HANDOUT Title: Primary Source Handout Handout #: 2 color

Content:

Why Use Primary Sources?

1. **Develop Skills**
Primary sources help students develop and refine cognitive, investigative, deductive reasoning, and problem-solving skills. Students draw conclusions from information they have found through deciphering primary source materials.

2. **Address Various Learning Styles**
Through use of a variety of primary sources, teachers address the whole spectrum of learning styles. For example, oral histories for the auditory learner, and photographs and objects for the visual learners. Students experience primary sources according to each student's own learning style.

3. **Appeal to Students**
Students of any age find primary sources appealing because they are tangible and real.

4. **Make Learning Active**
Primary sources engage students in active learning. By drawing their own conclusions from primary sources students construct meaning and direct their own learning.

5. **Provide Different Perspectives**
Different kinds of primary sources provide students with varying perspectives on a person or event and offer a sense of balance.

Engaging Students with Primary Sources.
Author: Smithsonian National Museum of American History.
Lesson Plan - Adobe PDF
http://historyexplorer.si.edu/PrimarySources.pdf
Accessed: August 14, 2014

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