



Daily Schedule for Book 3: Canyon of Danger

*Indicates an optional activity found in the Goldtown Adventures lapbook.
 (Lapbook activities can be **skipped** or purchased at www.GoldtownAdventures.com)

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
<i>Canyon of Danger</i>	Chapters 1-2	Chapters 3-4	Chapter 5	-----
Literature Guide	Page 59 #1-6	-----	Page 59 #7-15	* Lapbook activity for chapters 1-3 (+ cover)
	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8
<i>Canyon of Danger</i>	-----	-----	-----	Chapters 6-7
Literature Guide	Pages 60-61	Pages 62-63	Pages 64-65	Page 67 #1-6
	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12
<i>Canyon of Danger</i>	-----	Chapters 8-9	-----	-----
Literature Guide	* Lapbook activity for chapters 4-6	-----	* 1st lapbook activity for chapters 7-9	* 2nd lapbook activity for chapters 7-9
	Day 13	Day 14	Day 15	Day 16
<i>Canyon of Danger</i>	Chapter 10	-----	-----	-----
Literature Guide	Page 67 #7-14	Pages 68-69	Pages 70-71	Pages 72-75
	Day 17	Day 18	Day 19	Day 20
<i>Canyon of Danger</i>	Chapters 11-12	-----	Chapters 13-14	Chapter 15
Literature Guide	Page 77 #1-8	* Lapbook activity for chapters 10-12	-----	Page 77 #9-14
	Day 21	Day 22	Day 23	Day 24
<i>Canyon of Danger</i>	-----	-----	-----	Chapters 16-17
Literature Guide	* Lapbook activity for chapters 13-15	Pages 78-79 (do one character)	Pages 79-81 (do 2nd character)	Page 83 #1-8
	Day 25	Day 26	Day 27	Day 28
<i>Canyon of Danger</i>	Chapters 18-19	-----	Historical Note	-----
Literature Guide	Page 83 #9-16	* Lapbook activity for chapters 16-19	Pages 84-85	Pages 86-87

CANYON OF DANGER: CHAPTERS 1-5

Show how well you understand the story by answering the questions.

Chapters 1-2

1. Jem rushes into the house to grab something. What is it? _____
2. Why has Pa left Jem in charge of the ranch? _____

3. Jem's favorite saying is an *alliteration*. What is his favorite saying?
 - A. Leapin' lizards!
 - B. Roasted rattlesnakes!
 - C. Jumpin' junipers!
4. What predator is Jem after? _____
5. Why is Jem after it? _____
6. When Jem's rifle goes off, he believes he is shooting the predator. What does he shoot instead? _____

Chapters 3-5

7. Where do the kids settle Rafe?
 - A. in the attic
 - B. in the front room
 - C. in the barn
8. True or false? Jem and Nathan ride to town to fetch the doctor.
9. Nathan promises to hide something that Jem took from Rafe. What is it?

10. What is the name of Goldtown's doctor? _____
11. Jem and Ellie ride most of the way to Goldtown. Then they have to walk the rest of the way. Why? _____
12. What do Jem and Ellie do while the druggist is filling Aunt Rose's potions?
 - A. find the blacksmith
 - B. talk with the druggist's family
 - C. wander around town
13. Jem is devastated when he learns that his _____ and Pa's _____ have been stolen.
14. Circle the two miners Pa has left as deputies in charge of the town.
Strike-it-rich Sam • No-luck Casey • Dakota Joe • Pay-dirt Magee • Harry
15. True or false? The deputies set out right away to recover the stolen items.

Digging Deeper

Pa leaves Jem in charge as “man of the family” while he is away on sheriff business for a week or two. From the story, what responsibilities do you think Jem takes on back in 1864? Fast-forward to today. If your father left you in charge as “man of the family” while he went on a business trip, what responsibilities would you be expected to take on? Discuss orally and/or write your answers below.

Jem’s responsibilities:

Your responsibilities:

Coloring Fun: Off to Town

Jem and Ellie are in a hurry to get to town for Doc Martin. Complete the picture. Add the horseshoe Copper lost and the lantern Ellie brought along. Draw trees along the path, and draw the far-off buildings of Goldtown. Then color the picture.



Canyon of Danger: Vocabulary: Chapters 1-5

Match the underlined words with their meanings. Page numbers are given where the word is first used.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| ___ 1. a <u>cartridge</u> (p.9) | A. weak; feeble |
| ___ 2. a <u>lever</u> (p.14) | B. a drugstore |
| ___ 3. to feel <u>puny</u> (p.20) | C. to be annoying or nagging someone |
| ___ 4. a rifle <u>scabbard</u> (p.20) | D. a phase of the moon that is not yet full (3/4 full) |
| ___ 5. the <u>rabble</u> (p.35) | E. a case or covering usually made from leather to store a rifle |
| ___ 6. <u>apothecary shop</u> (p.36) | F. the metal casing that holds the bullet, gunpowder, and primer to be fired from a rifle |
| ___ 7. to be <u>pestering</u> (p.45) | G. an unruly crowd |
| ___ 8. <u>gibbous moon</u> (p.46) | H. part of the rifle used to load a cartridge into the chamber |

Writing Styles: Alliteration

Using two or more words with the same beginning sound is called “alliteration.” In this sentence from chapter 1, the alliteration has been underlined: “*Except for the sound of chattering chipmunks and the occasional cawing crow, all was quiet.*” Alliteration is fun to write, and it makes your writing fun to read. It is used in stories, poems, songs, and brand names. Dunkin’ Donuts, Chuck E. Cheese’s, Best Buy, Krispy Kreme, and Coca-Cola are all examples of alliteration.

In the following sentences, circle the words used as alliteration.

1. Jem journeyed from Jackson to Jasper in just under an hour.
2. Ellie easily ate eleven eggs and emptied the cookie jar too!

Write 3 short alliterations using the characters from *Canyon of Danger*.

(Note: not every word in the sentence must be alliteration, but at least two must be.)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

CANYON OF DANGER: 1860 HENRY RIFLE



Jem rushed into the house to get his hands on his father's Henry rifle. He was after a wolf! What, exactly, is a Henry rifle? Why not a Joe rifle or a Sam rifle? And how did this rifle work?

The 1860 Henry rifle was a top-of-the-line weapon for its day. It was designed by a man by the name of **Benjamin Henry** in 1860. (Now you know why it is called a Henry rifle.) This rifle was a great improvement over the older models.

Before the mid-1800s, people used **single shot** rifles. Every time a person shot off a round, he had to stop and reload the weapon by hand, down the muzzle. He had to put the gunpowder and bullet in the barrel—and do it quickly, before the other guy shot back.

Then along came the **repeating** rifle. The Henry rifle held 15 rounds, and all 15 could be fired before the shooter had to reload. Best of all, no longer did he have to load the bullet, gunpowder, and everything else by hand. The ammunition for the Henry rifle came as .44 caliber **cartridges**. The cartridge is a small casing that packages the **bullet**, the **gunpowder**, and the **primer** to set the powder off with a bang, all in one compact unit. What an invention!



a cartridge

The cartridges were held in a **loading tube** under the barrel called the **magazine**. The 1860 Henry rifle was a **lever-action** rifle. This meant that each time a person used the lever to cock the rifle, another cartridge slid into the chamber, all ready to shoot. The rifle's fifteen rounds could be emptied in less than a minute. Once empty, it took time to reload the magazine tube, but at least the cartridges had everything all together.



During the Civil War (1861-1865), the Union soldiers saved up their pay (about \$40) to buy one of these newfangled rifles. They believed it was worth the expense because the Henry could help them survive. And it did. To the astonished Confederates, who were still loading their guns each time they shot a round, the Henry rifle was that "*Yankee rifle they load on Sunday and shoot all week!*" Their complaint referred to how many shots the Yankees could get off without having to reload.

