

## Student Research Guide

Welcome to National History Day® in Iowa! This short guide is designed to help jumpstart your research process for the upcoming season. Use the outline on page 2 to create a roadmap for your project, take notes on primary and secondary sources on pages 3 and 4, and find good places to look for sources on pages 5, 6 and 7.

Need more help? Talk to your teacher or school librarian! Still haven't found what you're looking for? Contact NHD in Iowa at [NHD.Iowa@iowa.gov](mailto:NHD.Iowa@iowa.gov).

Good luck, and happy History Day!

Table of Contents	
Project Outline	Page 2
Primary Source Notes	Page 3
Secondary Source Notes	Page 4
Research Resources	Pages 5-7

## Student Research Guide: Project Outline

<b>Project Teammates</b> Who will be working on this project? List yourself and any group members here.	
<b>Topic Choice</b> What historical event, person or idea will you focus on?	
<b>Annual Theme</b> What is this year's theme? How does your topic relate to this year's theme?	
<b>Research Questions</b> What do you hope to learn about the topic? List three open-ended questions here to help guide your research.	1.  2.  3.
<b>Primary Sources</b> What first-hand perspectives will help you better understand your topic? Find three reliable primary sources and list them here. Take notes on page 2!	1.  2.  3.
<b>Secondary Sources</b> What historical context will help you better understand your topic? Find three reliable secondary sources and list them here. Take notes on page 3!	1.  2.  3.
<b>Answer Research Questions</b> What have you learned about your topic? Go back to your research questions and answer them based on your findings!	1.  2.  3.

## Student Research Guide: Primary Sources Notes

### Primary Sources

Primary sources are first-hand accounts of your topic created by people or organizations with direct connections to your topic. *Primary sources provide multiple perspectives about your topic from people who were there.*

Examples: Letters, diaries, newspaper articles (written during the time period you are researching), photographs, maps, political cartoons, paintings

Source	Notes

## Student Research Guide: Secondary Source Notes

### Secondary Sources

Secondary sources are accounts of your topic that were not written first-hand by people or organizations with direct connections to your topic. *Secondary sources provide descriptions, summaries, analyses, and interpretations of your topic.*

Examples: Books, scholarly articles, newspaper articles (written after the time period you are researching), websites

Source	Notes

## Student Research Guide: Research Resources

Primary Sources	
<b>Government Institutions</b>	<p><a href="#">Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum</a></p> <p><a href="#">Library of Congress</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Chronicling America</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">National Archives</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">DocsTeach</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">State Historical Society of Iowa</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Library and Archives Research Centers</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Primary Source Sets</a></li> </ul>
<b>College and University Libraries</b>	<p><a href="#">Buena Vista University</a> (Storm Lake)</p> <p><a href="#">Central College</a> (Pella)</p> <p><a href="#">Creighton University</a> (Omaha, NE)</p> <p><a href="#">Iowa State University</a> (Ames)</p> <p><a href="#">Northwestern College</a> (Orange City)</p> <p><a href="#">St. Ambrose University</a> (Davenport)</p> <p><a href="#">University of Iowa</a> (Iowa City)</p> <p><a href="#">University of Northern Iowa</a> (Cedar Falls)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">National History Day Research Guide</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">University of Nebraska Omaha</a> (Omaha, NE)</p> <p><a href="#">University of South Dakota</a> (Yankton, SD)</p>
<b>Museums and Historic Sites</b>	<p><a href="#">African American Museum of Iowa</a> (Cedar Rapids)</p> <p><a href="#">Effigy Mounds National Monument</a> (Harpers Ferry)</p> <p><a href="#">Herbert Hoover National Historic Site</a> (West Branch)</p> <p><a href="#">Iowa Gold Star Military Museum</a> (Johnston)</p> <p><a href="#">National Czech and Slovak Museum</a> (Cedar Rapids)</p>

<b>Museums and Historic Sites (Continued)</b>	<a href="#">Old Capitol Museum</a> (Iowa City) <a href="#">State Historical Museum of Iowa</a> (Des Moines) <a href="#">Union Pacific Railroad Museum</a> (Council Bluffs) <a href="#">Vesterheim National Norwegian-American Museum</a> (Decorah) <a href="#">World Food Prize Hall of Laureates</a> (Des Moines)
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<b>Secondary Sources</b>	
<b>Libraries</b>	<a href="#">Council Bluffs Public Library</a> <a href="#">Davenport Public Library</a> <a href="#">Des Moines Public Library</a> <a href="#">Cedar Rapids Public Library</a> <a href="#">Iowa City Public Library</a> <a href="#">Sioux City Public Library</a> Don't see your local library listed? <a href="#">Click here</a> to find it! Be sure to check out your school library, too!
<b>Databases</b>	<a href="#">EBSCO</a> <a href="#">Google Scholar</a> <a href="#">JSTOR</a> <a href="#">MLA International Bibliography</a> <a href="#">Project Muse</a> <a href="#">WorldCat</a>
<b>Scholarly Journals</b>	<a href="#">Agricultural History</a> <a href="#">American Historical Review</a> <a href="#">History and Technology</a>

<b>Scholarly Journals (Continued)</b>	<a href="#"><i>Journal of Military History</i></a> <a href="#"><i>Journal of Religious History</i></a> <a href="#"><i>Journal of Social History</i></a> <a href="#"><i>Journal of Women's History</i></a> <a href="#"><i>Journal of World History</i></a> <a href="#"><i>Labor History</i></a> <a href="#"><i>Middle West Review</i></a>
<b>State Historical Society of Iowa Publications</b>	<a href="#"><i>Annals of Iowa</i></a> <a href="#"><i>Iowa Heritage Illustrated</i></a> <a href="#"><i>The Goldfinch</i></a> <a href="#"><i>The Palimpsest</i></a>