

EXPLORE OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM. LEARN INSIDE OUR STATE.

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**Extra Credit Activity: Panning for Gold**  
**One Hundred Gold Mine Tour**

During your tour of the One Hundred Gold Mine you will learn about the history and techniques of gold mining. This mine was a large commercial one; however miners also found gold by panning in nearby streams. After you complete your tour, you will be able to pan for your own gold.

As you are panning for gold, ask the following questions:

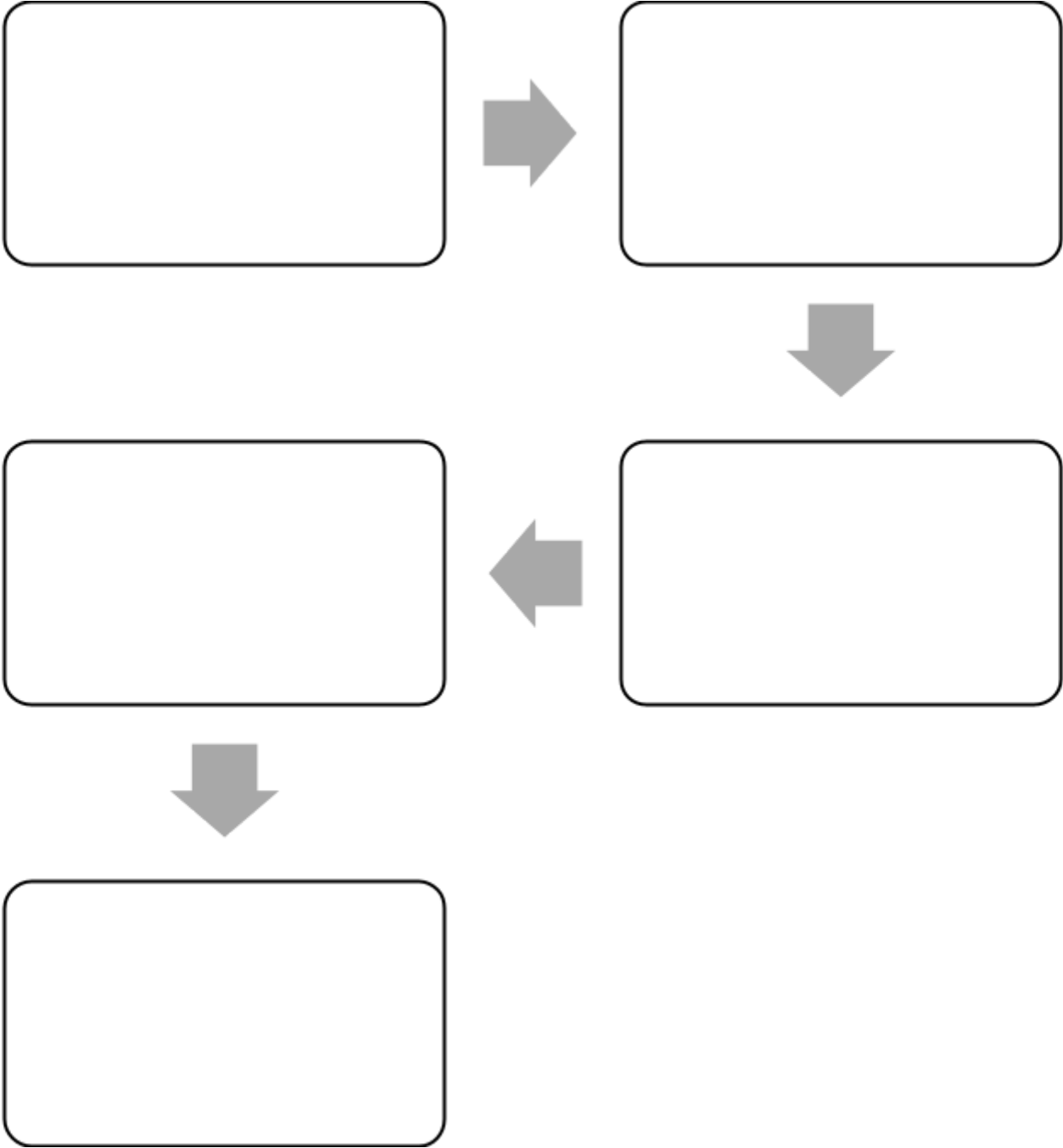
1. Why does gold sink to the bottom of dirt when you pan? *gold is heavier than the water and dirt/sand; It is denser, meaning it has more weight per volume*
2. Why do you have to shake and spin the dirt in the water? *Since the gold is heavier, the gold will stay at the bottom of the pan or in the grooves as you wash away the dirt*
3. How much does your gold weigh? How much is it worth?

**Activity:** After you have tried your hand at gold panning complete the graphic organizer by outlining the steps you took when panning for gold. You can record the steps by either drawing or writing your answers.

**Word Alert:**

**Pay dirt**—dirt containing some ore in it.

Gold Panning Process



[Answer Key](#)