Passport to the San Ramon Valley



Student's Name

Passport to the

San Ramon Valley

Field trips to learn about local community history - for third graders and their families.

Student Name

Teacher Name

School

1. Prehistoric San Ramon Valley

Date ____

Go to the Museum of the San Ramon Valley (205 Railroad Ave., Danville, Open Tue-Fri 1-4, Sat. 10-1) and look at the mastodon jaw, the drawings on the wall and the narrative frieze.

Find the jaw of the mastodon and answer the following questions:

1. How old is the mastodon?

2. Where was it found?

Draw a sketch of one of the prehistoric animals which lived in the San Ramon Valley on the opposite page.

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Mastodons and saber-tooth cats roamed San Ramon Valley in prehistoric times

2. Where is the San Ramon Valley?

Date ____

Go to the Gateway Centre History Wall, 21001 San Ramon Valley Blvd. (at Alcosta Blvd.) and locate the tile History Wall on the sidewalk facing Walgreen. Get out of your car to find the Wall.

Answer the following questions:

1. What is the name of a fruit that was important to the San Ramon Valley?

2. What was the name of the railroad that operated in the San Ramon Valley in 1891? _____

3. When did the first school come to the Valley?_____

4. When did the first post office come to the Valley? _____

5. Name the Indian tribes that lived in the Valley.

6. What was the name of the closest mission to the San Ramon Valley? _____

7. When did San Ramon become incorporated? _____

If possible, have your picture taken in front of the history wall and clip it to the opposite page.



History Wall Gateway centre 21001 San Ramon Valley Blvd. Created by Anthony M. Guzzardo & Assoc. Date Installed: 1995

3. Geography of the Valley

Date

Go to Las Trampas Regional Wilderness staging area. Take Crow Canyon Rd. west and turn north (right) on Bollinger Canyon Rd. Drive to the staging area at the end. Read the interpretive panels at the staging area. Answer the following questions:

1. How many acres are in Las Trampas Park?

2. What can you and your family do here?

3. What animals might you see?

4. What plants might you see?

5. Where can you picnic?

6. What creek runs through Las Trampas?

7. What would you like to do with your family at Las Trampas Park?

If possible, have your picture taken in the park and clip it to this page.



4. Indians of the Valley Date

Visit Hap Magee Ranch Park at 1025 La Gonda Way in Danville-Alamo. Walk next to the Canine Corral, along the creek bank. Locate the Tatcan Indian commemorative plaque.

Do a rubbing on the opposite page of the second paragraph on the plaque.

Look around you and write one sentence about why you think this would be a good place for Indians to live.

If possible, have your picture taken at the site and clip it to this page.



5. Explorers

Date _____

Go to the Fages-Crespi historical plaque which remembers the first Spanish expedition through the San Ramon Valley. It is at the SE corner of Danville Blvd. and El Portal on the border between Alamo and Danville.

Answer the following questions:

What were the Spanish explorers looking for? _____

When were they here? _____

Who was in the expedition?_____

What did they do here? _____

On the opposite page do a rubbing of the name "Pedro Fages."

If possible, have your picture taken in front of the plaque and clip it to this page.



Mission San Jose

6. Mission and Rancho Times Date

Go to the Museum of the San Ramon Valley (205 Railroad Ave., Danville) and look at the wooden brick mold and the branding iron. Mud bricks were used to build Mission San Jose and all rancho buildings. The branding iron forms a "J" for Mission San Jose. Cattle brands are used to mark cattle and indicate ownership, so others cannot claim the cattle.

If you had a herd of cattle, what brand would you use to make sure no one took your cattle? Would you use both of your initials or would you use some other design?

Draw a picture of your cattle brand.

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7. Early Pioneers Date

Visit the Alamo Cemetery, 130 El Portal (for a group reserved tour call 837-3750). Locate the graves of as many of the following pioneers as possible. Next to their name write down the date of their birth and the date of their death.

Ruby M. Podva

Albert Ward Stone

James Boone

Travis and Ruth Boone

Francisco Noia

Robert O. Baldwin



9. Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site, Danville, California

Date

Call to schedule a tour of the Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site at 925-838-0249. There may be some Saturday Tours during the year as well. Meet the National Park Van in front of the Museum of the San Ramon Valley at 205 Railroad Ave. in Danville.

How many years did the O'Neills live in Danville?_

Name a play O'Neill wrote while he lived in Tao House

What is the name of O'Neill's dog?

Why would Tao House be a good place to write a story or a poem?

If possible, have your photograph taken at the House and clip it to the page.

On the opposite page, draw a picture of the House or Grounds.





11. Transportation

Date

Go to the Museum of the San Ramon Valley (205 Railroad Ave., Danville) and look at the railroad display in the Ticket Office. Answer the following questions:

1. When did the San Ramon Branch Line open?

2. There was a depot in Danville and one in San Ramon. What kind of depot was in Alamo?

3. When did passenger travel stop in the SR Valley?

4. When did trains stop running in the SR Valley?

5. What was built in place of the tracks?

6. What is the Danville depot now?

If possible, have your picture taken in front of the depot and clip it to the page.

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Oakland, Antioch and Eastern Railway, 1914 to 1924.

12. Modern Alamo ~~ Parks

Date

Go to Livorna Park, at the corner of Livorna Rd. and Miranda Ave. in Alamo and answer these questions:

What do you like to do in the park?

What do grandparents like to do in a park?

Are there certain sports that can be played at this park?

Who operates Livorna Park?

Draw a map of Livorna Park.

If possible, get a picture taken by the park sign and clip it to this page.



13. Modern Danville ~~ Parks Date

Go to Osage Station Park, 816 Brookside Dr. in Danville. Notice the plaque near the snack building on the north side of the park and answer these questions:

What do you like to do in the park?

What do grandparents like to do in a park?

Are there certain sports that can be played at this park?

How did Osage Station get its name?

Draw a map of Osage Station Park.

If possible, get a picture taken by the park sign and clip it to this page.



14. Modern San Ramon ~~ Parks

Date

Go to San Ramon Central Park, 12501 Alcosta Blvd., corner of Bollinger Canyon Rd., in San Ramon and answer these questions:

What do you like to do in the park?

What do grandparents like to do in a park?

Are there certain sports that can be played at this park?

How did San Ramon Central Park get its name?

Draw a map of San Ramon Central Park.

If possible, get a picture taken by the park sign and clip it to this page.



Other Places to visit

Dublin Heritage Center Pioneer Cemetery 6600 Donlon Way Dublin, CA. 803-4128

Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site Tours by reservation. 838-0249 Wed.-Sun., 10 and 12:30

Lindsay Wildlife Museum 1931 First St. Walnut Creek, CA 935-1978

Museums at Blackhawk 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle Danville, CA 736-2277

Mission San Jose Mission Blvd. south of I680 Fremont, CA Open Daily

Mt. Diablo State Park Summit Museum Call for open hours 837-2525

Oakland Museum of California History, Natural Sciences, Art 1000 Oak St. Oakland, CA 510-238-2000

SRV Historical Society Sites with brass plaques scattered throughout the valley

Notes

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