

# Gold Rush Alice World – Teacher Directions

Download files for the Gold Rush Alice world from the Critical Thinking with Alice Webpage at <http://www.timetrek.org/index2.htm>, and go to Grade 5 or Grade 8 Social Studies. First, place a GoldRush gallery folder in the Alice application that you and your students will use for this project. By using a customized gallery, you can restrict the objects students will use in their project, helping them to stay more focused. Use the suggested objects listed on the Webpage.

## Computer Requirements:

**Alice 2.2 for PC:** Windows XP or Vista; a VGA graphics card capable of high (16 bit) color and 1024x768 resolution (3D video card recommended); 512MB of RAM (1GB recommended); sound card. Although Alice 2.0 can be used for PC and MAC computers in earlier models, it is not recommended for classroom use because it contains bugs, causing the program to crash. It is recommended that you only use Alice 2.2 or higher in classroom situations.

**Alice 2.2 for MAC:** At least Mac OS X 10.4 or later; PowerPC or Intel processor; VGA graphics card capable of high (16 bit) color and 1024x768 resolution (3D video card recommended); 512 MB of RAM (1GB recommended); sound card.

**Sound Editing Program:** Recommend the free Audacity program, available at <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/>

**Computer microphone**

**Headphones**

## How to Create a Customized Gallery Folder

**On a MAC,** hold down the control key while clicking on the icon of the Alice program. When the drop-down menu appears, double-click on Show Packet Contents, then open the Contents folder. Next, open the Required folder, then open the gallery folder. You will see a list of all the folders currently in your gallery. Create a new folder called GoldRush. Place all files that you want students to access for their project into this folder. Be sure to include the file titled directoryThumbnail.png, and make sure this file size is only 128x128 pixels. This file will serve as the gallery folder's icon. Suggested files can be downloaded from the Critical Thinking Alice Webpage for the Gold Rush, Grade 5 or Grade 8 at <http://www.timetrek.org/index2.htm>. Create a folder called Sounds, and place the files in it that you download from the timetrek site for Gold Rush, Grade 5 or Grade 8 that students will be able to access from their computers.

**On a PC,** locate the Required folder inside the Alice folder. Follow the same directions as above.

## Lesson Plan

1. Provide students with background information regarding the primary sources by playing the *Yosemite – Two Points of Views* video file. If you cannot download the file from the Internet, write Dr. Sontag for a copy of the CD or DVD – [mesontag@gmail.com](mailto:mesontag@gmail.com).
2. If necessary, provide students with information on critical thinking and primary sources. See the Critical Thinking worksheet on the Critical Thinking with Alice Webpage.

3. Introduce the idea of 3D Alice, where you can create scenes that can be seen from different points of view. Download and show students the Alice\_Points\_of\_View.pdf file from the Critical Thinking with Alice Home page, or from the Grade 5 or Grade 8 Gold Rush Project page. Discuss how, in order to think critically, all points of view should be considered. It is easy to come to wrong conclusions when only viewing issues from one point of view, as illustrated through the Alice\_Points\_of\_View graphics.
4. You can also have students complete the Critical Thinking worksheet to help them better understand critical thinking.
5. Hand out the Totuya and Bunnel Primary Sources.doc, and review together. Emphasize that students must use quotes from the primary source documents in their Alice world.
6. Show students the sample gold\_rush\_example.a2w world (or show the GoldRush Sample World movie file on the webpage) as an example of what students might create on their own.
7. Provide students with copies of the Gold Rush tutorial directions. Walk through the tutorial with the students.
8. Provide students with time to complete their own unique GoldRush Alice world. Stress the importance of complying with the Rubrics.
9. Have students view each other's worlds and critique, according to the rubric requirements.