

TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD

ESCAPE ROOM

STATION 1: MULTIPLE CHOICE

6 The Union Pacific Railroad Company was made up of veterans from what war?

- A. World War I
- B. Civil War
- C. Vietnam War
- D. Revolutionary War

STATION 2: PARAGRAPHS

First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Paragraph numbers MAY be used more than one time or not at all. Use the directions below to reveal the 4-digit code and letter clue.

STATION 3: TRUE OR FALSE

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color the coin on YOUR answer sheet that corresponds with that question. If the statement is false, cross out that coin value. When you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE coin values to reveal your letter clue. One digit of the code has been provided for you. If the total is 625, a 6 would go in the first box, the 2 in the second box and so on.

TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD

In 1830, the steam train was introduced to the people of the United States. The steam engine was a new way to travel long distances. What the country needed next was a way to travel to the West. With the California Gold Rush, more people were traveling West. Wagons made of dirt and the journey was long and hard. To carry settlers West, more time, with much less work, was needed. A merchant named Asa Whitney urged Congress to build a railroad. In 1869, the two crews were getting closer and closer to meeting at Promontory Summit in Utah.

THINK TANK

STATIONS ACTIVITY

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- ✓ READING PASSAGE
- ✓ 5 STATIONS
- ✓ TEACHER GUIDE
- ✓ ANSWER KEY
- ✓ STUDENT DIRECTIONS
- ✓ TEXT MARKING OPTION
- ✓ PROP SIGNS

STATION 1: FILL IN THE BLANK

Use your reading passage to determine the missing words in the paragraph below. Each missing word has a corresponding NUMBER. The 4-digit code for this station will be the NUMBER for each missing word, in the same order in which they appear in the paragraph. Then, record the clue LETTER on your answer sheet.

STATION 2: PARAGRAPHS

First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Paragraph numbers MAY be used more than one time or not at all. Follow the directions below to reveal the 4-digit code and letter clue.

STATION 3: TRUE OR FALSE

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color the coin on YOUR answer sheet that corresponds with that question. If the statement is false, cross out that coin value. When you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE coin values to reveal your letter clue. One digit of the code has been provided for you. If the total is 625, a 6 would go in the first box, the 2 in the second box and so on.

STATION 4: COMBINATION

Use your reading passage to determine the combination to the 4-digit lock for this station. You're going to have to use your critical thinking skills and do a tiny bit of math. Pay attention because the "clues" below are NOT in order. There is room on your answer sheet to do the math.

STATION 5: MULTIPLE CHOICE

Answer each multiple-choice question below. Then, count the number of times you used each letter answer (ABCD) to reveal your 4-digit code. Letters may be used more than once or not at all. If a letter option is not used, put a zero in that box on your answer sheet.

ANSWER RECORDING SHEET

Record your answers for each station on this sheet. Then, use the directions below to determine final 4-digit ALPHA code. Ex: HBDR

STATION CODES

LETTER CLUE

STATION 1	→	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	CODE
-----------	---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	------

A	B	C	D	E	F	
---	---	---	---	---	---	--

STATION 2	→	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	CODE
-----------	---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	------

ENTER

1

2

3

TEACHER DIRECTION

- 1 Print the reading passage found on [pages 5-6](#) for EACH (front and back).
- 2 Print the answer recording sheet on [page 12](#) for each student group of students.

RECAP: Print pages 5, 6, and 12 for students.

