

World of Wonder

Educational Standards and Suggested Activities

Release week September 16, 2012: Gold

Standards

- Current Events: Students will use the newspaper to determine the current price of gold.
- Science: Students will learn how gold is mined and processed.
- Science: Students will research how real gold is detected.

Activities

1. Use the News: Check the business section of your newspaper for a table that lists the prices of commodities. Check for the current price of gold. That amount will be the price of 1 ounce of gold. Now calculate how much money you would have *today* if you had purchased \$1,000 of gold in the year 2000, when it cost \$200 an ounce.
2. How is gold mined and turned into gold bars (or ingots?) Here is a brief video that explains the basic process:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=apD5cPVsDjc. While you watch, write down some vocabulary words to look up and define, such as “smelt” and “leech.”
3. How can you tell if something is real gold or if it is plated, with gold only on the outside? Research and report on how the quality of gold can be tested.

World of Wonder meets many state educational standards. This guide helps teachers identify standards and related activities generally intended for grade 6, but teachers can modify activities to the appropriate grade level.