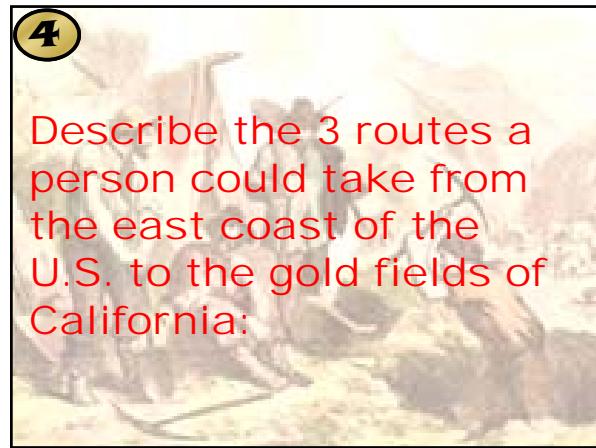
2

JOHN SUTTER - first
person to find gold in
California when he built
a sawmill, started the
gold rush

**JOHN
SUTTER**







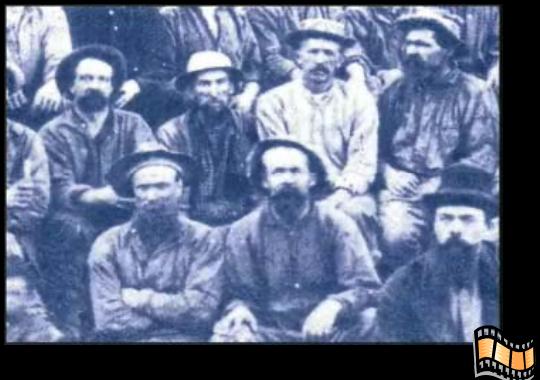
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ROUTES TO THE GOLD FIELDS:

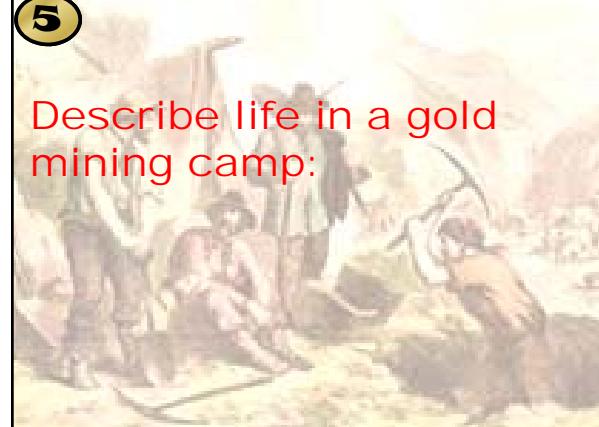
3. Travel across North America on trails - difficult travel, hardships of the trail