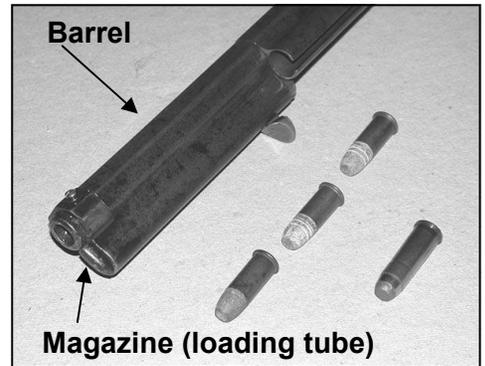
1860 Henry Rifle

The Henry rifle was also very useful during the Indian Wars on the plains and in the West. A year after the Civil War ended, in 1866, the Henry rifle was redesigned and became the famous Winchester Model 1866, the rifle we usually see when we watch old westerns on TV.

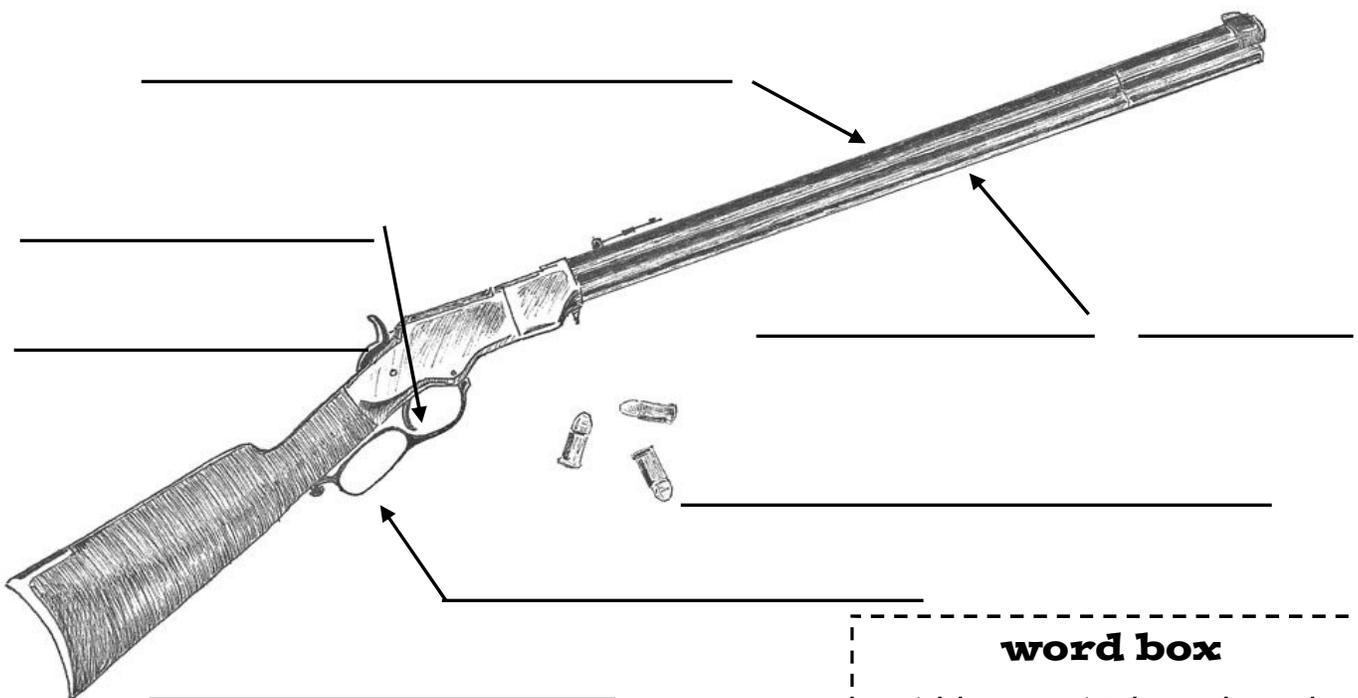
How the Henry Rifle Worked

Underneath the barrel, a loading tube (magazine) allowed the user to slip in 15 cartridges under a spring-like device. When the lever was pushed down, away from the rifle, the hammer was cocked, and a used cartridge was expelled. The spring in the magazine forced the next cartridge into the receiver.

When the user pulled the lever back against the stock (the wood part), it pushed a new cartridge into the chamber, locked everything in place, and made the rifle ready to fire the next shot. The Henry rifle was *not* safe when a cartridge was inside the chamber. To be completely safe, the cartridges stayed in the tube until the person cocked the rifle.



LABEL THE PARTS OF THIS 1860 HENRY RIFLE.



word box

cartridges stock barrel
lever trigger hammer
loading tube

Canyon of Danger: Medicine in 1864

Jem and Ellie went to town for Doc Martin. The doctor could remove the bullet from Rafe's shoulder and stop the bleeding. They did not take Rafe to town. It would have been too hard on the injured man. He'd been dragged around enough by then. But that was okay, because in 1864 doctors usually made house calls.



A typical “horse and buggy” doctor like Doc Martin carried a black bag with castor oil, calomel, laudanum, forceps, and a stethoscope. Doctors’ fees were not what they are today. A house call cost about 50 cents/mile (75 cents/mile if he came at night). Since the Coulter ranch is two miles from town, it cost \$1.50 for the doctor to come out and tend Rafe, plus whatever it cost to fix him up and give him medicine. This may not sound expensive, but a family like Jem’s would find even this hard to pay.

Doctors cost money, so most people used a lot of family remedies to care for the sick. Some of these remedies included tying a strip of bacon around your throat to cure a sore throat (yuck). Cuts and burns were covered with a mixture of egg whites. For a cough you might drink a mixture of tree bark, the root of a *trillium* flower, and water.

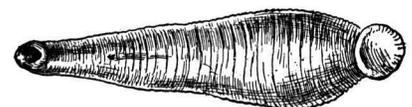
There were many quacks ready to sell potions guaranteed to cure everything from warts to old age. Fancy bottles with names like “Prof. Low’s Liniment and Worm Syrup” and “Dr. Flint’s Quaker Bitters” had little value. Most “remedies” contained a lot of **alcohol**, the same alcohol found in whiskey. **Opium** (from poppies, where drugs like heroin and cocaine come from) was made into a syrup called **laudanum**. It deadened pain and was widely used for everyone—from teething, fussy babies to old people.

The idea of germs and the dangers of bacteria were unheard of until the middle of the 1800s. Some doctors didn’t even wash their hands! Many great medical breakthroughs came about as Louis Pasteur was beginning his research on germs and how to kill them. It took awhile to catch on, but the simple act of washing your hands is the best way to keep from spreading germs.

Dental health in the 1800s was even worse. Teeth with cavities came out. If not, pain and bad breath stayed with you. Some folks lost their teeth before they were out of their teen years.

In the 1800s, some folks believed that bleeding a person by cutting veins or applying leeches (bloodsucking worms) allowed “poisons” to escape from the body. Many patients died from lost blood, and it never cured any disease. They would have done better to remember what the Bible says: “The life of the flesh is in the *blood*” (Leviticus 17:11). Don’t drain it away!

a leech



What's the Cure?

Below are different remedies for some common illnesses. One is the “cure” they used in 1864. One is a modern-day cure. Can you figure out which cure goes with each illness? Cut out the cures below and glue them in the correct places. You may look back on the previous page if you need help. (One has been done for you as an example.)

Illness	1864	Today
sore throat		
burns		
bad cough		
fever	<div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 5px;"> Cut blood veins to drain the “poison” out. </div>	
tooth’s cavity		

Yank the tooth out.

Rub egg whites all over it.

Tie a strip of bacon around your neck.

Take cough syrup and sleep with a humidifier.

Suck on cough drops and take antibiotics.

Have the tooth filled.

Drink a mixture of tree bark and Beth root.

Cover with antibiotic cream and a clean cloth.

Drink fluids and take fever-reducing medicine.

Canyon of Danger: Chapters 6–10

Show how well you understand the story by answering the questions.

Chapters 6-7

- Walking home, Jem knows what Ellie is thinking. What *is* she thinking?
 - how angry Aunt Rose will be when she learns Copper and the rifle are gone
 - that a wolf is going to come after them
 - that it's a long, long walk back to the ranch without a horse
- Circle the reasons you think Jem is sure he won't sleep a wink tonight.

