

## SAMPLE BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### Health

The population of the Goldfields rose dramatically once gold was discovered. Figures for Coolgardie show that in 1892, the year gold was discovered in the area, 300 people were living there. By 1893 there were 3 000 and by 1894, 6 000 people were in the region. The concentration of population in an area with so little fresh water led to sickness. People were developing diseases such as typhoid, dysentery and scurvy. Many prospectors working in isolation died from thirst and hunger away from the towns springing up in the region.

Soon after the men arrived to mine gold, hospitals started. Nurses were one of the first groups of women to arrive on the goldfields. In 1895 there were two hospitals in Coolgardie —one government and one private. The government hospital charged 2 pounds 10 shillings a week while the private one charged 4 guineas (4 pounds 4 shillings) and three guineas for the doctor. Patients had to pay for their own medicine.

In 1895 fever wards in WA government hospitals documented 357 deaths from typhoid. Eastern states hospitals averaged approximately 50 deaths for the year. Young men on the WA goldfields would be taken ill and no one would know their name or where they had come from. Coolgardie cemetery has many unmarked graves from this time.

*Coolgardie Hospital, circa 1897.*



### SAMPLE ACTIVITY      The Golden Pipeline MIDDLE CHILDHOOD PHASE OF DEVELOPMENT

#### Society & Environment Learning Outcome

#### Investigation, Communication and Participation

Students investigate the ways people interact with each other and with their environments in order to make informed decisions and implement relevant social action.

**Topic:** Water to the Goldfields

**Focus Questions:** Why was it necessary for a pipeline to be built to the desert?

- Plans an investigation using appropriate resources and draws and communicates conclusions
- Visit No 1 Pump Station at Mundaring Weir as a stimulus to investigation into the history of the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme.
- Consider the following:
  - Why was this the best site for the dam?
  - How did land use change from pre-European settlement, to building the Weir, to the present?
  - How could the use of the area change in the future if water sources for the goldfields changed?
  - The impact to the land of the Weir.
- Communicate findings.

*Links to Science: Developing Conceptual Understanding*

To acquire your copy of THE GOLDEN PIPELINE *RESOURCES AND ACTIVITIES* package contact THE NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (WA)  
tel: 08 9321 6088 fax: 08 9324 1571  
email: [trust@ntwa.com.au](mailto:trust@ntwa.com.au)  
or YOUR EDUCATION SUPPLIER

For more information about curriculum related Primary and Secondary education resources contact the National Trust or visit the website.  
<http://www.ntwa.com.au>

## INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

# THE GOLDEN PIPELINE RESOURCES AND ACTIVITIES

The *Resources and Activities* package is a reference for early and middle childhood teachers introducing the Golden Pipeline, Goldfields Water Supply Scheme and CY O'Connor into their classrooms.



THE GOLDEN PIPELINE A NATIONAL TRUST PROJECT



SAMPLE PAGE FROM  
**GOLDEN PIPELINE**  
**RESOURCES AND ACTIVITIES PACKAGE**

**The Golden Pipeline *Resources and Activities* package:**

- is aligned to the Western Australian Curriculum Framework
- is relevant to all learning areas through Society & Environment (S&E)
- covers outcomes and activities for early and middle childhood
- is flexible, allowing teachers to determine students' needs and outcomes.

**The *Resources and Activities* package** introduces the Golden Pipeline education program. It emphasises the No 1 Pump Station at Mundaring Weir Precinct, the dam, the pipeline, other pump stations and built features, the key players such as CY O'Connor and the natural landscape along the 560 kilometre pipeline route.

**The *Resources and Activities* package** includes:

- curriculum outcome links and focus activities for early and middle childhood
- heritage information
- historical background
- chronology of the Golden Pipeline
- biographies of key players of the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme
- walk trails at Mundaring Weir
- bibliography

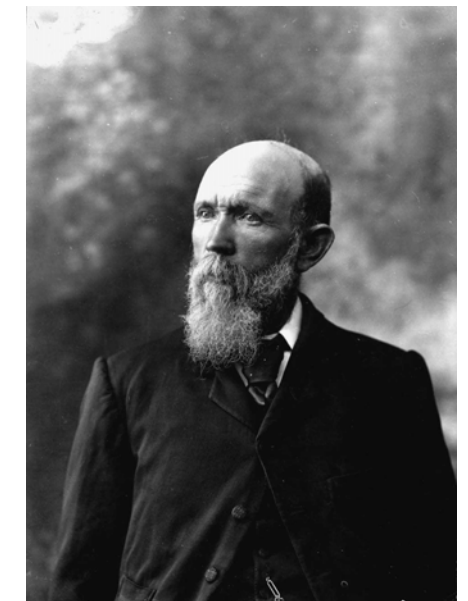


*Students from Hillarys Primary School at No 1 Pump Station, Mundaring Weir*

The Golden Pipeline is an initiative of The National Trust of Australia (WA) in conjunction with the Water Corporation of Western Australia and twelve local government authorities. It encompasses the conservation and interpretation of the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme along its 560 kilometre route.

**The Golden Pipeline  
 CHRONOLOGY**

<b>1893</b>	<b>June</b>	Paddy Hannan, Tom Flanagan, Dan Shea discover gold at Hannan's (Kalgoorlie).
<b>1894</b>	<b>March</b>	Pumping water to the Coolgardie goldfields first suggested publicly in a letter by 'JST' to the <i>West Australian</i> . A critical water shortage in the Goldfields.
<b>1895</b>	<b>Mid-year</b>	Engineer-in-Chief, CY O'Connor instructs senior members of the Public Works Department to begin the preliminary design of a scheme to pump water from Darling Range to Coolgardie.
	<b>November</b>	Premier Sir John Forrest visits Eastern Goldfields to view situation.
<b>1896</b>	<b>March</b>	Forrest announces to Goldfields residents that a water scheme will be implemented.
	<b>14 July</b>	Helena River site recommended by TC Hodgson, Engineer for Sewerage and Water Supply for Towns.
	<b>21 July</b>	Forrest introduces the Coolgardie Goldfields Water Supply Loan Bill to raise £2.5 million (\$5 million) for the Scheme.



*Paddy Hannan, circa 1920.*