STATION

5

BLUE

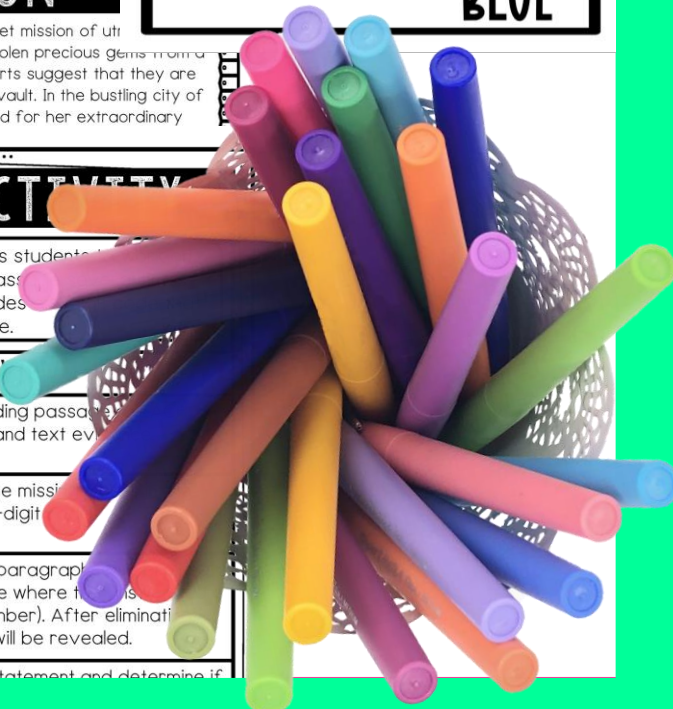
THE MISSION

You have been assigned a top-secret mission of utmost importance. A notorious thief has stolen precious gems from a prominent lady, and intelligence reports suggest that they are hidden in a heavily guarded secret vault. In the bustling city of Oakville, Lady Victoria was renowned for her extraordinary

ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY

The reading passage in this packet allows students to practice their comprehension skills after reading the passage. Students will be searching for evidence. Each station includes a question that will reveal a letter clue.

	OVERVIEW
READING PASSAGE	Students will use the reading passage at each station seeking answers and text evidence.
STATION 1	Students will determine the missing word in the paragraph to reveal a 4-digit code.
STATION 2	Students will number the paragraphs in the reading passage to determine where the missing words can be found (paragraph number). After eliminating the incorrect numbers, a 4-digit code will be revealed.
STATION 3	Students will read each statement and determine if it is true or false.



5 STATIONS

STATION 5: MULTIPLE CHOICE

Answer each multiple-choice question below. Then, count how many times you used each letter answer (ABCD) to reveal the code. Letters may be used more than once or not at all. If an option is not used, put an X in that box on your answer sheet.

1. What mountain range was the California Pacific have to go through?

A. Alps
B. Sierra Nevada
C. Pyrenees Mountains
D. Rocky Mountains

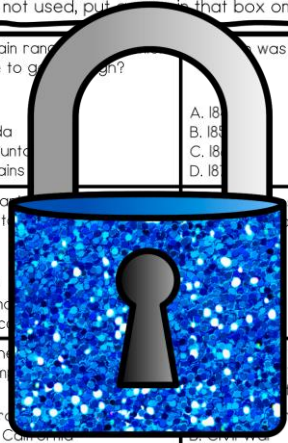
2. What merchant act was the word "act" meant?

A. Eli Whitney
B. Asa Whitney
C. Samuel Brannan
D. Abraham Lincoln

3. Where did the Railroad Company track?

A. Omaha, Nebraska
B. Sacramento, California
C. Denver, Colorado
D. Cleveland, Ohio

Count how many times you used each letter answer to determine the 4-digit code and record it on your answer sheet.



ANSWER RECORDING SHEET

Record your answers for each station on this sheet. Then, use the directions below to determine final 4-digit ALPHA code. Ex: HBDR

STATION CODES	LETTER CODES
STATION 1: [] [] [] []	[] [] [] []
STATION 2: A B C D E F	[] [] [] []
STATION 3: A 75 B 25 C 50 D 100 E 100 F 75 G 50 H 25	[] [] [] []
STATION 4: Do your math in this area:	[] [] [] []
STATION 5: 1 2 3 4 5 6	[] [] [] []

Final Code: A# [] B# [] C# [] D# []

STATION 4: COMBINATION

Use your reading passage to determine the combination to the 4-digit lock for this station. You're going to have to use your critical thinking skills and do a tiny bit of math. Pay attention because the "clues" below are NOT in order. There is room on your answer sheet to do the math.