Night sounds keep him awake. • He worries about losing the rifle and Copper.
It's hot. • Nathan is snoring too loudly. • He worries about Rafe.
He doesn't want to explain to Aunt Rose. • He worries that the wolf is nearby.
- Who is the surprise visitor? _____ Why is he there?
 - to eat breakfast
 - to check up on the stranger
 - to find a place to keep his gold
- What is Rafe's full name? _____
- Ellie runs off after sassing Aunt Rose. Where does she go? _____
- What news surprises Jem?
 - The deputies found Copper.
 - The deputies arrested the thieves.
 - The night riders stole another horse.

Chapters 8-10

- Aunt Rose expects Jem to get dressed and ready for what? _____
- True or false? Nathan convinces Jem that it is not a good idea to skip Sunday school.
- Nathan thinks they should ask Wu Shen if he has seen what? _____
- Here is "Wu Shen" written in Chinese characters:

Carefully copy his name in the box to the right.

无神
- Chinese names are the opposite of American names. Wu Shen
Last names come first in Chinese, then first names.

What is Wu Shen's first name? _____ What is his last name? _____
- True or false? Jem and Nathan make it back to church in time for the service.
- What is the name of Rafe's horse? _____
- Why is Rafe up and around instead of resting? _____



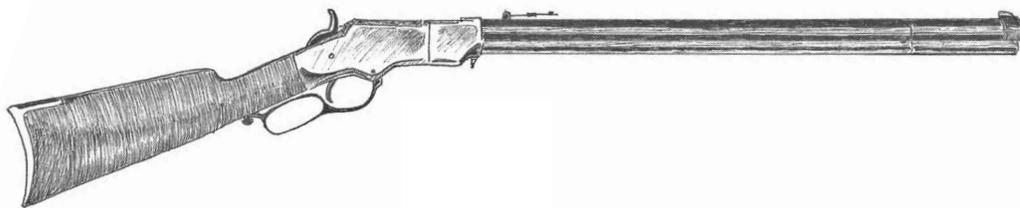
Digging Deeper

Jem does not want to take the horses to town on Sunday morning. He's afraid they might get stolen, like Copper did. Aunt Rose disagrees. She says the Lord will watch out for them. On page 66 Jem blurts, "The Lord sure didn't watch—" He stops himself, but what do you think he was going to say? Has there ever been a time in your life when you felt like God was not there for you? Write about it. Did God actually have a plan in the end? Look up Jeremiah 29:11 to help remember God's plans for you.

Finish Jem's sentence in your own words: "The Lord sure didn't watch"

Your thoughts:

Web Fun: 1860 Henry Rifle



You learned about the Henry rifle a few pages ago. Would you like to see how Jem would have loaded, cocked the lever, and fired this old-time rifle?

If so, copy this link into your web browser and enjoy.

The video is less than two minutes long:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=6d6Tfq1Qnv8

Canyon of Danger Vocabulary: Chapters 6-10

Match the underlined words with their meanings. Page numbers are given where the word is first used.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| ___ 1. to have <u>grit</u> (p.49) | A. painfully swollen from injury or overwork |
| ___ 2. <u>laudanum</u> (p.49) | B. to overwhelm someone with questions |
| ___ 3. <u>eluded</u> (p.50) | C. an angry outburst |
| ___ 4. <u>propriety</u> (p.53) | D. escaped; got away |
| ___ 5. a <u>rant</u> (p.54) | E. going about in a leisurely, slow manner |
| ___ 6. <u>dawdling</u> (p.65) | F. a medicine made out of opium; a drug for pain |
| ___ 7. to <u>bombard</u> (p.75) | G. courage; spunk |
| ___ 8. <u>stove-up</u> (p.82) | H. decency; respectability; good manners |

Character Clues

WORD BOX

Aunt Rose Strike-it-rich Sam Dakota Joe Mordecai No-luck Casey Doc Martin

Guess the *Canyon of Danger* characters from the clues. Use the word box for help.

1. Sheriff Coulter deputized the two of us and left us in charge of law and order in Goldtown while he was gone. Mostly, we like to drink coffee and play checkers.

2. I rode out to the Coulter ranch to have a look at the young fella who got shot. I removed the bullet and patched him up. _____
3. Someone is always throwing rocks at me or chasing me off with a stick. I don't understand. I'm just doing what comes natural to me. _____
4. When I heard about what happened last night, I stopped by the ranch to make sure my friends were all right. I promised Matt I'd keep an eye on things while he was hauling his prisoner to Sacramento. _____
5. Never in all my life have I seen a scruffier-looking man than my brother's old prospector friend. I nearly swooned when I discovered he'd made himself at home in our barn! _____

Goldtown, California



Jem and Ellie live in Goldtown, a fictional gold camp at the southern end of the “mother lode” country of the Sierra Nevada (see black dot on the map to the left). *Canyon of Danger* mentions street names and places the kids visit in their town.

On the next page is a map of Goldtown. Use the clues below to test your map knowledge. Can you find your way around Jem and Ellie’s town? You will need colored pencils for this activity.

Look at the map of Goldtown. Although there are many other buildings in Goldtown, only a few are shown. This is to make things easier to find.

1. Find the compass rose. List the four directions.

2. Find the map key. What three map objects are shown?

A. _____ B. _____ C. _____

3. The drugstore is located on Main Street, right next to the alley. Color it **red**.

4. The church sits on the corner of Stockton and Fremont. Put a **black cross** on it.

5. The firehouse is 2 buildings down from the church. Color it **green**.

6. Uncle Jiang’s laundry is located in China Alley. Color it **brown**.

7. The school sits between the church and the firehouse. Color it **blue**.

8. The Gold Pan saloon is next door to the drugstore on Main Street. Color it **yellow**.

9. When Copper is missing, Jem runs across the street to the jailhouse. It’s on the corner of Pacific and Main. Color it **black**.

10. Doc Martin’s house sits on Stuart Street, between Main and Columbia. Trace one possible route the doctor could take to get to the Coulter ranch. Use a **black pencil**.

