

TEACHER NOTES

This activity supports the learning objectives for Stage 3 in the unit The Australian Colonies. A student describes the significance of people, places and events in the development of the colony.

Historical concepts can be explored by the events and circumstances of Chinese migration to Australia and the social impact of this migrant group. Students can gain skills in research and completing a writing project on the historic route taken by the Chinese immigrants [between 1857 -1863] who left from Robe. Immigrants walked on foot [up to 20 miles a day] thousands of miles to the tin and copper mines of South Australia or the Victorian goldfields through unforgiving terrain. Those who could afford an alternative method of travel travelled by Cobb & Co coach to the goldfields of Victoria.

A reenactment of one of the original walking routes was achieved for the Centenary of the Federation in 2001. The route undertaken was from Robe to Bendigo to commemorate the determination and suffering of the Chinese in the late 19th century. This project also paid tribute to the contribution of the Chinese community in the development of Australian society.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

The work sheets are designed as dairy pages for the student to complete as a passenger on a coach on the route from Robe to Bendigo, Victoria in 1865.

RESOURCES

History in Robe | Robe District Council
www.robe.sa.gov.au/explore/history

The walk from Robe -
Golden Dragon Museum
Bendigo Vic
<https://www.punctum.com.au>

YouTube videos

Henry Lawson Part 1 Introduction; 'The Lights of Cobb & Co ' - YouTube
Lionel Long - The Ballad of Cobb & Co..wmv - YouTube

YOUR STORY

1865

"A driver's whips are cracking and the horse's hooves are dragging. As across the red and dusty trail they race. There is a distant light a burning as the passengers are yearning, for the comfort of a warm and kindly place."

Lionel Long's Ballard of Cobb & Co

Imagine that you a passenger travelling from Robe to Bendigo on a Cobb & Co horse drawn coach.

- Who are the other passengers on the coach ?
- what experiences do you have on the long journey?
- What landscape and wildlife do you see?
- What provisions do you take for the journey?
- Where did you stay overnight?

Write in the diary pages provided. A blank page is provided if you wish to draw your adventure.



MY DIARY OF TRAVEL ADVENTURES



Your name:

Your journey:

Day 1: Leaving Robe



Last day - arriving at Bendigo Victoria



YOUR DRAWING