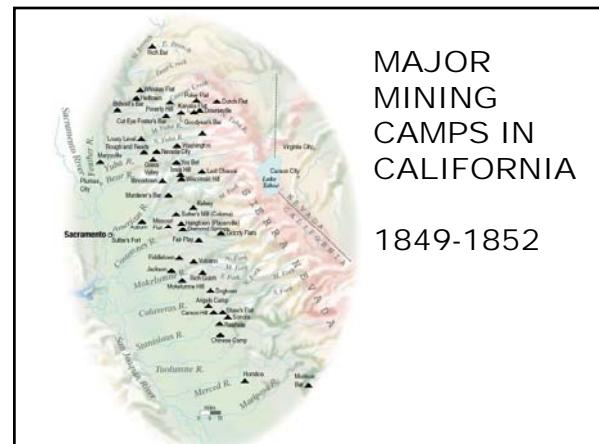
ROUTES TO CALIFORNIA

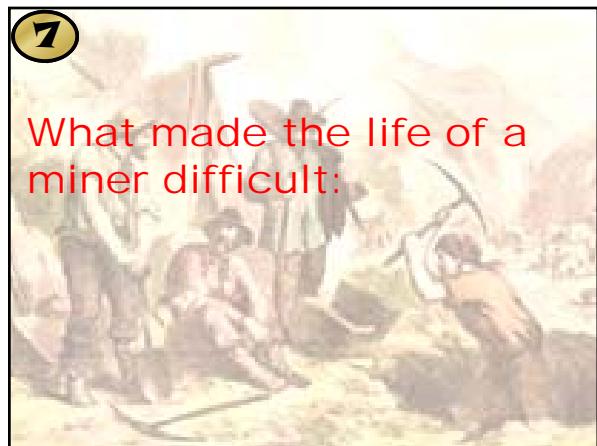
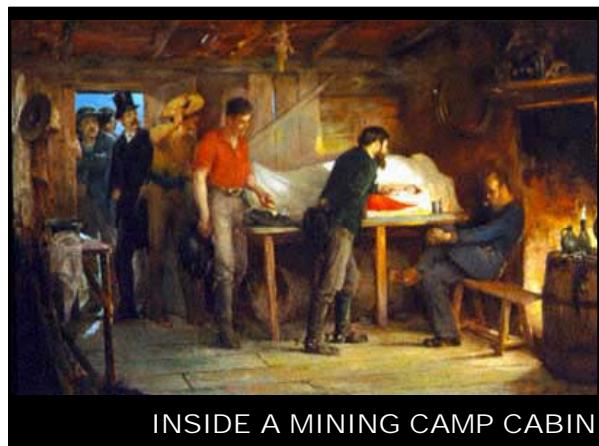
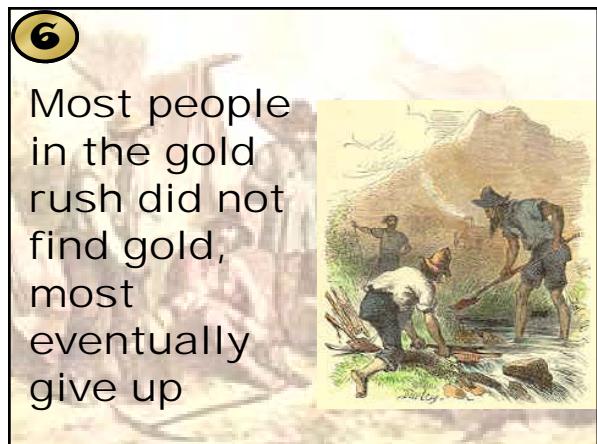
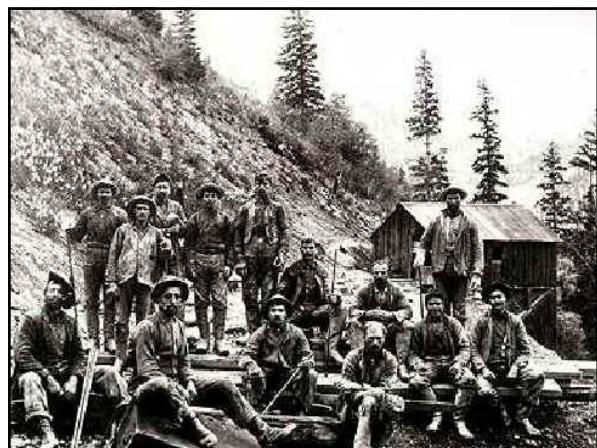
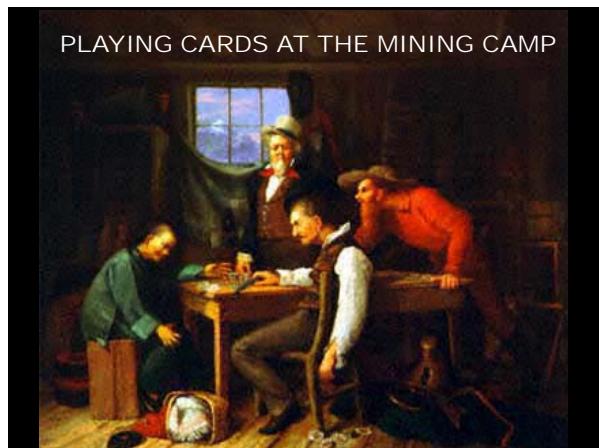
**5**

Describe life in a gold mining camp:

**5**

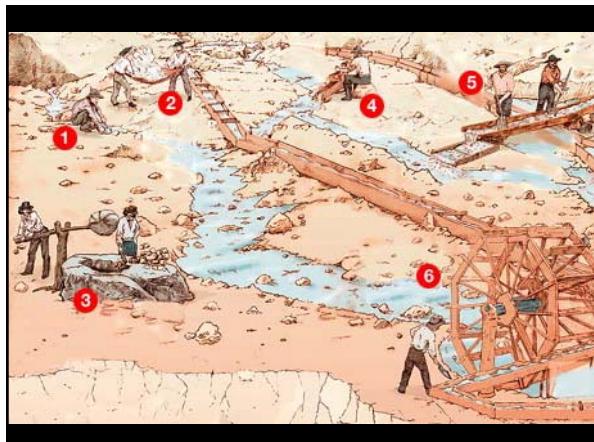
Life in a mining camp was difficult - exhaustion, poor food, disease





7

Mining was tough - supplies were very expensive, gamblers and thieves were everywhere



1 Placer mining

Using shallow metal pans, miners mixed water with soil from the riverbed. By gently swirling in circular motion, the lighter soils washed away, leaving the gold.