11. What street do Jem and Ellie turn on in order to go home after visiting the druggist?

12. If Jem travels southeast on Columbia Street, where will he end up?

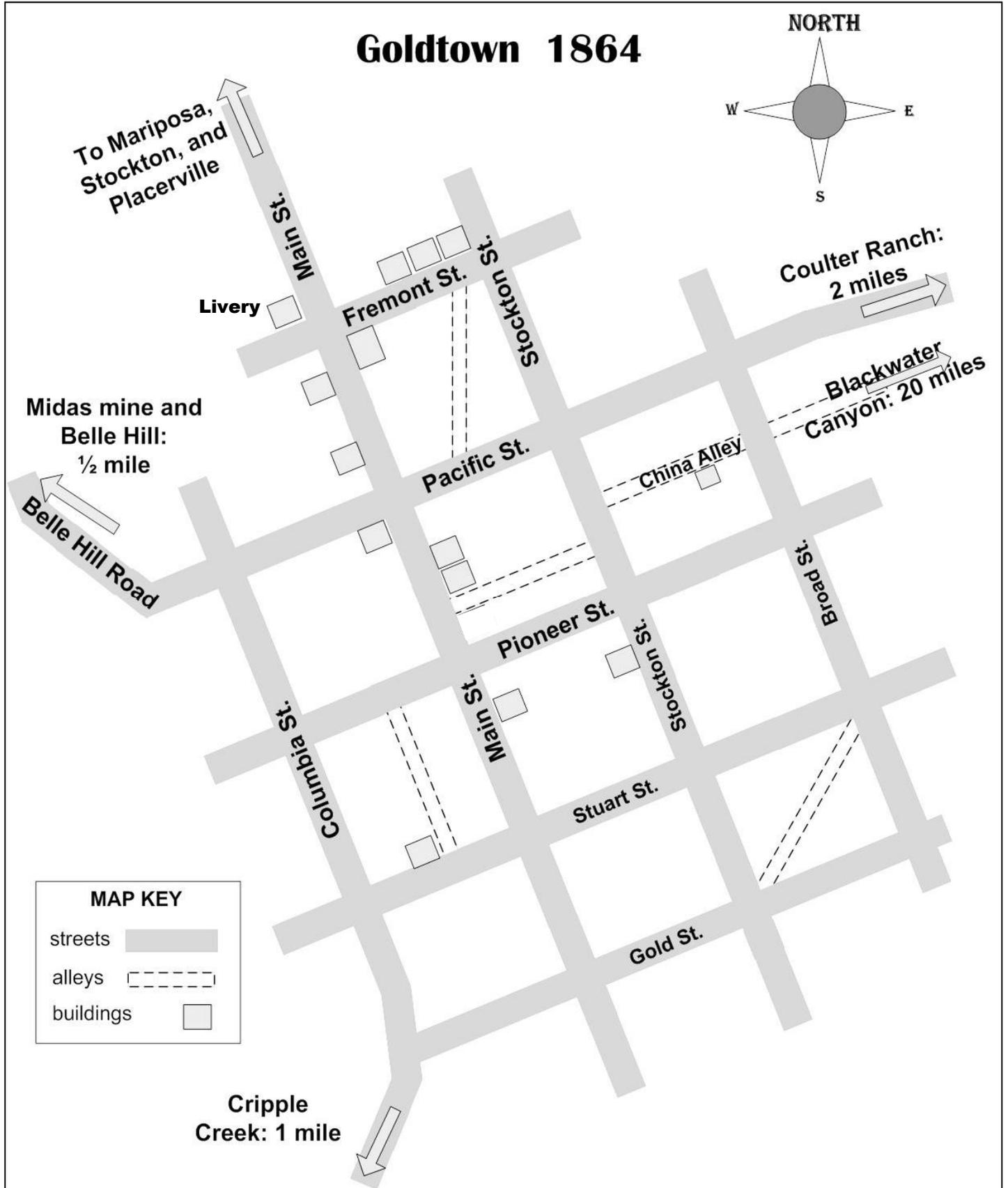
13. What road must Jem take to visit the Midas mine? _____

14. How many miles out of town is Blackwater Canyon? _____

15. What street must Sheriff Coulter take if he wants to go to Mariposa? _____



Map of Goldtown, California



Writing Chinese Characters

It is not mentioned in the story, but Jem does more with Wu Shen than help him cart his laundry around town. Jem and Shen trade learning. Jem teaches Shen to read and write English, and Shen teaches Jem Chinese characters. Below are a few characters (and the Chinese word) for familiar words. Copy the characters in the boxes provided.

金

gold - *jin*

马

horse - *má*

示 申

God - *Shang ti*

山

mountain - *shān*



水

water - *shuǐ*

书

book - *shū*

爸爸

Pa - *ba-ba*

月

moon - *yue*

Web Fun

Copy this link into your web browser to learn how to write Chinese numbers:

www.china-family-adventure.com/numbers-in-chinese.html

Reading Animal Tracks

Jem shows a lot of interest in reading animal signs, or “tracks.” By recognizing what kinds of tracks different animals make, he knows a wolf (and not a cougar or coyote) has gone after his family’s livestock. Jem is also interested in horse tracks—both shod (wearing shoes) and barefoot (no shoes). Copper lost a shoe, and this will make his tracks look different from other shod horses.

On this page and the next, you have an opportunity to see how well you can “track” an animal based on a description of its prints. When you are finished, you will have a small book of ANIMAL TRACKS to refer to.

Read the descriptions of the kind of tracks the different animals make when they walk. Then cut out the animal tracks below and follow the directions on the next page. See if you can match the tracks to the animals that make them.



Cougar: A cougar track does not show the cat’s claws. The heel (footpad) is wide, with four big toes.

Shod horse: A shod horse track clearly shows the outline of a horseshoe. The bottom of the horse’s foot (sole) is above the ground, so it does not leave a print.

Coyote: A coyote print is long and narrow, with claw marks showing and the toes close together. A coyote has a small heel (footpad).

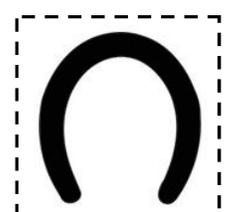
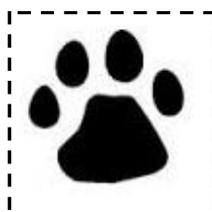
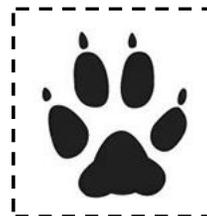
Bear: Different bear tracks look different, but they all have five toes. Sometimes the claw marks show; sometimes they don’t. Bears walk on their large heels.

Unshod horse: A barefoot horse shows the edge of the foot, as well as the V-shaped “frog.” The sole of the foot does not touch the ground.

Wolf: A wolf track looks like a dog or even a coyote track, but it is much bigger, with a wider heel (footpad) and claws showing on its four toes.

Instructions:

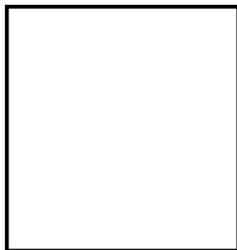
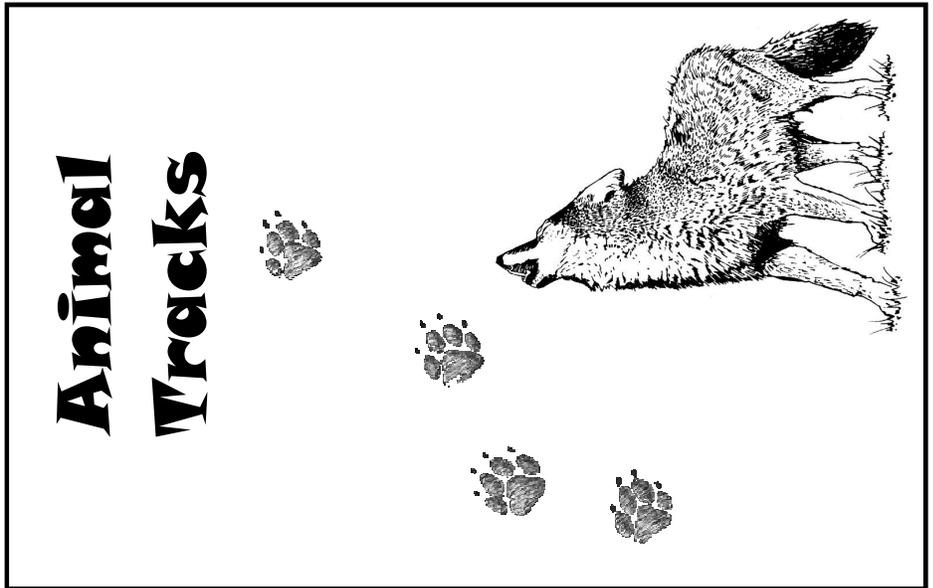
Cut these tracks out and match them to the correct animals on the next page, according to the descriptions just read above.



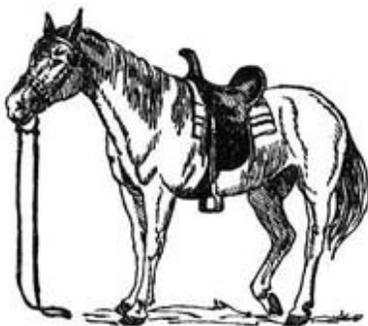
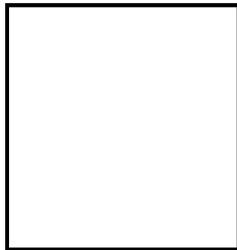
Reading Animal Tracks

Cut out the booklet below and fold in half. Now cut out the Animal Tracks cover piece and glue on the outside of the booklet.

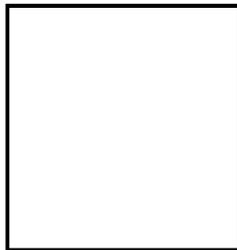
Match the correct track from the other page with the animal that makes it. Glue in place. Color the animals if you want. Now you have a book of animal tracks.



