



## Gold Fever!

**Social Studies/ Environmental Education/ Science/Aotearoa Histories Curriculum**

### **Hands on Tauranga objects related to gold**

Gold panning dishes

<https://www.handsontauranga.co.nz/hot-items/science/gold-panning-dishes-hc701-9/>

Miners helmet

<https://www.handsontauranga.co.nz/hot-items/technology/miners-helmet-hc21/>

### **Resources and links for kaiako**

- <https://teara.govt.nz/en/gold-and-gold-mining>
- <https://www.nzgeo.com/stories/gold/>
- <https://www.waihigold.co.nz/sustainability/education/>
- <https://www.waihigold.co.nz/about/history/>
- <https://www.waihigold.co.nz/about/history/timeline/>
- <https://mineforgold.co.nz/mining-gold/nz-gold-mining-history/>
- <https://thecoromandel.com/coromandel-blogs/golden-days-in-the-coromandel/>

### **Concepts/Understandings**

The history of gold mining in our local place (BOP and Waihi/ Coromandel) and wider place (Aotearoa)

Family ancestry / people linked to the gold mining in our community past and present

Environmental impact of mining

Renewable and Non-renewable resources

### **Oral Language Discussion Ideas**

Do you have ancestors involved in the first gold rushes in Aotearoa? Ask your parents if they know.

Have you been panning for gold? Tell us all about it (where/when/how...)

What do you know about gold? What would you like to know?

### **Students could think of their own questions around gold, or the kaiako could ask the questions eg:**

What is gold used for?

Where did gold come from?

Is it true that all the gold in the world can fit in 3 Olympic sized swimming pools?

How much gold is left in the earth to mine?

How much is gold worth? Compare with diamonds and other precious metals

What is mining? Why do we see protests on signs and on tv about mining?

What else is mined in NZ?



Do our mobile phones have gold in them?  
What is the kupu māori for 'gold'? *Kōura*

### **Youtube videos to spark interest**

Gold fever in Hokitika - Roadside Stories

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhIR8jCibOw&t=146s>

Glaciers and gold at Lake Wakatipu - Roadside Stories

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x5xC7LOv0xM&t=4s>

Waihi Gold Mining

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MVvEI7LojqE>

Waihi gold mine decision puts Greens and Labour at odds

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N2Pc4yerZe4>

Where does gold come from? - David Lunney

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jf\\_4z4AKwJg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jf_4z4AKwJg)

How is gold made? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J8E7ibshP7M>

### **Learning Activities**

- Watch, read, discuss using all resources above (youtube, school journals, other books etc)
- Students choose an aspect of Gold Fever! to research further and share with the class eg: how gold is made or mined, the Coromandel Otago gold rush, what we use gold for, gold mining in the Bay of Plenty area etc-
- Go on a class trip to the Waihi Gold Mine and Discovery Centre  
<https://www.golddiscoverycentre.co.nz/>
- Go on a class trip to the Karangahake Gorge  
<https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/bay-of-plenty/places/kaimai-mamaku-conservation-park/karangahake-gorge/?tab-id=50578>
- <https://www.waihigold.co.nz/education/resources-for-schools/>

## School journal articles

### Digging for gold



by **MAGUINESS, Jan**

This report looks at Waihi's Martha Mine, explaining a little of its history since its opening in 1878. An impression of the huge size of this mine can be gained from the facts, figures, and accompanying photographs.

Year 4 : Part 01 No. 4 : 2003 : Pgs 7-11

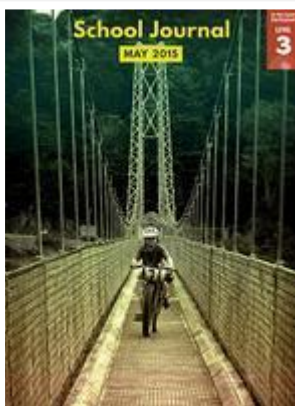
### Following the gold



by **CAMPBELL, Gordon** In the late 1800s, several thousand Chinese men left their homes to seek their fortunes in a land they called the New Gold Hills. On the Central Otago goldfields, they battled loneliness and prejudice to earn money to support their families so far away. This article tells their story.

Year 7 : Part 04 No. 2 : 2003 : Pgs 10-13

### Following Gold



by **TSE,CHRIS** This poem is written from the point of view of a Chinese miner, during the 1860's, describing his pursuit of gold in the rivers of New Zealand, far from his homeland. The poem conveys his sense of hope that his fortune will be made, but also his realization that it may not.

Year 5 : L3 May : 2015 : P18-19

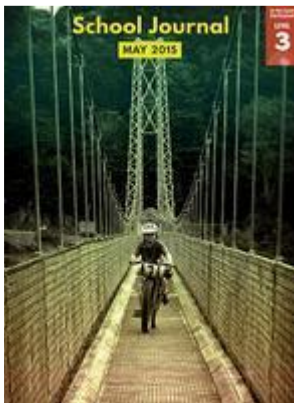
#### Hatter's Gold



**by HOPKINS, Renata** A young son of a coal mining family has no boots, and now with a strike about to begin he is unlikely to get any. He decides to try his luck at gold panning to make some money. This story tells how he gets some boots, but not in the manner he had expected.

