

TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD

CUBE CODE

STATION 2:
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. Lastly, eliminate ANY answer where the answer was found in an EVEN numbered paragraph, leaving only ODD numbers as your final code (in the order of questions). Paragraph numbers MAY be used more than one time or not at all.

STATION 3:
Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color or shade the coin that corresponds to the statement. If the statement is false, cross out that coin value. After you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE coin values. The total code has been provided for you. If the total is 625, a 6 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, and it seemed like a much better way than wagons to travel to the West Coast. What the country needed next was a transcontinental railroad track to get them there. Transcontinental means going across a continent.
With the California Gold Rush in 1849, more and more people were traveling West. Wagons were a risky way to travel when the roads were made of dirt and the journey would last several months. If a train was able to carry settlers West, more people could make the journey in a fraction of the time, with much less work and hardship for the settlers.

THINK TANK

4 DIGIT CODE

STATION 1:

Use your reading passage or deductive reasoning skills to determine the missing words in the paragraph below. Each missing word has a corresponding NUMBER. The 4-digit code will be the NUMBER of each missing word in the same order in which they appear in the paragraph.

STATION 2:

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. Lastly, eliminate ANY answer where the answer was found in an ODD numbered paragraph, leaving only EVEN numbers as your final code (in the order of questions). Paragraph numbers MAY be used more than one time or not at all.

STATION 3:

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color or shade the coin 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. 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:

Use your reading passage to determine the combination to the 4-digit lock. 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.

STATION 5:

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

STATION 6:

Reread the passage and write the main idea in your own words. Then, add TWO supporting details that back up your main idea or topic sentence.

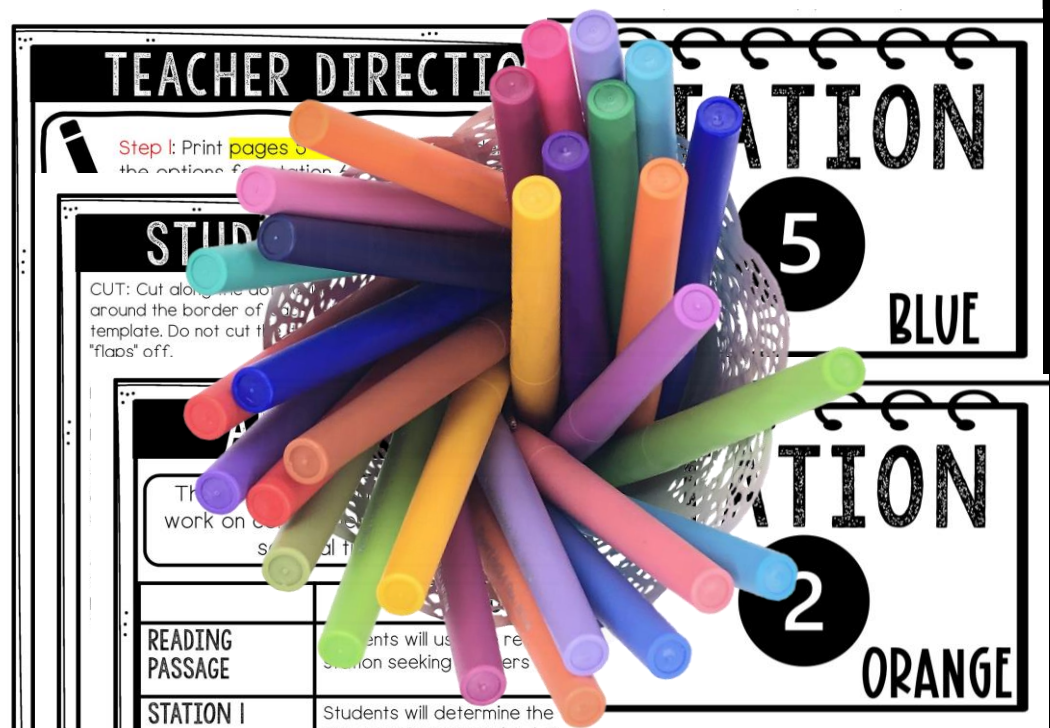
STATION

1

RED

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- READING PASSAGE
- 6 STATIONS
- TEACHER GUIDE
- STATION CARDS
- ANSWER KEY
- STUDENT DIRECTIONS
- TEXT MARKING OPTION
- ALTERNATE STATION
- ASSEMBLY TIPS



6 STATIONS

STATION 1:

Use your reading passage or deductive reasoning to determine the missing words in the paragraph below. The missing word has a corresponding NUMBER. The 4-digit code will be the NUMBER of each missing word in the same order in which they appear in the paragraph.

STATION

1

RED

STATION 6:

Reread the passage and write the main idea in your own words. Then, add TWO supporting details that back up your main idea or topic sentence.

STATION

6

SUPPORTING DETAIL #1



SUPPORTING DETAIL #2

STATION 4:

Use your reading passage to determine the combination to the 4-digit lock. 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.