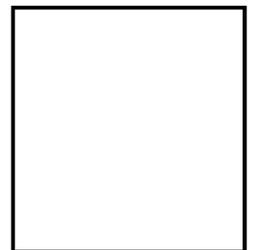
COUGAR



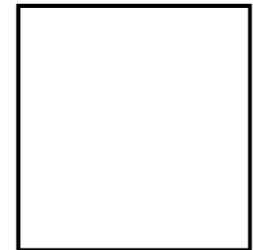
SHOD HORSE



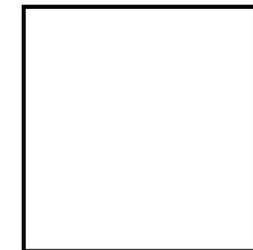
UNSHOD HORSE



COYOTE



BEAR



WOLF

← FOLD LINE

Canyon of Danger: Chapters 11-15

Show how well you understand the story by answering the questions.

Chapters 11-12

1. Jem's desire to make up for shooting Rafe leads Jem to do what for two long hours?

2. The pony express boss was religious. What did he give each rider? _____

3. How much money did a pony express rider make? \$25.00/week • \$25.00/month

4. Jem and Ellie learn that Rafe is part _____ Indian (what tribe?).

5. True or false? Rafe agrees that Jem would enjoy riding for the Pony Express.

6. After Rafe left the Pony Express, he took on work as:

- A. a scout B. a cowhand C. a stagecoach driver D. a deputy

7. Circle the names of those who go along to find Copper's tracks.

Jem • Dakota Joe • Strike • Pa • Ellie • Rafe • Nathan • No-luck Casey

8. Name the three possible places Copper might have been taken.

Chapters 13-15

9. How does Nathan know that Rafe cannot be gone for good? _____

10. What is Strike's advice to Jem about tracking Copper on his own?

- A. He should start early in the morning to get a head start.
B. He should wait for his father to return home.
C. He should ask Goldtown's deputies to come along.

11. How does Jem recognize Pa's rifle scabbard?

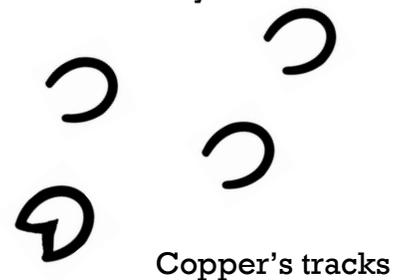
- A. It's old and cracked. B. It has fancy etchings. C. There are carved letters in it.

12. What name does Ellie give her new albino turkey? _____

13. How is Jem able to keep from getting lost on his way to Blackwater Canyon?

- A. He follows the creek.
B. He has a compass.
C. He keeps two mountain peaks in sight.

14. What happens to Quicksilver?



Canyon of Danger Vocabulary: Chapters 11-15

Circle the word that means the same as the underlined word.

1. "I reckon Rafe is not the desperado I feared," Strike admitted.
Desperado means . . . A. an outlaw B. an actor C. a gentleman D. a greenhorn
2. "I never thought of that," Jem said with a sheepish grin. "You hid 'em good, right?"
Sheepish means . . . A. sad B. excited C. happy D. embarrassed
3. The roses grew thick and prickly up the lattice nailed to the sides of the outhouse.
Lattice means . . . A. wire B. wooden frame C. thick boards D. cloth fabric
4. Except for a few worn-out places, Pa's scabbard was smooth and nondescript.
Nondescript means . . . A. plain B. special C. varnished D. etched
5. Before Jem unlatched the pasture gate, he discovered a snag in his plans.
Snag means . . . A. a hidden benefit B. a problem C. a discovery D. broken
6. "An albino turkey," Rafe said. "Very rare. Very sacred to my people."
Sacred means . . . A. frightening B. common C. hidden D. holy
7. Jem ran his fingers over the letters he had gouged in Pa's scabbard long ago.
Gouged means . . . A. scratched B. rubbed C. found D. smoothed

Character Sketches

You have met a number of characters in *Canyon of Danger*. You can tell by how they act and how they talk what kind of people they are. Choose a character (or two) from the story and write a short paragraph about him or her. What is it you like about this character? Is he or she brave? Funny? Adventurous? Mean? Use examples from the book to show the character's personality traits. (Sample traits are underlined.) Write your paragraphs on the next page or on the computer.

Example: Strike-it-rich Sam is a determined miner. He never gives up looking for gold. He is very loyal to the Coulter family, even though Aunt Rose doesn't like him. He doesn't seem to worry about what other people think of him. He just does what he thinks is right.



Character Sketches

SAMPLE CHARACTER TRAITS (to get you started, both good and bad)

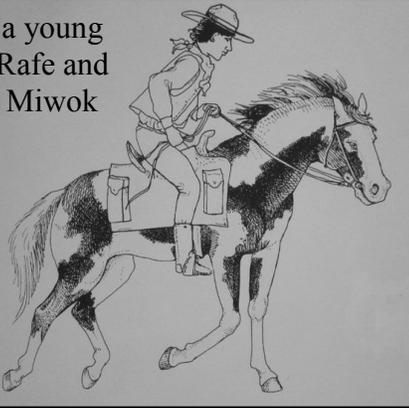
brave	responsible	cheerful	forgiving	generous	obedient
friendly	grateful	patient	respectful	truthful	flexible
lazy	stingy	rude	fearful	stubborn	unreliable
mean	impatient	selfish	unforgiving	ungrateful	bossy

Character: _____

Character: _____

Canyon of Danger: Pony Express Riders

a young
Rafe and
Miwok



The boys and men who rode for the Pony Express ranged in age from eleven years old to men in their mid-forties. However, most riders were older teens or in their early twenties. They were experienced horsemen who could ride from eight to ten hours at a time, with only a few minutes of rest at relay stations.

The relay stations were located between nine and fifteen miles apart. There, the rider grabbed a fresh horse and continued on his way, traveling about ten miles an hour.

A rider traveled the same route, from 75 to about 100 miles, in one day. When he arrived at the “home” station at the end of his route, he would rest and wait until mail coming from the opposite direction arrived. Then, he’d hop on a horse and retrace his route back the way he’d come, to the “home” station from which he’d started.

Each pony rider rode alone. He had no companions to get him out of trouble if his pony landed in a hole and broke its leg. Or if the rider broke *his* own leg! The express company hired 200 riders to carry the mail 2,000 miles. 160 relay stations lined the route (the white circles on the map) from St. Joseph to Sacramento.

The map to the right shows the last leg of the 2,000-mile trip—Rafe’s route. Reread the top of page 87 in the book and fill in the blanks.

1. Circle the city where Rafe began his leg of the route. Name the city:

2. Draw a rectangle around the city where he finished: _____
3. How many relay stations lay between Rafe’s starting and ending points? _____
4. What lake did Rafe ride past?

