



Resources

6TH-8TH

**STATE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF IOWA**
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**LIBRARY
OF CONGRESS**
TEACHING
WITH PRIMARY
SOURCES

Resources

The following are resources that may be useful to 6th through 8th grade educators when teaching with inquiry. All of the resources are free to use. However, you may need to make an account to access the items.



Indicates State Historical Society of Iowa Resource

[C3 Teachers](#)

Collaborative effort made up of teachers and teacher educators focused on using inquiry to enhance social studies teaching and learning.

[Edutopia](#)

Comprehensive website and online community that increases knowledge, sharing, and adoption of what works in pre-K–12 education.

[Harvard Project Zero](#)

Project Zero is a research center founded in 1967 that explores topics in education such as deep thinking, understanding, intelligence, creativity, and ethics.

[Library of Congress](#)

The Library of Congress offers classroom materials and professional development to help teachers effectively use primary sources from the Library's vast digital collections in their teaching.

[Minnesota Historical Society](#)

Culturally relevant pedagogy (CRP) is a teaching framework established by Dr. Gloria Ladson-Billings at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Using footage of exemplar classroom teachers and their students, these videos demonstrate how primary sources can provide an effective vehicle for students to engage in culturally relevant learning.

Resources

Primary Source Sets



The Primary Source Sets were created by the State Historical Society of Iowa, with a Teaching with Primary Sources Grant from the Library of Congress, for K-12 educators to meet the Iowa Core Standards for Social Studies. The Sets address national and international history as well as Iowa-specific history. Educators are encouraged to explore sets beyond a particular grade level – great sources are available at all grade levels that can be tailored for students. Compelling and supporting questions guide each Primary Source Set. An introduction, with an Iowa focus, offers an overview for each set. Source-dependent questions (available for each source) are provided to aid student understanding and transcripts and grade-appropriate text excerpts are available for ease of use. The Sets can be searched by grade level Content Anchor Standards, subject or time period.

Read. Inquire. Write.

Supports middle school students' full participation in inquiry and argument writing in social studies across 6th through 8th grades, enabling them to develop disciplinary literacy along with disciplinary knowledge. It includes multiple supports for English learners—newcomers as well as more proficient bi/multilingual learners—and students who have experienced less success in school.

[Right Question Institute](#)

The Right Question Institute works to build a more just and equitable democracy. We strengthen people's ability to ask questions and participate in decisions that affect them. When people of all ages learn to ask the right questions, it leads to feeling a new sense of agency, confidence, and power.

[Stanford History Education Group](#)

The Stanford History Education Group is an award-winning research and development group that comprises Stanford faculty, staff, graduate students, post-docs, and visiting scholars. SHEG seeks to improve education by conducting research, working with school districts, and reaching directly into classrooms with free materials for teachers and students. SHEG's Reading Like a Historian curriculum and Beyond the Bubble assessments have been downloaded more than 10 million times. SHEG's current work focuses on how young people evaluate online content. SHEG has created a Civic Online Reasoning curriculum to help students develop the skills needed to navigate our current digital landscape.