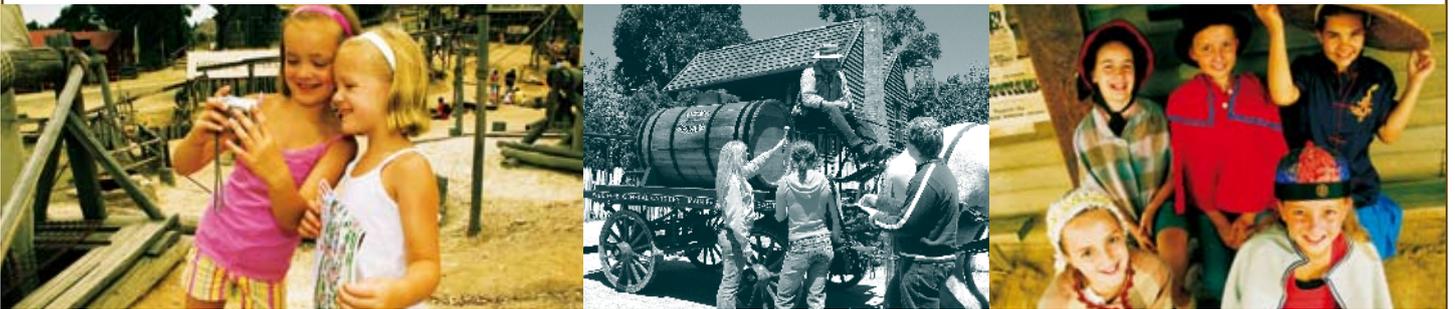


Sovereign Hill Education

Picture This!

For Secondary Schools



Small groups of students are given a contention (a controversial statement of opinion) to explore while at Sovereign Hill. Their task is to find as much evidence as they can to support or refute that contention within one hour at Sovereign Hill. They will use digital cameras to record their evidence. (Before visiting, they can use the interactive map on Sovereign Hill's website to make decisions as to where they might find some evidence about their contention.)

Possible Contentions:

- 1 **There was no time for fun on the goldfields.**
- 2 **Today's women have an easier life than those of the 19th century.**
- 3 **1850s fashion had more style than today's.**
- 4 **The past might be a good place to visit, but you wouldn't want to live there.**
- 5 **The best technology is simple technology.**
- 6 **Horses were essential to business and the economy in the 19th century.**
- 7 **Mining was not the only way to make a living on the goldfields.**
- 8 **The goldfields were not really a multicultural society.**
- 9 **Sovereign Hill is incredibly fake.**

Back at school, students develop a PowerPoint or static presentation about their contention. They explain how each photo (their evidence) is relevant to the topic and whether the evidence supports the contention or not. They discuss whether they feel each piece of evidence is reliable and reach a conclusion about their contention based on Sovereign Hill as a source of information.

Extension:

Because Sovereign Hill is a recreated township, the evidence to be found must be considered a secondary source. Students might be challenged to comment on the nature, purpose and reliability of Sovereign Hill as a source. Students are challenged to find other sources of evidence to prove or disprove their contention. Good websites include: SBS Gold, Gold 150, and Sovereign Hill Research Notes.