STATION

4

GREEN

The LAST number of the lock is the day in May the golden spike was driven

STATION 5:

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

STATION

5

BLUE

What mountain range did the Union Pacific have to get through?

- A. Alps
- B. Sierra
- C. Pyrenees
- D. Rockies

When was the California Gold Rush?

A. 1849

What route did Congress build across the continent?

- A. Eli Whitney
- B. Asa Carter
- C. Samuel Slater
- D. Abraham Lincoln

Where did the Union Pacific start its track?

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

When did the Civil War end?

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

A B C D

STATION 3:

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. Write the number of true statements in the box. Then, add the number of false statements to the number of true statements to reveal your 4 digit code.

STATION

3

YELLOW

A 75

B 25

C 50

D 100

- C. In 1794, the steam locomotive was introduced to the people of the United States.
- D. The Central Pacific Railroad was the first to get through the Sierra Nevada Mountains in California.
- E. The Union Pacific Railroad Company would begin in Omaha, Nebraska.
- F. The government paid the companies \$42,000 for each mile of track across the land that was to be used.
- G. The Transcontinental Railroad cost 50 million dollars.
- H. The cost to travel from Omaha to San Francisco in 1870 was just \$100.

4 DIGIT CODE



STATION 2:

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. Lastly, eliminate ANY answer where the answer was not found in the paragraph. Only ODD numbers are allowed. Add the numbers to reveal your 4 digit code.

STATION

2

ORANGE

The golden spike was driven in 1870.

A morning in 1870, the golden spike was driven in Utah.

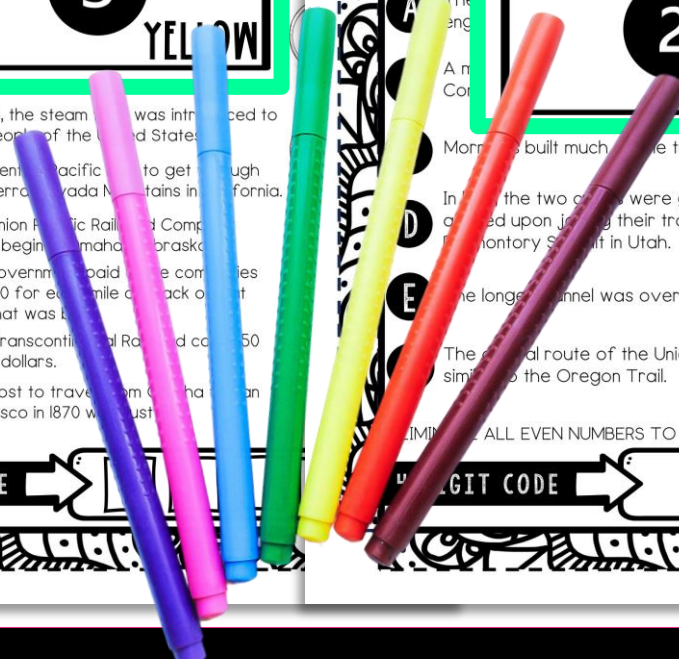
In 1870, the two companies were getting closer and closer upon joining their tracks at Promontory Summit in Utah.

The longest tunnel was over 1,600 feet.

The original route of the Union Pacific was similar to the Oregon Trail.

Eliminate ALL EVEN NUMBERS TO DETERMINE THE FINAL CODE.

4 DIGIT CODE



SAMPLE CUBE



STATIONS

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 EVEN 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 "answer".
STATION 6	Option 1: Main idea writing activity Option 2: Color and add topic
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.

**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 6 stations, grabbing one side of their cube at each station.

2

Students will answer the questions (found directly in the passage) on their cube sheet before assembly. Students will revisit their reading passage at EACH station!

3

Students will reveal 4-digit codes to move on to the next station. When they finish all stations, they can color and assemble their cube.

STATION

Read each statement below and determine if the statement is true, color or shade the corresponding question. If the statement is false, cross it out. When you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE codes has been provided for you. If the code is 75, the 7 in the first box, the 5 in the second box and so on.

A 75

A. On May 10, 1869, the golden spike was driven into the ground by Governor Stanford.

B 25

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

C 50

C. In 1794, the steam train was introduced to the people of the United States.

D 100

D. The Central Pacific had to get through the Sierra Nevada Mountains in order to reach the West Coast.

E. The Union Pacific Railroad Company would begin in Omaha, Nebraska.

F. The government paid these companies \$42,000 for each mile of track of land that was built.

G. The Transcontinental Railroad cost 100 million dollars.

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

4 DIGIT CODE →

COMBINATION



Each Cube Code is a winning combination of:



- stations and movement
- close reading
- comprehension skills
- coloring and stress relief
- secret codes
- cut and paste
- citing evidence
- critical thinking

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

BENEFITS



THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX!

-  ANTICIPATORY SETS
-  UNIT REVIEW
-  EARLY FINISHERS
-  STATIONS
-  SUB PLANS
-  PARTNER WORK
-  ENRICHMENT

-  HANDS-ON
-  CROSS-CURRICULAR
-  HIGHLY ENGAGING

