RANCHO LOS CERRITOS
LONG AGO
LONG BEACH
ACTIVITY BOOK

An Archaeologist's Adventure

Name:

School:
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ARCHAEOLOGIST: a person who studies human history by examining the artifacts people once used every day.

Note to the Archaeologist:

You are about to embark on a historic adventure as you travel back in time to learn about the people of the past.

As an archaeologist, you will examine the lives of the people who lived and worked at Rancho Los Cerritos more than a century ago - and the artifacts they left behind.

Are you ready to find out what life was like here in Long Beach a long time ago? Let's get started!
JOTHAM BIXBY: 1831 - 1916

Jotham Bixby was born in Maine. He came to California during the Gold Rush. He started out as a gold miner, but soon moved to Rancho Los Cerritos to manage his family’s sheep ranch. Eventually, he sold some of his land to start the City of Long Beach, so people call him the “Father of Long Beach.”
A timeline is a way of organizing information. It can help us understand what happened in the past because it lists important events and shows the order in which they occurred.

**What is a timeline?**

**Timeline of My Life**
History Spotlight

**William M. Godfrey: 1825 - 1900**

William Godfrey came to California during the Gold Rush. He didn’t pan for gold, but he did travel all around the state. He was a photographer as well as a dentist, so he split his time between taking pictures and pulling teeth! He owned a photography studio in Los Angeles for a time, and he was the first person to photograph Rancho Los Cerritos in 1872.

Reflection Questions:
Who in your family takes photographs? What do they like to take pictures of? Why?
The camera was invented by Louis Daguerre in 1837, and it required you to sit still for 20 minutes! "Tintypes" replaced "daguerreotypes" because the film was much cheaper and easier to develop.

Photography became a popular hobby in the early 1900s when Kodak invented "folding pocket cameras." Digital cameras debuted in the 1990s, and the very first camera phone was invented in 2000.
Juan Cañedo worked as a vaquero (cowboy) at Rancho Los Cerritos for John Temple, the Rancho’s first owner. Señor Cañedo was a valuable employee because he knew how to lasso cows and brand them. When the Bixbys bought Rancho Los Cerritos from John Temple, Señor Cañedo kept his job. He also taught Jotham Bixby’s children how to ride horses and speak Spanish.

Reflection Questions:
What is a useful skill you have learned in school, like the Bixby children learned Spanish from Juan Cañedo? Who taught you that skill, and when?

“One strong and stalwart character, the most perfect horseman and acknowledged leader of the vaqueros, was Juan Cañedo.”
-Sarah Bixby Smith
In the box below, you can design your very own brand. Feel free to include letters and shapes. Your brand should be easy to see from far away, so it needs to be simple and bold. Then try "branding" the cow to see how your design looks!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brand</th>
<th>Design</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Francisco Avila</td>
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<tr>
<td>JD</td>
<td>Juan Bandini</td>
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<tr>
<td>△</td>
<td>Jotham Bixby</td>
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<td>Juan Dominguez</td>
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<td>Antonio Lugo</td>
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<td>Pio Pico</td>
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<td>Abel Stearns</td>
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<td>John Temple</td>
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<tr>
<td>⬞</td>
<td>José María Verdugo</td>
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<tr>
<td>⬞</td>
<td>Bernardo Yorba</td>
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There were no fences when John Temple owned Rancho Los Cerritos, so he had to create a unique design to mark his cows. The blacksmith then forged the design in iron. The vaqueros used the branding iron to mark the cows, so that John Temple could distinguish his cows from those of his neighbors.
Ah Ying was born in China. It is not known whether he came to California for the Gold Rush or later, but by 1870 he lived and worked at Rancho Los Cerritos. When the Bixbys owned the Rancho, Ying cooked breakfast, dinner, and supper for about 30 people every day. He also did all the laundry, a task that took two days each week! Ah Ying was a very important worker at the Rancho.

Reflection Questions:
Who cooks the food and washes the clothes at your house? What chores do you do to help your family?

"Ying made cakes decorated with frosting and curly-cues, and custard pies so good that grandfather always included one with the donuts and cheese."
-Sarah Bixby Smith
If you had to plan the meals that your family would eat for a whole day, what would you choose? Write or draw out a menu for each meal.

When Ying worked at Rancho Los Cerritos, people called lunch “dinner” and dinner “supper.” Like us, they called the earliest meal of the day “breakfast.”

