

In Search of the Wild West

Objectives:

- Perfecting spreadsheet skills
- Changing column width of cells
- Pasting and copying from the clipboard
- Multitasking (using more than one program at the same time)



Program Needed:

Use a program which has spreadsheet capability, such as *Microsoft Excel* or *AppleWorks* (under Drawing). You will also need some type of clip art.

Instructions:

1. Have students write down 8–10 words that all pertain to the same subject but are not more than 10 letters long.
2. Using a spreadsheet, section off a block. See the example on this page.
3. Reduce column width of all cells in the block to 3.
4. Capitalize and center letters in each cell, one letter per cell.
5. First, put in the words that are in your word bank. Challenge students to make the words go diagonally and backwards, too.
6. Once all of the word bank words are entered, fill in empty cells with other letters. To be more tricky, don't put just random letters in the empty cells. Make words that are similar to your word bank list but spelled differently or slightly incorrectly.
7. Highlight the block, and take off the gridlines if you wish.
8. Depending on which program you use, you may need to highlight the grid and import it into a graphic/clip art type program. Some programs like *AppleWorks* will allow you to have a spreadsheet directly on a drawing page.
9. Add a title, word bank, and pictures.
10. Proof the work and print.

G	R	C	S	R	E	N	I
L	H	A	O	C	O	W	B
D	S	L	I	W	C	A	R
O	U	I	E	L	B	R	E
N	R	F	N	G	R	O	N
I	D	O	I	Y	L	O	Y
G	L	R	M	B	G	D	A
M	O	N	R	A	E	R	F
I	G	I	W	A	G	A	N
H	C	A	R	I	B	O	U

Extension Ideas:



The best way to use this word search idea is to integrate it into the curriculum. This is a nice culminating project to any unit. It could also be one of the requirements for a project booklet. Any topic would work, such as plants, seasons, presidents, marine life, or space.

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C	A	L	I	F	O	R	N	I	A
R	G	H	O	S	T	T	O	W	N
C	O	W	B	O	Y	S	K	O	W
G	L	H	J	K	L	B	C	E	A
H	D	P	O	B	G	R	A	S	G
U	R	A	I	L	R	O	A	D	O
K	U	Y	R	E	G	B	E	R	N
L	S	M	I	N	E	R	S	I	S
D	H	P	C	A	R	I	B	O	U



Words to Find:
GOLD RUSH
COWBOYS
CALIFORNIA
MINERS
WAGONS
CARIBOU
RAILROAD
GHOST TOWN



All About Space

D	H	S	W	L	A	D	T	L
R	O	T	E	I	R	O	R	A
M	N	E	P	T	U	N	E	S
U	A	Y	R	L	S	P	S	H
S	T	R	L	O	U	R	H	U
R	E	H	S	T	K	T	P	T
A	M	O	O	N	R	N	O	T
T	C	M	H	A	M	C	B	L
S	A	T	E	L	L	I	T	E

Words to Find:

MOON

SHUTTLE

EARTH

NEPTUNE

SATELLITE

MARS

STARS

PLUTO

