

TIME HUNTERS



TIME HUNTERS – Cowboy Showdown Chris Blake

Tasks

Task 1 (for readers aged 7-9) – The Prologue

Read the Prologue again then, in twos or a small group, discuss and record answers to the following:

1. Find Mexico – use your atlas or a globe to help you. Your teacher will give you a blank map. Can you mark Mexico on this?
2. Explain where Zuma was at the start of the story and what was happening to her.
3. Investigate why she was dressed in such an odd way. Describe her costume.

Research:

1. The Aztecs had many different gods. Tlaloc was one of them. Create a fact sheet about him. Make sure you include a picture!



Task 2 (for readers aged 7-9) – Gold Rush

We are told that in the late 1800s there was a Gold Rush in America. Work with a partner to find out some more about this.

1. Create an instruction leaflet for a new gold prospector at this time. It needs to include where to go, what equipment to buy and how to pan for gold. Illustrate this appropriately.

Before you start, as a class, you should set the assessment criteria for this task.



Task 3 (for readers aged 7-9) – Shadow Puppets

In the story the characters use a lantern and Chilli the dog to create an enormous shadow to scare the outlaw!

1. Using a torch and some card can you try to recreate this effect? Why does this effect occur?
2. Working in small groups, use what you have found out to help you put on a shadow puppet play, which tells the story of the book. You could hold a special puppet theatre performance for another class, or you could invite your parents in to watch the play.

HINT:

A large cardboard box, with tracing paper taped to the front, can make an excellent 'theatre'.



Task 4 (for readers aged 8-9) – Wild Bill Hickok

Wild Bill Hickok is the US Marshall in the story. There are lots of clues, which tell us something about what he was like.

1. Working with a partner, use these clues to create a character profile. Choose how to present your findings to the rest of the class.
2. Display your work on the class wall.



Task 5 (for readers aged 8-9) – Description: Deadwood

1. The town of Deadwood is in Dakota, USA. Can you find out how it got its name? The town was in the centre of the Gold Rush area.
2. Using the websites your teacher suggests, find old pictures and photographs of Deadwood in the late 1800s. What do you notice? Work with your writing group to brainstorm everything you see. Add suitable descriptive language for everything you note down.
3. You are now going to write a descriptive piece about Deadwood. Use all the ideas your group thought of. Remember: a good piece of descriptive writing contains lots of adjectives! You will make it even better if you can add some alliteration and similes!

Suggested websites:

www.deadwood.com

<http://www.deadwood.searchroots.com/deadwood.htm>



Task 6 (for readers aged 7-8) – Description: The Hold-up!

1. Look at the picture of the hold up of the Deadwood stage on page 88. Work with your writing partner to note down everything you see. Can you think of good action verbs to make your points really interesting?
2. You are now going to write a description of what is happening. You need to make sure you only include what you can see.



Task 7 (for readers aged 7-9) – Group Reading

Working in groups of five, each person in the group will be given a particular job as described below. The Boss will read the chapter aloud and then everyone will do their separate jobs. Once each member of the group has completed their task, share your work and ideas with the others to help you to understand what the chapter is about.

- The Boss introduces and reads the text and makes sure everyone is joining in.
- The Questioner makes a note of any question they might need to answer to understand what is happening.
- The Summariser identifies the most important ideas in the text and summarises the chapter in four sentences.
- The Clarifier identifies confusing words and sentences and tries to explain them.
- The Description identifier works with the Boss to identify the ten best descriptive phrases in the chapter.