Teaching With Technology and Primary Sources

Richard Byrne

Free Technology for Teachers
Using Google Documents for Online Discussions of Primary Sources
Select a starting point to begin exploring.
Click on a record to launch your Digital Vaults experience—or click on “Shuffle Records” to see new records!
Create your own interactive learning activity

Each activity-creation tool helps students develop historical thinking skills and gets them thinking like historians. Choose one of the tools below to begin. Then find and insert primary sources and customize the activity to fit your unique students.

**Finding a Sequence**
Present primary sources and challenge students to sequence them based on careful document analysis...

**Focusing on Details**
Showcase an intriguing document or a pair of documents with tools to guide student thinking and spark classroom conversations...

**Making Connections**
Present primary sources as a string of documents and help students make connections among those documents and the historical events they illustrate...

**Mapping History**
Link primary sources to locations on a map to practice spatial thinking and understand the impact of geographic factors in history...

**Seeing the Big Picture**
Pair documents concerning an event, concept, or figure with descriptions, questions, or other documents to show that the whole is derived from smaller parts...

**Weighing the Evidence**
Turn primary sources into historical evidence that students sort through and evaluate to draw historical conclusions...
MEMORANDUM FOR:

SUBJECT: Meeting with Elvis Presley Monday, December 21, 1 p.m.

The meeting opened with pictures taken of the President and Elvis Presley immediately began showing the President his law enforcement photography of the Los Angeles police, including a picture of a California Hustler which the President indicated he was aware of how difficult it is to get pictures like that.

The President mentioned that he thought Presley could reach the kids and that it was important for Presley to retain his credibility. He said that he had been asked by 'just singing.' He said that he needed the kids and that speech on the stage, that he had to be in his own words. That is why he was here.

Attention Teachers:
If you enjoy a particular HSI case and would like to share your experience "from the trenches," please let us know so we can share your story.

Please contact us!
History Engine

SELECT A DECADE TO BEGIN
Collections of primary resources compatible with the Common Core State Standards — historical documents, literary texts, and works of art — thematically organized with notes and discussion questions.

American Beginnings
The European Presence in North America, 1492–1690

Becoming American
The British Atlantic Colonies, 1690–1763

Making the Revolution
America, 1763–1791

Living the Revolution
America, 1789–1820

The Making of African American Identity
Volume I, 1500–1865

The Making of African American Identity
Volume II, 1865–1917
The National Archives has released our first mobile application called “Today’s Document,” based on the popular feature on Archives.gov.

This new mobile app is an interactive gallery that allows you to explore the holdings of the US National Archives through a collection of 365 fascinating documents and photographs from throughout history. Learn what significant event happened on your birthday, search the documents by keyword, or browse the collection at your leisure.

Zoom in on the high resolution images to get a closer look at the featured documents and photographs, use the calendar feature to select a specific date, or select “Surprise Me” to show a document at random. Want to learn more? Tap the “info” icon to read background information on the document and link to related websites. You can even share documents via email, Facebook and Twitter, and add documents to your list of favorites by tapping the “star” icon.
The U.S. National Archives is the Nation’s record keeper, ensuring continuing access to the essential documentation of the rights of American citizens and the actions of their government. Our mission to serve American democracy by safeguarding and preserving the records of our Government ensures that the people can discover, use, and learn from this documentary heritage. Our new partnership with HistoryPin is one more way in which we seek to support democracy, promote civic education, and facilitate historical understanding of our national experience.

The National Archives was established in 1934 by President Franklin Roosevelt, but its major holdings date back to 1775. Only those Federal records that are judged to have continuing value -- about 2 to 5 percent of those generated in any given year -- are kept by the Archives. Despite that small percentage, the numbers add up over time! Today, in addition to the original National Archives building in Washington, D.C., these records of our national life are stored at 14 regional archives facilities, 17 Federal Records Centers and 12 Presidential Libraries around the country.
Welcome to FedFlix, Joint Venture NTIS-1532 between the National Technical Information Service and Public.Resource.Org. Here we feature the best movies of the United States Government, from training films to history, from our national parks to the U.S. Fire Academy and the Postal Inspectors, all of these fine films are available for reuse without any restrictions whatsoever.

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Major Document Collections

- African-Americans - Biography, Autobiography and History
- The American Constitution - A Documentary Record
- American Diplomacy: Bilateral Treaties 1778 - 1999
- American Diplomacy: Multilateral Treaties 1864 - 1999
- American History: A Chronology 1492-Present
- American Revolution - A Documentary Record
- Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Documents
- Annual Messages of the Presidents
- Argentine - American Diplomacy
Browse the Collections

Greek and Roman Materials
Primary and secondary sources for the study of ancient Greece and Rome

Art & Archaeology Artifact Browser
Look through a massive library of art objects, sites, and buildings. The library's catalogs document 1305 coins, 1909 vases, 2003 sculptures, 179 sites, 140 gems, and 424 buildings. Each catalog entry has a description of the object and its context; most have images. Descriptions and images have been produced in collaboration with many museums, institutions, and scholars. Catalog information and keywords have been taken from standard sources, which are cited in the entries for each object.

Arabic Materials
Arabic language documents

Germanic Materials
Materials for the study of the Germanic Peoples

19th-Century American
Sources on the history of the 19th-century United States.

Renaissance Materials
Primary and secondary sources in early modern English literature

Richmond Times Dispatch
Issues of the Richmond Times Dispatch.

Humanist and Renaissance Italian Poetry in Latin
Latin poems produced in Italy or in Italian cultural environments during the period starting from around the birth of Dante until the first half of the sixteenth century.
The key goals of The Commons on Flickr are to firstly show you hidden treasures in the world's public photography archives, and secondly to show how your input and knowledge can help make these collections even richer.

You're invited to help describe the photographs you discover in The Commons on Flickr, either by adding tags or leaving comments.*

*Please note that this functionality is not available in all languages.
Turn any book or document into a digital classroom.

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