1. The first number of the combination is the day of the week the golden spike was driven into the ground.

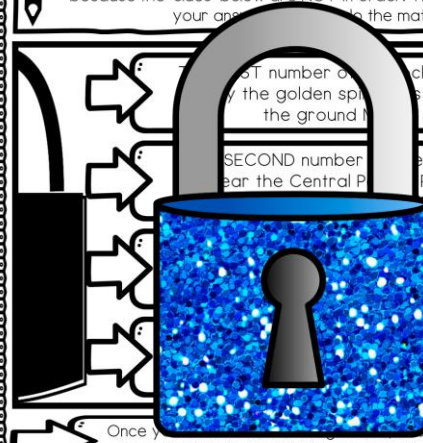
2. The second number of the combination is the year the Central Pacific Railroad was founded.

3. The third number of the combination is the year the first transcontinental railroad was completed.

4. The fourth number of the combination is the year the first transcontinental railroad was completed.

Once you determine the 4-digit code, decide if the code uses all EVEN #s, all ODD #s or a combination of both.

ALL EVEN ALL ODD COMBO



STATION 1: FILL IN THE BLANKS

Use your reading passage to determine the missing word in each paragraph below. Each missing word has a corresponding NUMBER. The 4-digit code for this station will be the NUMBER of each missing word in the order in which they appear in the paragraph. Then, use the letter clue to determine the code.

1. \$68,000
2. profit
3. seventy

4. ten
5. Revolutionary
6. Civil

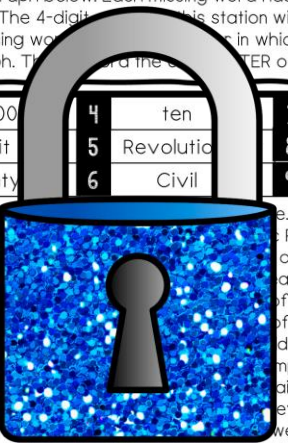
7. for
8. \$48,000
9. det

The two companies that built the Pacific Railroad Company were promised land by the federal government. They earned money from the sale of land on each side of the track. The company earned \$32,000 for each mile of track. The government received \$50 million for each mile of track. The company was commissioned to begin work in December of 1863, but because of the Civil War, really didn't make progress on their railroad tracks until the war ended.

Once you determine the 4-digit code, decide if the code uses all EVEN #s, all ODD #s or a combination of both.

ALL EVEN ALL ODD COMBO

B H M



STATION 3: TRUE OR FALSE

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color the coin on YOUR answer sheet that matches that question. If the statement is false, cross out that coin. Once you are finished coloring the coins, use the letter clue to determine the code. One digit of the code is provided for you.

A. In 1869, the golden spike was driven into the ground by Governor Stanford.

B. President Grover Cleveland signed the Pacific Railroad Act into law.

C. The Central Pacific Railroad was built to the west.

D. The Union Pacific Railroad was built through the mountains.

E. The two companies would meet in the middle.

F. The cost to build the railroad was \$42,000 per mile.

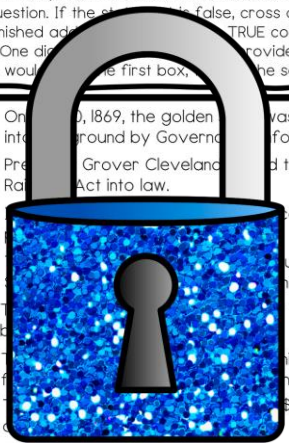
G. The cost to build the railroad was \$50 million per mile.

H. The cost to travel from Omaha to San Francisco in 1870 was just \$5.

After shading the coins on your answer sheet, use the letter clue to determine the code. Use the letter clue to determine the code. Use the letter clue to determine the code.

250 300 3

G D M



STATION 2: PARAGRAPHS

First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Paragraph numbers MAY be used more than once or not at all. Follow the directions below to determine the code.

A. Theodore Judah was the architect and engineer of the Central Pacific.

B. A merchant named Asa Whitney urged Congress to pass an act to build a railroad across the continent.

C. Mormons built the first transcontinental railroad.

D. In 1869, the two companies agreed upon meeting in the middle.

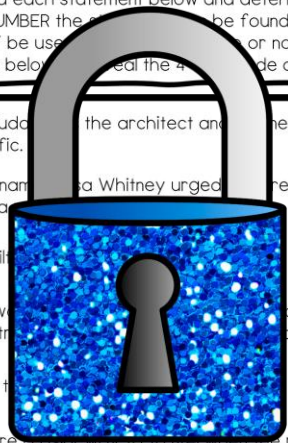
E. The longest transcontinental railroad was built.