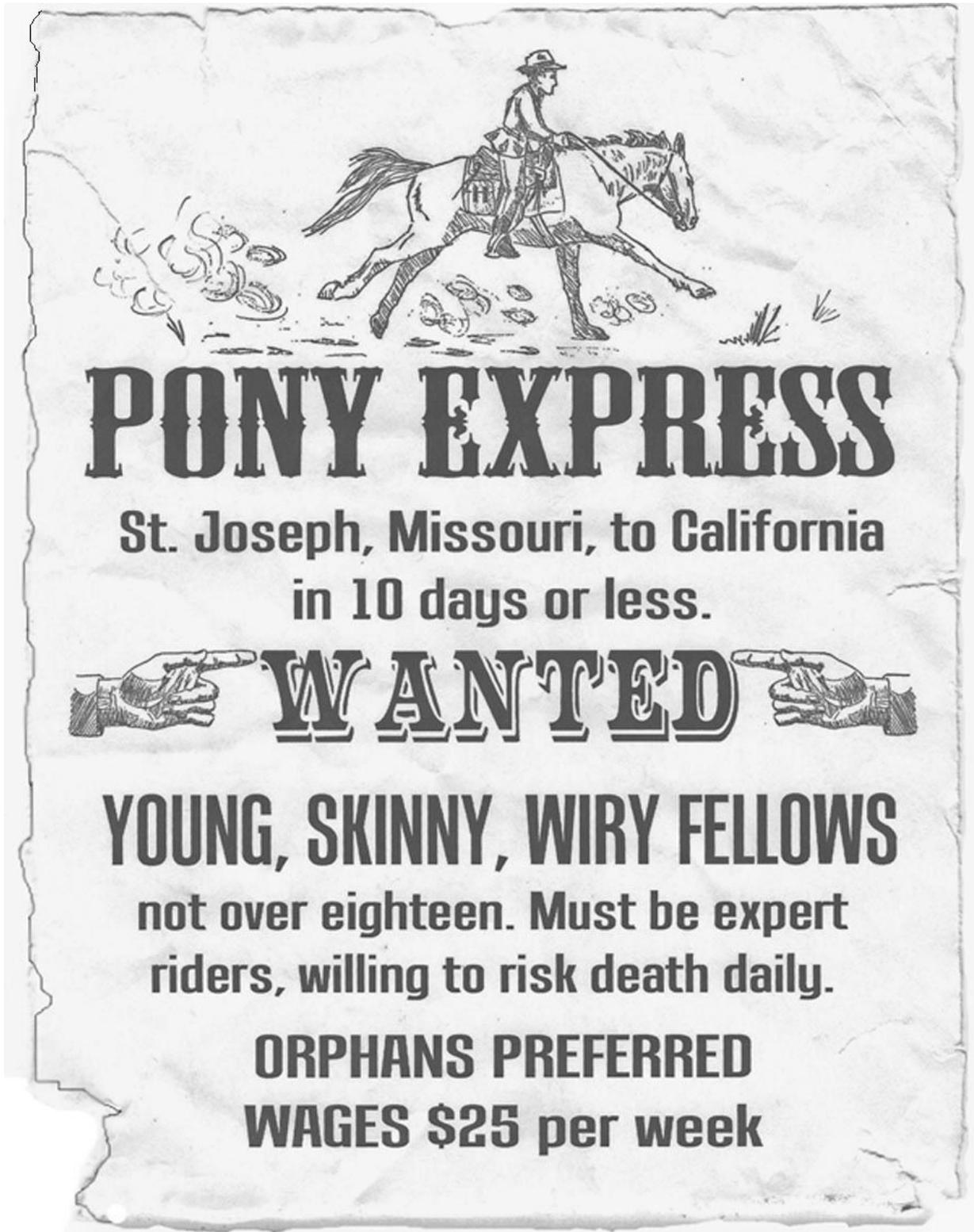


The relay stations were about 10 miles apart. (Count by 10s to complete the activities.)

5. How many miles are between Carson City and Strawberry? _____
6. How many miles is it from Carson City to Sacramento? _____

Pony Express Poster

Color over the top of the entire poster with a yellow or light-brown crayon. For best results, peel the paper from the crayon and use the whole length. Then cut out around the ragged edges of the poster. Wad the paper up and then flatten it out. Your poster should look like an old-time Pony Express advertisement from 1860, just like Rafe's.



Canyon of Danger: Chapters 16–19

Show how well you understand the story by answering the questions.

Chapters 16-17

1. "I couldn't agree more," a new voice breaks in. Who is it? _____
2. What does Rafe tell the boys to do?
A. run as quick as they can B. find a good hiding place C. trust him (Rafe)
3. What is the name of the night riders' leader? _____
4. Where do the night riders take the boys? _____
5. What do they find in the cave? Indians • skeletons • snakes • spiders
6. True or false? Jem is overjoyed when Rafe tells the boys he is going rescue them.
7. When Rafe finally convinces the boys to go with him, he leads them . . .
A. deeper into Blackwater Canyon.
B. past the sleeping guards.
C. up a steep cliff to the top of the canyon.
8. Jem and Nathan hear a distant rumbling like thunder. But it is *not* thunder. What is it?
A. an avalanche B. a herd of stampeding horses C. a wall of water

Chapters 18-19

9. Jem and Nathan scramble to the top of a ridge to escape what?
A. the night riders B. a flash flood C. a hungry mountain lion
10. Circle the two items Jem always carries in his pockets.
hardtack • licorice • matches • a bandana • a pocketknife • a Bible
11. Circle the night dangers Jem is worried about (page 137 near the bottom).
bears • wild horses • snakes • wolves • cougars • bobcats • coyotes
12. True or false? Jem saves Nathan's life by shooting a wolf that is lurking nearby.
13. Why does Jem drop the rifle? _____
14. Jem learns that Rafe is: an outlaw • a lawman • a foreign spy • a sheriff
15. What job does Pa offer Rafe at the end of the book? _____
16. At the end of the book, what does Pa suggest they all do?
A. Go after the pesky wolf.
B. Round up the cattle and make sure they're safe.
C. Go home and let Aunt Rose know everybody is all right.

Canyon of Danger Vocabulary: Chapters 16-19

Use the clues and the word box to unscramble each of the vocabulary words from the previous sections. You may look back on pages 61, 69, and 78 to review the words. Then copy the letters in the numbered boxes to the boxes at the bottom of the page to find the name of an important character from *Canyon of Danger*.

WORD BOX

bombard gibbous dawdling pester scabbard propriety lattice grit sheepish sacred

- | | | |
|---|------------------|--|
| 1. a case or covering to store a rifle | DAABSCBR | <input type="text"/> |
| | | 10 |
| 2. a phase of the moon that is 3/4 full | BOUGIBS | <input type="text"/> |
| | | 11 12 1 |
| 3. to annoy; nag | TESREP | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> |
| | | 8 16 |
| 4. going about in a leisurely manner | NAGDIWDL | <input type="text"/> |
| | | 13 |
| 5. to overwhelm with questions | BABDMOR | <input type="text"/> |
| | | 6 |
| 6. decency and good manners | IEPOTRYPR | <input type="text"/> |
| | | 3 14 |
| 7. courage; spunk | TIRG | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> |
| | | 5 |
| 8. a wooden frame | TICLETA | <input type="text"/> |
| | | 7 9 |
| 9. an <u>embarrassed</u> grin | HIEHESPS | <input type="text"/> |
| | | 2 15 |
| 10. holy | RADCES | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> |
| | | 4 |

WHO AM I?



					F	F														
1	2	3	4	5			6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			