The Bixby family liked to eat mutton (sheep meat), fruit, vegetables, cheese, donuts, pies, and porridge. The workers favored spicy food like beans, tortillas, onions, and chilies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BREAKFAST</th>
<th>LUNCH</th>
<th>DINNER</th>
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History Spotlight

HARRY BIXBY: 1870 - 1902

Jotham Bixby’s son, Harry, was born at Rancho Los Cerritos. He loved to fish in the river, collect stamps, and play marbles. He did not go to school when he was young because there were no school houses in the area. Fortunately, his mother and aunts could teach him how to read, write, and do arithmetic. He was also expected to do chores, like cleaning the rugs and collecting eggs.

Reflection Questions:
What are your favorite hobbies? What are your favorite games?
Here is the alphabet in cursive, which the Bixby children had to learn. Try to write your name using these letters as a guide. Some of the letters may not look familiar, but they are written in alphabetical order so you can find the letters in your name if you know your A-B-Cs.

If you have time, try writing the names of your classmates and siblings, too!

Rancho Rancho

______________

______________

______________

______________

______________

______________
Sarah Bixby was Harry’s “double cousin” because their mothers were sisters and their fathers were brothers. After Sarah’s family moved to Los Angeles in 1878, she spent a lot of time visiting the Rancho Los Cerritos. She had fun hosting tea parties, playing croquet, and eating watermelons. Sarah also enjoyed going to the beach and swimming in the river. She especially loved visiting her cousin at Christmas, Fourth of July, and sheep shearing time.

Reflection Questions:
Where do you celebrate holidays?
With whom? What is your favorite part?
In one fun parlor game, someone says one sentence and then someone else says a sentence that rhymes with it. Try it for yourself by filling in the blank spaces below with rhyming words from the word bank. This poem was written by Sarah Bixby.

Don Juan’s Garden

Don Juan built a garden miles from ________________;
fenced in from the mesa, four wide acres__________________.
To mark off beds and pathway, he brought brick around the__________
and there behind his ten-foot fence, a rare garden was______________.
Two lemon trees he planted and pomegranates,__________________
And close beside the corridor a dozen oranges__________________.
He planted gray-green olives to meet his need for__________________
And cypress out of Italy in his adobe______________________.

Word Bank

anywhere    oil    Horn    too
there       soil    born    grew
Artifacts from the Past

Draw the Rancho artifact you liked best in the box below. What is it? What is it made of? Who used it? How?

An artifact is something made by people, like a metal tool, a clay bowl, a patchwork quilt, or a shell necklace.

Museums like Rancho Los Cerritos collect and display artifacts that were made long ago to show visitors what life was like in the past.

ITEM: ___________________________________________________________

MATERIALS: _____________________________________________________

USES: ___________________________________________________________
A Letter to the Bixbys

Write a letter to a friend, telling them what you learned during your experiences in Long Ago Long Beach. Use the hints on the side to help you write your letter.

Dear ___________________,

What new skills did you learn?

What fun activities did you try?

What surprised you most?

Who came to your class?

Sincerely,

______________________________
Historic Spotlights

**Rancho Los Cerritos**
Long Beach
rancholoscerritos.org

**Rancho Dominguez Adobe**, Compton
dominguezrancho.org

**Bembridge House**, Long Beach
lbheritage.org

**Banning Residence**, Wilmington
thebanningmuseum.org

**Heritage Square Museum**, Los Angeles
heritagesquare.org

**Drum Barracks Museum**, Wilmington
drumbarracks.org

**Rancho Los Alamitos**, Long Beach
rancholosalamitos.com

**Pío Pico State Historic Park**, Whittier
www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=621

**Workman Temple Homestead**, City of Industry
homesteadmuseum.org

**Point Fermin Lighthouse**, San Pedro
pointferminlighthouse.org

**Centinela Adobe**, Inglewood
centinelaadobe.org

**Avila Adobe**, Los Angeles
calleolvera.com/history/adobe

**Mission San Gabriel**, San Gabriel
sangabrielmissionchurch.org
Future Adventures!

You can learn even more about "Long Ago Long Beach" by visiting historic places in your community and recording what you see and hear.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I visited</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Location:</th>
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<tr>
<th>I learned</th>
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Timeline Activity

To make your own timeline, think of 5 important events that have happened in your life. Draw a picture of each event. Be sure to include the title and the year. Cut out the rectangles and glue them on the “Timeline of My Life” page in chronological order.

I was born in

Year:

I visited

Age:

I joined

Age:

I learned

Age:

I met

Age:

Ideas:
- another state
- a theme park
- a relative

Ideas:
- to ride a bike
- to make a bed
- to read a book

Ideas:
- a sports team
- a club
- a church

Ideas:
- a friend
- a celebrity
- a sibling
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