

THE GOLD RUSH

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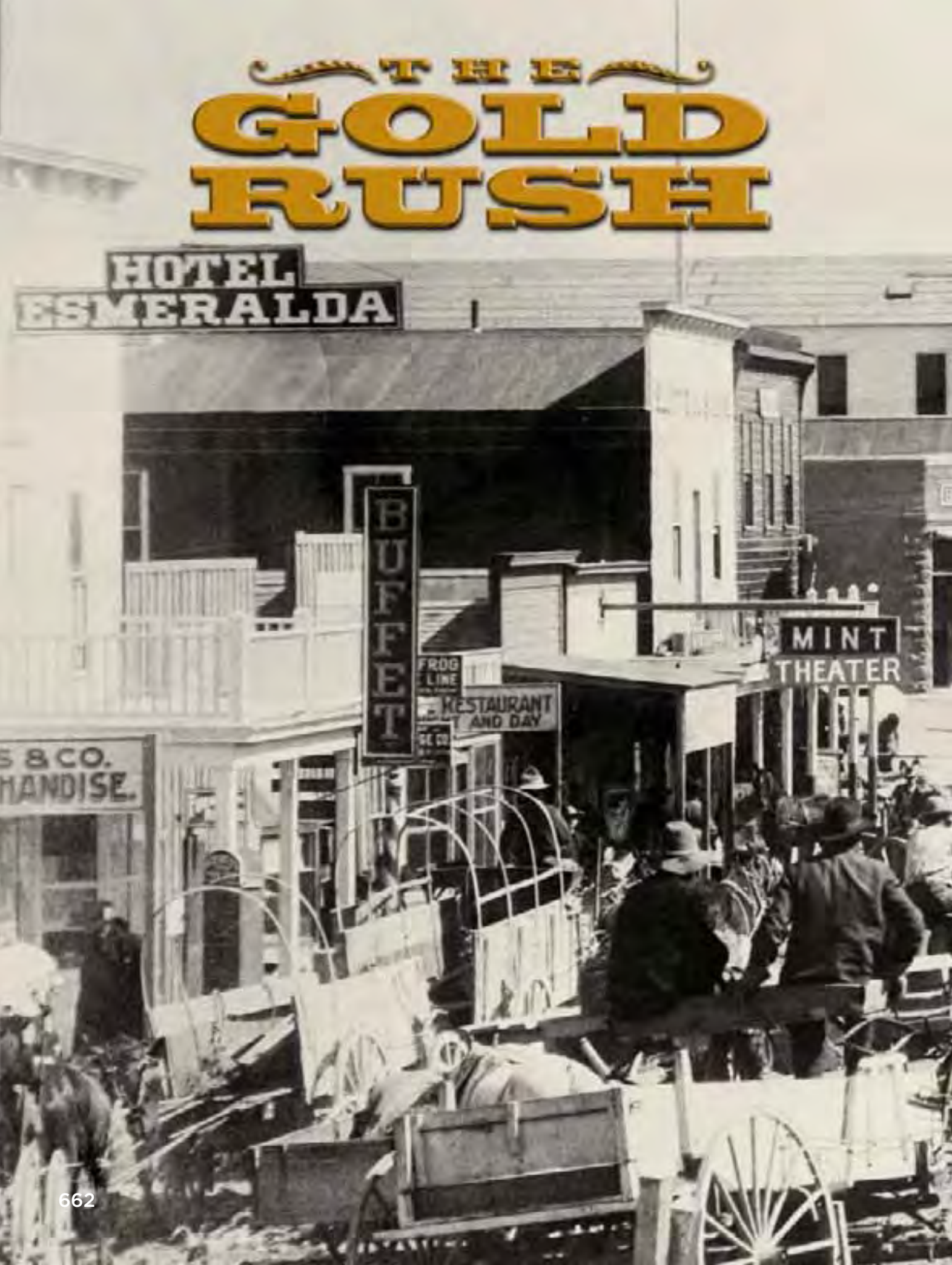
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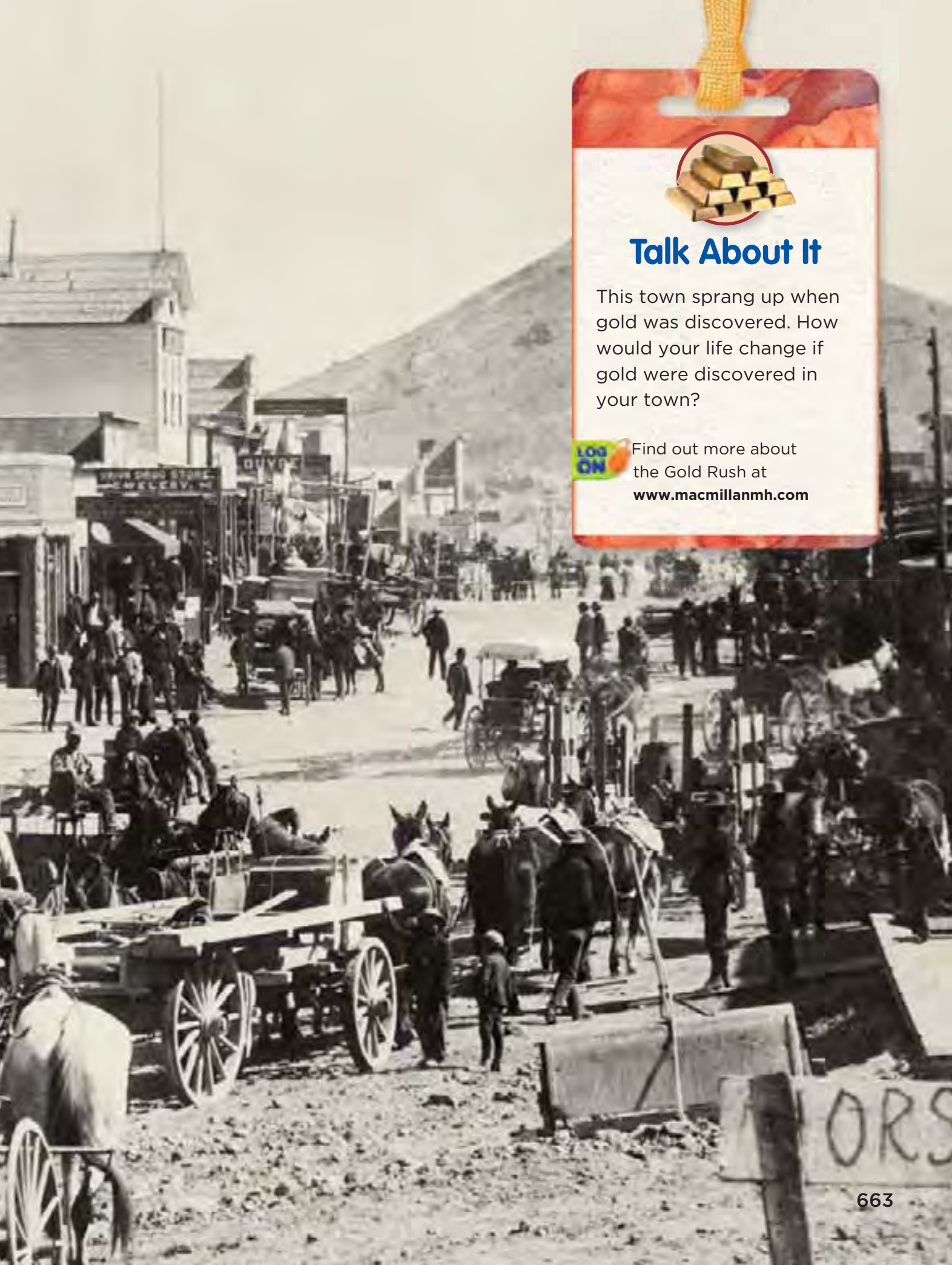
FROG
LINE