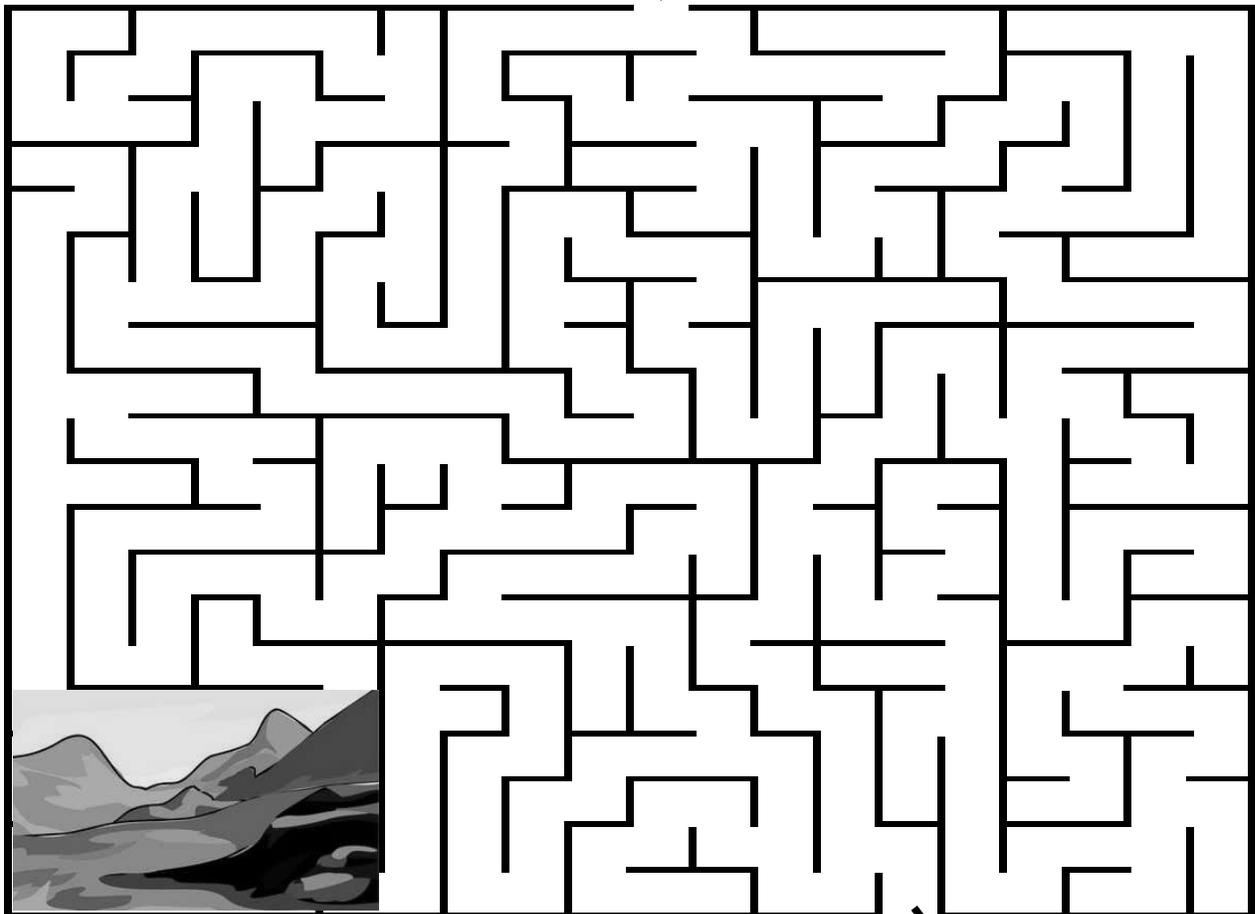
Help Jem and Nathan Find Their Way



Blackwater Canyon up in the Sierras is a maze of twists and turns through gullies and side canyons, and between cliffs. No one wants to lose their way in this labyrinth. When Jem and Nathan are hiding out, they don't want to go too far either, for fear of never finding their way out.

Help Jem and Nathan find their way through Blackwater Canyon and safely out. Do not cross any black lines.

START



END

Life Zones of the Sierra Nevada

Sierra Nevada means “jagged, snowy mountain range.” Within this vast area (running 400 miles from north and south) are a number of **life zones**. Life zones are communities of plants, animals, and climates. In the Sierra Nevada, life zones are determined by elevation. You won’t find the same plants and animals living at 1,000 feet high as you will at 8,000 feet high. God created different plants and animals to adapt to different environments. California has more diverse (different) life forms than any other state.

There are three general life zones in the Sierra Nevada: 1) the **Foothills** (1,000-5,000 feet), 2) the **Montane** (5,000-9,000 feet), and 3) the **Alpine** (9,000 feet and higher). Let’s see what kinds of plants and animals live in these zones.

1) **The Foothills (1,000-5,000 feet):** At the lower elevation of this life zone, you will find hot, dry summers and little or no snow in the winter. Higher up, there is more snow, along with flowers (like poppies), manzanita, oak, ponderosa pine, and other pine trees. All kinds of animals live in this life zone: snakes, coyotes, black bears, deer, skunk, wild turkeys, squirrels, and bobcats, to name a few. This is the life zone where Jem and his family live in Goldtown. Lots of gold camps were established here during the gold rush days (1849 -1859).

2) **The Montane (5,000-9,000):** The fictional Blackwater Canyon is located in this life zone, near the higher elevation. There is a lot of snow in the winter—up to six feet—and it can last until June. Trees are everywhere: Douglas fir, ponderosa pine, sugar pine (with the longest cones), and Jeffrey pine (the bark smells like vanilla—yummy). The tallest and oldest trees are here, as well—the giant sequoias. Wildflowers dot the high meadows, and ferns carpet the forest floor. Huckleberry grows here too. Birds like the thrush, blue jay, and gray owl live here, as well as cougars, bears, deer, wolves, gray foxes, and ground squirrels.



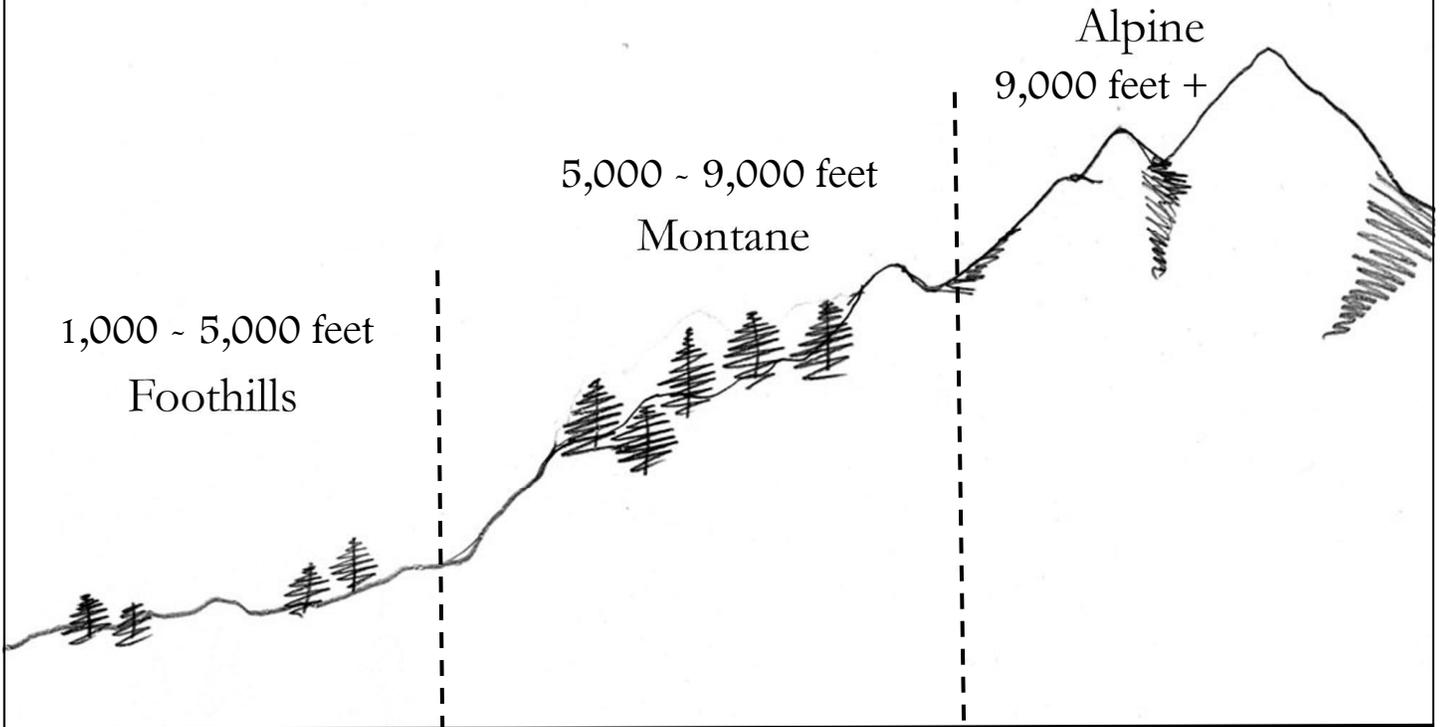
a young Ellie with a sugar pine cone

3) **The Alpine (9,000 feet and up):** This zone is chilly, with short summers and long, snowy, cold winters. Snow can pile up to nine feet. Some trees grow here, like mountain hemlock, western white pine, and lodgepole pine. But they grow very slowly. The dirt is not very nutritious, as this zone is pretty much at the top of the mountains. In fact, at about 10,000 feet there is a “tree line,” which means no trees grow higher than this elevation. Some animals make their homes here, however: bighorn sheep, marmots, and ground squirrels, to name a few. Of course, many animals can live in more than one zone, and they cross over from one to another. This was just a quick trip through the life zones of the Sierra Nevada!