2 Winnowing

Chileans, Sonorans from Mexico and Indians gently bounced dry soil on wool scrapes. Wind took the dried sand, leaving the heavier gold.



3 Crushing quartz

This and similar devices of Mexican origin were powered by mule, horse or man. Quartz was crushed between a heavy stone above and tightly fitted stones beneath. The pulverized soil was then processed through traditional mining techniques. Although effective, most Americans considered the process too slow.



4 The rocker or cradle

With one man to load water and soil and a second to rock it, this gold washing machine could process 200 bucketfuls per day.

It is set on sloping ground to allow water to run through it.

Wooden or metal spikes were fastened on the bottom level to catch heavier gold.



5 The long tom

With a two men, it is capable of handling 400-500 bucketfuls per man per day.

1. Miner shovels dirt into the long tom.
2. Another removes large rocks and keeps dirt moving through the trough and across an iron plate with holes in its bottom.
3. Sand and gold drops through holes.



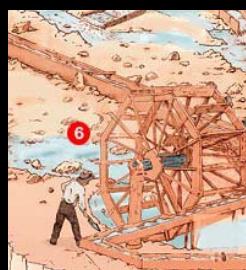
4. Particles of gold lodge in the riffles of a lower box while sand washes away.

5. The final separation is done by panning. Wooden flume widens at one end. A downward slope allowed water to run through it continuously.

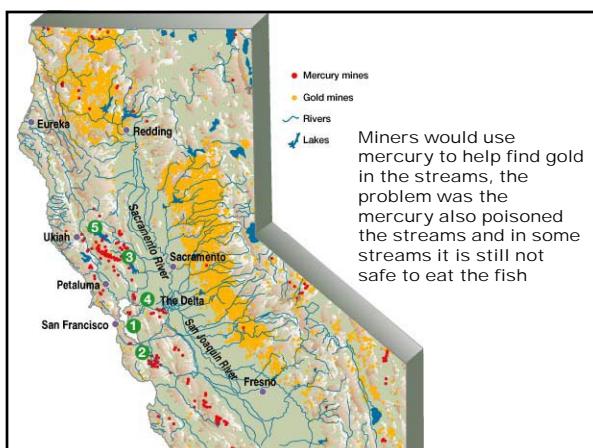
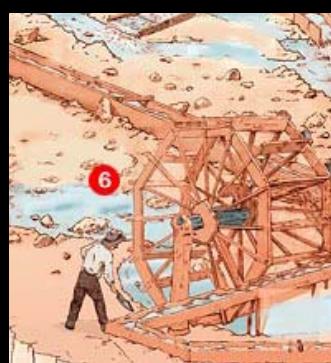


6 The waterwheel

Introduced by the Chinese, it could be placed in a bypass flume. The water- driven wheel powered various mining operations. It powered the bailers needed to keep the working area dry.



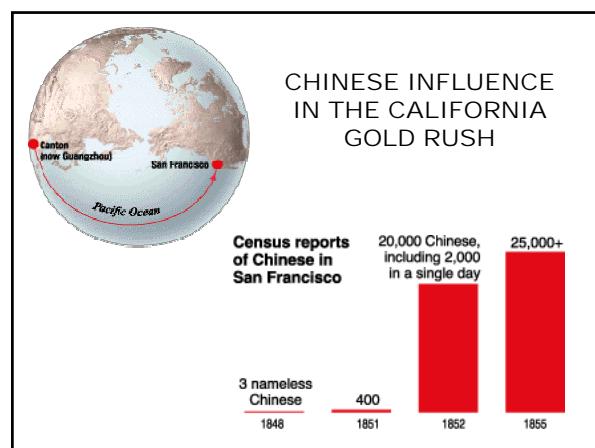
Water and paydirt are lifted into the sluicing flume. Although widely used, this method was not very profitable as gold deposits were more frequently found along river banks and bars than in the main river channel.



Where did the miners come from?

8

2/3 of miners came from America but also included men from all over the world - Mexico, Europe, South America, Australia, China



9

How many people came to California in the Gold Rush?

9

250,000 people came to California in the gold rush by 1852

San Francisco's population grew from 400 in 1845 to 35,000 in 1850

10

When does California officially become a state?

10

California officially became a state in 1850



11/12

Does California officially become a free state or slave state?

How does this impact the balance of Congress in relation to free vs slave?

11

California enters as a free state

12

California entering the union as a free state creates an advantage in Congress for the free states