RESTAURANT
AND DAY

MINT
THEATER

S & CO.
HANDISE.





Talk About It

This town sprang up when gold was discovered. How would your life change if gold were discovered in your town?



Find out more about the Gold Rush at www.macmillanmh.com

In Search of Gold

by Al Ortiz

Vocabulary

reference circular
prospectors outstretched
disappointment glinted
annoyed

Word Parts

Suffixes are word parts added to the end of words that change the meanings.

-or = one who

prospector = one who looks for gold

Mr. Rodriguez's fourth-grade class was on a field trip at the Sutter Gold Mine. Larry couldn't wait to load up on gold. He even brought along some photographs to use as a **reference**. He didn't want to pick up any "fool's gold" by mistake.

Larry's class boarded the Boss Buggy Shuttle that would take them down into the mine. Everyone had to wear a hardhat for safety. On the ride down, their guide Ron gave them some information about the Gold Rush.

"Many **prospectors** came to this area beginning in 1848," explained Ron. "A prospector is someone who searches for valuable metals like gold."

Margaret commented, "Everyone must have gotten rich!"

"Actually," said Ron, "not everyone was successful. Many left the mines filled with **disappointment**. People often turned to farming or ranching to make a living instead."

“If I don’t find any gold today, I’ll be really **annoyed**,” Larry thought to himself.

The underground tour lasted about an hour. Then it was time to go to the mining flumes and pan for gold. Ron handed out pans and demonstrated how to swirl them in a **circular** motion.

“It’s okay to let some of the water splash out,” said Ron. “If there’s any gold in your pan, it will sink to the bottom.”

Larry found an open place at one of the flumes. With his arm **outstretched**, he dipped his pan below the surface of the water. Then he swished around the water. “Nothing,” he said with a sigh.

Larry repeated the process several times. Then he noticed something at the bottom of his pan. Larry angled the pan so he could get a better look. Whatever it was, it **glinted** in the sunlight. Larry pulled out the photos and compared them with what was in his pan. Then he went to show Ron.

“You’ve found gold!” Ron exclaimed with surprise.

Everyone gathered around to see. It was just a small piece, but Larry felt like he had hit the jackpot.



Reread for Comprehension



Analyze Story Structure

Cause and Effect In many stories, cause and effect is an important part of the story structure.

A cause is why something happens. What happens is the effect. An author doesn’t always write about the cause before the effect. The reader must read the text carefully.

A Cause and Effect Diagram can help you understand what happens and why. Reread the story and identify causes and effects.

Cause → Effect
→
→
→
→