Introduction to Primary Sources Lesson Kit
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This lesson kit is to be used as an introduction to primary sources. With the new common core standards primary sources are more important than ever! It is important that students have an understanding of primary and secondary sources before we require them to look and analyze them. I hope this kit helps you introduce them in your classroom so that things will go smoothly when you have them look at real examples! Thank you for your purchase and please check out my blog for other social studies items.

Sarah

http://middleofhistory.blogspot.com/

Border by: Graphics from the Pond

http://frompond.blogspot.com/
Since this lesson kit is an introduction to primary sources you should do this at the beginning of a unit before you start having students analyze primary sources.

Beginning Activity: To get students thinking show them the bellringer question on page 5. Give them time to think independently and then give them time to discuss their answers with a partner or with a group. Possible answers might be: they are old, they all deal with people, they are social studies related, etc. If you don’t get any good responses give them some hints. Then go into discussing that they are primary sources.

Activity 1 PowerPoint with Notes: Give students copies of the “Primary and Secondary Source Notes” on pages 7-8. Have them fill in the notes as you go over the PowerPoint with the class. Once you get to the end of the notes on the first page or slide #7 stop doing the PowerPoint and start the sorting activity.

Activity 2 Primary Source Sorting Activity: Since you have now discussed with students the differences between secondary and primary sources pass out the sorting cards. Prior to doing this lesson print, cut, and laminate the cards. Give each group a copy of the cards and have them work together to sort them into the correct headings. Have them use their notes to help figure out where the cards go. After giving them time start the next slides on the PowerPoint.
Activity 2 Primary Source Sorting Activity Continued: Go over the next slides with students that will give them the answers. They need to fill in the back of their notes that says “Types of Sources Sort”. As you go over the different sources make sure you tell students that some can go either way depending on when they were created.

Last PowerPoint Slides: How we make sources When you get to the brainstorm slide take time to let students think individually about how they think they create their own primary sources. After you give them some time to think have them work in groups to brainstorm more. After you do this go on to the next PowerPoint slide and reveal different answers. See if the students were able to think of them or any additional sources they make! Have them fill in the bottom of their notes page with this new information.

Activity 3 Review: Prior to this activity print, laminate, and cut copies of pages 19-20 so each student can have a card that says Primary Source and one that says Secondary Source (printing them on different colored paper helps!). Go over the remaining slides in the PowerPoint and have students hold up the card for which type of source they think the slide is referring to. This is a quick formative assessment to see if they understand the differences!

Activity 4 Quiz: The final item in this kit on page 21 can be used as a review worksheet or as a quiz. Depending on how well you think your students understood primary sources make it a quiz or let them just do it as a review!
Bellringer

What do the items below have in common?
Primary and Secondary Source Notes

Name:  
Hour:  

- There are ________ types of sources. _________________ sources and _________________ sources.
- A ____________ source is a _________________ account by people who were living during the event or time period.
- A ________________ source are accounts of events or time period written with the use of primary sources normally by a _________________ or researcher.

Why we need sources

- Primary sources are very _____________ in order to learn about our history.
- They help us see the __________________ of people living during different ________________ so we can learn how they felt, acted, and viewed the world.
- They help us __________________ how things were and why they are like are like they are now!
- Primary sources help us ________________ to the people of a certain time period and feel ________________ for different situations they went through.
- They also help us understand how we got to where we are _______ and make history ________________ to us!
## Types of Sources Sort!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary</th>
<th>Secondary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

List sources that YOU might make:
Primary and secondary source word sort

After going over slides 1-6 in the PowerPoint have students sort these cards over primary sources in groups. After giving them time to complete go over the answers on the PowerPoint and have them fill in their charts.
MONEY

Paintings
Encyclopedias

Biography
Primary Source

Primary Source

Primary Source

Primary Source

Primary Source
Secondary Source
Secondary Source
Secondary Source
Secondary Source
Secondary Source
Secondary Source
Review Time!

For the following items write if they are a primary or secondary source.

1. A Time magazine from 1960. __________________________
2. Webster’s Dictionary_______________________________
3. A photograph from the Dust Bowl _____________________
4. A journal entry written by a pioneer__________________
5. A Wikipedia article _________________________________
6. A map in a textbook ________________________________
7. A map of the United States before the Civil War ______
8. An interview with President Obama ___________________
9. A census record from 1900 __________________________
10. A history textbook _________________________________
11. A painting by Vincent Van Gogh ______________________
12. A political cartoon from the Vietnam War ______________
13. An ancient stone pot ________________________________
14. Greek coins _________________________________
15. A biography of Abraham Lincoln _____________________
16. Write two primary sources you might make: ______________
    ____________________________________________________________________________

17. Explain in your own words why primary sources are important. Write at least 3 sentences. ____________________________
    ____________________________________________________________________________
    ____________________________________________________________________________
    ____________________________________________________________________________