F. Wagons were a risky way to travel when the roads were made of dirt and the journey would last several months.

ELIMINATE the highest and lowest used paragraph numbers and record the remaining 4-digit code on your answer sheet. Decide which paragraph number was NOT used as a CODE answer.

NO 6 NO 5 NO 4

L C S



STATIONS

ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY

The reading passage in this packet allows students to work on comprehension skills after reading the passage several times searching for evidence. Each station includes a 4-digit code that will reveal a letter clue.


OVERVIEW

READING PASSAGE	Students will use the reading passage at EACH station seeking answers and text evidence.
STATION 1	Students will determine the missing words in the paragraph to reveal a 4-digit code.
STATION 2	Students will number the paragraphs and browse the passage to determine where the answers can be found (paragraph number). After eliminating numbers, a 4-digit code will be revealed.
STATION 3	Students will read each statement and determine if it is true or false. They will then ADD all TRUE values to find the 4-digit code.
STATION 4	Students will do some basic math here, read the passage to find the answers and then determine the 4 digit code.
STATION 5	Students will answer 6 multiple choice questions which lead them to a 4 digit code based on the number of times they used each "ABCD" answer.
TEXT MARKING	OPTIONAL: A color code chart is included in case you want students to mark the text, citing evidence of where they found their answers. (This will increase completion time)

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**STUDENTS WILL
USE THE SAME
READING
PASSAGE AT
EACH STATION
SEEKING
ANSWERS AND
TEXT EVIDENCE.**

HOW IT WORKS



ENGAGING READING
COMPREHENSION PRACTICE!

- 1 Students work individually (or in pairs) and visit 5 stations, answer questions, decipher a 4-digit code at each station and grab a "letter" clue for the final alpha code.
- 2 Students will answer the questions (found directly in the passage) on their own recording sheet. Students will have to revisit their reading passage several times at EACH station skimming for answers.

STATION 1: FILL

Use your reading passage to determine the missing word in each paragraph below. Each missing word is represented by a NUMBER. The 4-digit code for this station is formed by the numbers of each missing word, in the same order as they appear in the reading passage. Then, record the clue letter.

1	\$68,000	4	ten
2	profit	5	Revolution
3	seventy	6	Civil

The two companies raced to meet in the middle of the continent. The Union Pacific Railroad Company and the Union Pacific Railroad Company were promised land and money for every mile of track they completed. The railroad companies were promised _____ miles of land next to the track for every mile of track they completed. They earned ten more miles for the next mile of track on the opposite side. The railroad companies were promised _____ to earn a _____. The government paid these companies _____ each mile of track on flat land that was built. The railroad companies earned \$32,000 per mile for the high plains. The railroad companies (paid) to begin work in December of 1863, but the war ended.

Once you determine the 4-digit code, use all EVEN #s, all ODD #s or a combination of both to determine the clue letter.

ALL EVEN	ALL ODD
B	H

BENEFITS

- ✓ STATIONS AND MOVEMENT
- ✓ CLOSE READING
- ✓ COMPREHENSION SKILLS
- ✓ SECRET CODES
- ✓ CITING EVIDENCE
- ✓ CRITICAL THINKING
- ✓ PRINT AND GO
- ✓ ACTIVE LEARNING
- ✓ CROSS-CURRICULAR
- ✓ HIGHLY ENGAGING
- ✓ NO LOCKS NEEDED
- ✓ NO SILLY ENVELOPES TO STUFF
- ✓ NO ODD SHAPES TO CUT OUT



Everything a teacher dreams of wrapped up into one FUN and engaging activity!

USE FOR:



ANTICIPATORY SETS



UNIT REVIEW



EARLY FINISHERS



STATIONS



REWARD ACTIVITY



CENTERS



SUB PLANS



PARTNER WORK



ENRICHMENT

