

Name:

Date:

Homeroom:

Heritage Fair

Taking Notes

The Building of the Canadian Pacific Railway

Instructions: Read the following article. When you are done, you will highlight the important words in the reading. Then you will decide on what the three themes discussed are, and for each theme, record the key words. Finally, write your own brief summary of what you have read.

The Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) was one of the most important projects in Canada's history. Built between 1881 and 1885, it connected Eastern Canada with British Columbia in the West. Before the railway, traveling across the country was slow and dangerous, often involving long journeys by boat, horse, or foot. The railway allowed for faster travel and the movement of goods, which helped Canada grow economically.

The CPR was built with the hard work of thousands of people, including many Chinese laborers. These workers faced dangerous conditions, often working long hours for little pay. The work was physically demanding, and many workers were injured or killed while building the railway through the Rocky Mountains. Despite the challenges, their contributions were crucial to the completion of the railway.

The completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway united Canada and allowed for greater settlement in the West. It made it easier for people to move across the country, helping new towns and cities to grow. It also strengthened Canada's economy by connecting farmers and businesses to markets in other parts of the country. The railway became a symbol of national unity, showing how Canadians from different backgrounds could work together to achieve something great.

Highlight or Circle Key Words

Read the article again. As you read, highlight or circle the most important words or phrases that help you understand the main ideas. Look for names, dates, and important actions or events.

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To complete the worksheet, organize your important words into jot notes. To do this, identify three themes, and record your highlighted words for each. Finally, write a summary in your own words about what you read.

Theme 1: _____

Important Words:

Summary:

Theme 2: _____

Important Words:

Summary:

Theme 3: _____

Important Words:

Summary: