



The Gold Rush

An Age of Sail Program

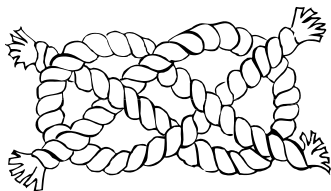
The adventure begins in San Francisco in 1851. California has just gained statehood. You have heard of opportunities in San Francisco, so you spend most of your savings to get there. In San Francisco, you are faced with the dilemma of finding some type of occupation.

The first person you meet is a Gold Miner. He knows of many opportunities, but they all have a price. You could head to the gold country, but you would need transportation, mining supplies and food. The Gold Miner will extol you with tales of the Gold Fields and the fortunes to be made. It is a hard life, but huge rewards are possible. "Anything" he says, "is better than slaving away in a shop or on board a ship. Come seek your fortune!"

Another choice is to stay in town and work for a Merchant, but you would need a place to live and money for food. Today may be your lucky day! The Merchant you meet has cargo to be loaded onto a ship. He will hire you. "You will have job security. You can have a family and a warm dry place to live. You can even have a dog who will sleep by the fireplace or at the foot of your feather bed." "Anything," he says, "is better than being a sailor or a miner." He then proceeds to tell you why.

You could sign aboard a ship and become a sailor, but you would need a sea chest filled with foul weather gear, galley gear, a second change of clothes, sewing and mending equipment, etc. The ship's Captain is looking for help. He needs sailors. He takes you around the vessel, extolling the virtues of a life at sea. He is eager to have you remain with him rather than head for the risky possibilities of the gold fields or the dull existence of being a land locked merchant's employee. "Anything," he says, "is better than having your feet stuck in clay! Ah, it's a sailor's life!"

At the conclusion of the program, you will have to decide on your destiny. Will you sign aboard the Thayer and earn your way as a seaman, head for the gold country with the second mate, or will you remain in town and work for the shipping officer?



Program Details

The program is offered **Monday through Friday from September through June**. The program hours are **10:00 am – 2:00 pm**, although we ask that each day's group **arrives at 9:45** to get organized.

There is a **27 student paid minimum**. The group **must include 4 adults plus the teacher**. There is a **Maximum of 35 students, 7 adults, teacher and photographer**.

The cost of the program is **\$26.00 per student**. Adults are free. **Financial Aid is available**. **A \$100.00 non-refundable deposit is required**.

The participants must bring a **lunch**.

Participants must be present for the entire program. No one may arrive late or leave early.

For Reservations Contact:

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