Year 8 : L4 October : 2015 : 2-7

#### Bright Fine Gold



**by DERBY, Mark** This article gives an account of gold-mining during the 1860s in Otago and the West Coast. It was a time of intense immigration as people flocked to the gold fields. The article profiles the lives of a few of the miners. There is also a brief explanation of how the miners extracted the gold.

Year 5 : L3 May : 2015 : Pg 28-37

#### There stood a man



by **CARTWRIGHT, Pauline** Reciting the words of a poem, "From ghoulies and ghosties and long-legged beasties", lost goldminer George MacPherson, in the hills of old Otago, meets a tall stranger who beckons George to follow.

Year 5 : Part 04 No. 1 : 2000 : Pgs 10-18

Righting the wrongs - poll tax in New Zealand



by **NG, Eva Wong** In hard times, people often blame the most vulnerable members of the community. This is what happened to Chinese gold miners in New Zealand and resulted in the passing of the 1881 Chinese Immigrants Acts, which imposed a tax designed to keep Chinese out of New Zealand. 140 years later, our Prime Minister has apologised for this legalised discrimination.

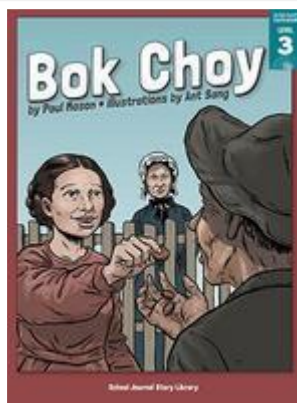
Year 7 : Part 04 No. 2 : 2003 : Pgs 22-27

Lucky - or unlucky?



by **THOMSON, Jane** A true tale of the gold rush near Clyde, when a group of prospectors have trouble with the flooded Clutha.

Year 5 : Part 02 No. 2 : 1990 : Pgs 26-30

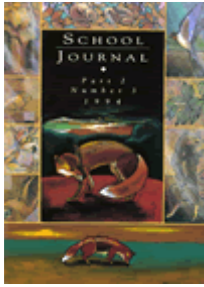


by **MASON, Paul** This graphic novel is a companion to the story in School Journal Level 3, May 2015. It is set during the gold rush period of the 1860s in Otago. Jacob's mum buys bok choy from one of the Chinese miners,

Ah Sum, who grows vegetables to supplement what he makes mining. Mrs Bishop, her neighbour is disgusted that she would buy from the Chinese. When they are alone Jacob is teased by William Bishop. If only Ah Sum had come at some other time! Jacob escapes the teasing by going fishing. His foot slips and he is swept into the river. He is saved by Ah Sum, who looks after him until his mother arrives. Jacob learns about the life of a miner, who is living far from his loved ones.

Year 4 : Story Library L3 : 2015 : Pg 1-12

#### Chinese rock dwellings



by **CROWE, Andrew** In the days when gold was mined by pick and shovel, some Chinese miners came to the Central Otago goldfields and lived in houses they had made in the cliffs high above the Clutha River.

Year 4 : Part 02 No. 3 : 1994 : Pgs 36-40

#### Buried in the snow



by **THOMSON, Jane** A story of one of the men who lived through the big snow of 1862, at the height of the gold rush in Central Otago, when many people were killed.

Year 4 : Part 02 No. 3 : 1992 : Pgs 11-17

#### The biggest hole in the world



by **BONALLACK, John** In Kalgoorlie, Western Australia, the biggest dump trucks in the world are filled by the biggest diggers in the world which are digging the biggest hole in the world to find . . . gold.

Year 5 : Part 01 No. 2 : 1995 : Pgs 6-9

### **Picture books/Fairy Tales/ Myths/Fables**

Rumpelstiltskin who spins straw into gold  
King Midas - famous Greek myth  
The Goose that laid the golden egg- Aesop's Fable

### **Class Novels**

My New Zealand Story- Gold! By Pauline Cartwright

### **Art/craft ideas**

Gustav Klimt inspired art  
Gold pen art  
Make crowns  
Paint rocks gold and glitter-make a treasure hunt

### **Extra Information**

#### **Interesting objects made of gold**

Tutankhamen death mask  
Golden buddha in Thailand  
Gold ball on top of the Sky Tower in Auckland

#### **Interesting Information**

Gold is thought to have been produced in supernova nucleosynthesis, and from the collision of neutron stars, and to have been present in the dust from which the Solar System formed. Because the Earth was molten when it was formed, almost all of the gold present in the early Earth probably sank into the planetary core.

#### **Some facts about gold**

- Gold has been discovered on every continent on earth. ...
- Gold is edible eg: pastry chefs use gold leaf on certain food items
- Our bodies contain about 0.2 milligrams of gold, most of it in our blood. ...
- Earthquakes turn water into gold. ...
- Small traces of gold have been found in the leaves of Eucalyptus trees
- Gold is the only metal that is yellow or "golden." Other metals may develop a yellowish color, but only after they have oxidized or reacted with other chemicals.
- Nearly all the gold on Earth came from meteorites that bombarded the planet over 200 million years after it formed.
- The element symbol for gold—Au—comes from the old Latin name for gold, aurum, which means "shining dawn" or "glow of sunrise." The word gold comes from the Germanic languages, originating from the Proto-Germanic gulþ and Proto-Indo-European ghel, meaning "yellow/green."
- The pure element has been known since ancient times.