Life Zones of the Sierra Nevada

Write examples of the different kinds of plants and animals under each of the Sierra Nevada life zones listed below. Use what you read on the previous page. Question:

In which life zone do Jem and Ellie live? _____



_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

ANSWER KEY: CANYON OF DANGER -1

Page 59: Chapters 1-5
Chapters 1-2

1. the rifle
2. Pa must escort a prisoner to Sacramento.
3. B
4. a wolf
5. It killed a calf.
6. a man

Chapters 3-5

7. C
8. false
9. Rafe's pistols (guns)
10. Dr. Alan Martin
11. Copper loses a shoe.
12. B
13. horse, rifle
14. No-luck Casey; Dakota Joe
15. false

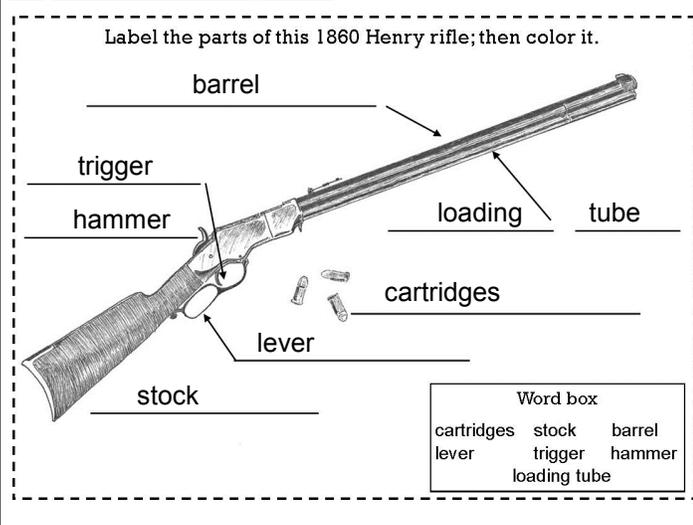
Page 61: Chapters 1-4
Vocabulary

1. F
2. H
3. A
4. E
5. G
6. B
7. C
8. D

Writing: Alliteration

1. Jem, journeyed, Jackson, Jasper, just
2. Ellie, easily, eleven, eggs, emptied

Page 63: 1860 Henry Rifle



Page 65: What's the Cure?

Illness	1864	Today
sore throat	Tie a strip of bacon around your neck.	Suck on cough drops and take antibiotics.
burns	Rub egg whites all over it.	Cover with antibiotic cream and a clean cloth.
bad cough	Drink a mixture of tree bark and Beth root.	Take cough syrup and sleep with a humidifier.
fever	Cut blood veins to drain the "poison" out.	Drink fluids and take fever-reducing medicine.
tooth cavity	Yank the tooth out.	Have the tooth filled.

Page 67: Chapters 6-10
Chapters 6-7

1. B
2. He worries about losing the rifle and Copper; it's hot; he worries about Rafe; he doesn't want to explain to Aunt Rose.
3. Strike-it-rich Sam; B
4. Thomas Rafael Flynn
5. up in the hayloft (or) in the barn
6. C

Chapters 8-10

7. church
8. false
9. Copper
10. Check for accuracy.
11. Shen; Wu
12. true
13. Miwok
14. His horse needs tending. (or) His horse is hurt.

Page 69: Vocabulary
Chapters 6-10

1. G
2. F
3. D
4. H
5. C
6. E
7. B
8. A

Character Clues

1. Dakota Joe; No-luck Casey
2. Doc Martin
3. Mordecai
4. Strike-it-rich Sam
5. Aunt Rose

Page 70-71:
Map of Goldtown

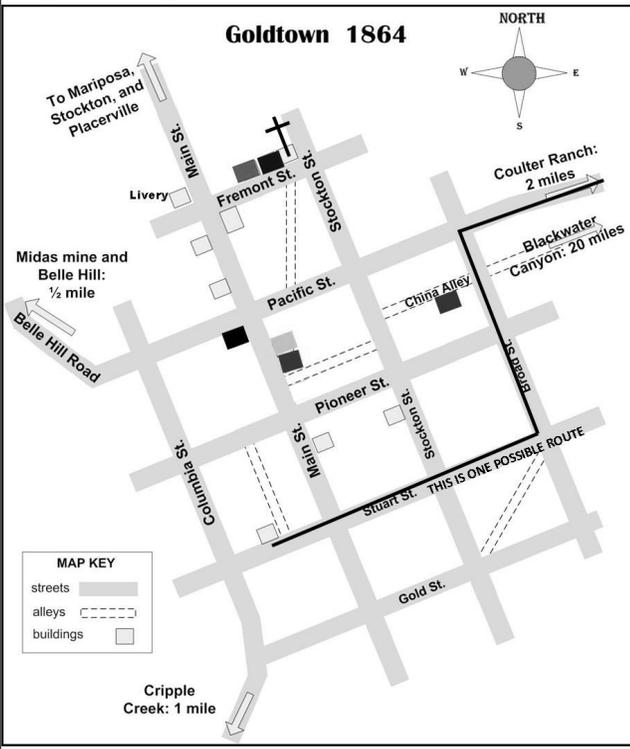
1. north, south, east, west
2. buildings, streets, alleys

(Check # 3-10 for accuracy.)

11. Pacific Street
12. Cripple Creek
13. Belle Hill Road
14. 20 miles
15. Main Street

ANSWER KEY: CANYON OF DANGER -2

Page 71: Map of Goldtown



Page 77: Chapters 11-15

Chapters 11-12

1. take care of Rafe's horse
2. Bible
3. \$25.00/week
4. Miwok
5. false
6. A
7. Jem, Ellie, Rafe, Nathan
8. Poverty Gulch, Blackwater Canyon, Eagle Rock

Chapters 13-15

9. Rafe left his pistols behind
10. B
11. C
12. Snow White
13. C
14. He gets taken away by two men (stolen).

Page 78:

Chapters 11-15

Vocabulary

1. A. an outlaw
2. D. embarrassed
3. B. wooden frame
4. A. plain
5. B. a problem
6. D. holy
7. A. scratched

Page 80: Pony Express Riders

1. Carson City
2. Sacramento
3. 10
4. Lake Tahoe
5. 40 miles
6. 110 miles

Page 83: Chapters 16-19

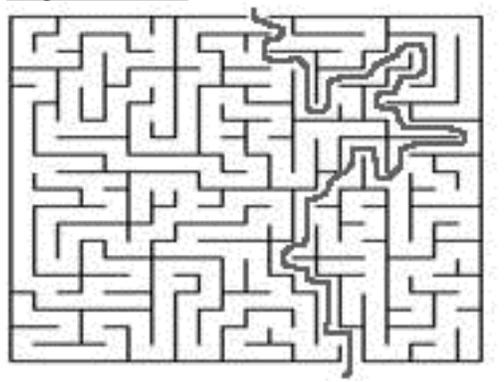
Chapters 16-17

1. Rafe
2. C
3. Clem
4. into Blackwater Canyon
5. snakes
6. false
7. A
8. C

Chapters 18-19

9. B
10. a pocketknife; matches
11. bears, wolves, cougars, bobcats
12. false
13. It is hot!
14. a lawman
15. deputy of Goldtown
16. A

Page 85: Maze



Page 84: Chapters 16-19

Vocabulary Double Puzzle

DAABSCBR	S C A B B A R D 10
BOUGIBS	G I B B O U S 11 12 1
TESREP	P E S T E R 8 16
NAGDIWDL	D A W D L I N G 13
BABDMOR	B O M B A R D 6
IEPOTRYPR	P R O P R I E T Y 3 14
TIRG	G R I T 5
TICLETA	L A T T I C E 7 9
HIEHESPS	S H E E P I S H 2 15
RADCES	S A C R E D 4

Who Am I?

Sheriff Matt Coulter

Page 87: Life Zones of the Sierra Nevada

Answers will vary.

Refer to the previous page (p. 86) for a list of the animals and plants in each life zone.