

Additional Resources

What artifacts help tell a person's story?

Kid Citizen: What are Primary Sources?

In this brief introductory episode from Kid Citizen, this video looks at what a primary source is and explores a few examples.

Anything to Get the Shot: Giving Baby Another Hand

This blog from the Library of Congress focuses on digital images of children throughout the years.

The Goldfinch: Where is Iowa History?

The children's magazine, published by the State Historical Society of Iowa, includes many essays and photographs that looks at where is Iowa history found and why it matters.

Snapshot Autobiography

The webpage from the Stanford History Education Group features a lesson where students can create brief autobiographies and then reflect on the process to better understand how history is written.

Time Lines: 1900 - 2000 by Liam Collins

This nonfiction text shows history over the decade. The book begins by defining what a timeline is using a girl's birth and beginning school and how things change over time. The pages have a timeline with photos of examples of important inventions, events and people. Teachers could use this book to begin their classroom timeline with labels of Long, Long Ago and Today. As their class analyzes the images in the source set, place the images on the timeline for students to understand the time periods.

Me On The Map by Alfredo Schifini

This book focuses on a young girl who takes kids on a tour of her room, house, street, state and country, and finally on a tour of the world, all using drawings of simple maps.

Owen by Kevin Henkes

Owen has a special artifact, his blanket, which he takes everywhere. This includes on his first day of kindergarten.

Why Am I Me? by Paige Britt

Written in poetic format, this reflective and profound picture book is about a boy and a girl who wonder why they are who they are.

Jamie Is Jamie: A Book About Being Yourself and Playing Your Way by Afsaneh Moradian

At Jamie's new preschool, there are many things to play with: baby dolls to care for, toy cars to drive — and Jamie wants to play with them all. But the other children are confused... is Jamie a boy or a girl? Some toys are just for girls and others are just for boys, aren't they? Not according to Jamie. This book challenges gender stereotypes, shows readers that playing is fundamental to learning and reinforces the idea that all children need the freedom to play unencumbered. A special section for teachers, parents and care-givers provides tips on how to make children's playtime learning time.

How is my story unique?

I Am Enough by Grace Byers

This is a lyrical book reminding kids to love who you are, respect others and be kind to one another.

This Is Me: A Story of Who We Are and Where We Came From by Jamie Lee Curtis and Laura Cornell

A teacher tells her class about her great-grandmother's journey to a new country with nothing but a small suitcase to bring along. And she asks: What would you pack? What are the things you love best? A great book to introduce artifacts the students will bring in about themselves.

When I Was Little: A Four-Year-Old's Memoir of Her Youth by Jamie Lee Curtis and Laura Cornell

This book captures a little girl's simple, joyous celebration of herself, as she looks back on her childhood from the lofty height of four and a half years.

Introducing Teddy by Jessica Walton

Teddy has always known "that I'm a girl teddy, not a boy teddy." This story can be an introduction to gender identity and a reminder about being true to yourself.

Mixed Me by Taye Diggs

This book, by Taye Diggs, focuses on a child's understanding of his identity being raised as a mixed-race child in America. An excerpt from the book reads, "Mom and Dad say I'm a blend of dark and light: "We mixed you perfectly, and got you just right." Mike is a perfect blend of his two parents. But he has to answer a lot of questions about the color of his skin and he doesn't look exactly his mom or his dad.

Perfectly Norman by Tom Percival

This book is about Norman, who is perfectly normal. That is until he grows a pair of wings. Norman loves his new wings, but he's worried about everyone will think. Norman decides to cover them with a big coat, but hiding such a big part of his life makes him feel miserable.

How does my story compare to others?

Additional Images for Family

- Family, 2017
- Family, 2016
- Grandma and Grandson in Burma, 2016
- Grandma and Granddaughter, 2014
- Dad and Two Children, 2016
- Multiple Generations in a Family, 2016
- Father and Son, 2012

Additional Images for Activities

- Children Playing Video Games, 2014
- Children in a Running Race, 2012
- Children Playing with Toys, 1927
- Children Playing Baseball, 1921

First Laugh Welcome, Baby! by Rose Ann Tahe and Nancy Bo Flood

This book focuses on a joyful tradition from the Navajo Nation: the first person to make a baby laugh gets to host the First Laugh Ceremony, a big party welcoming the baby to the community. The book also mentions similar celebrations from other cultures.

I Like, I Don't Like by Anna Baccelliere

Facing pages of this book show privileged children at play with objects, while other children are shown working with the same objects.

A Bargain for Frances by Russell Hoban

Thelma always seems to get Frances into trouble. When she tricks Frances into buying her tea set, it's the last straw.

A Chair for My Mother by Vera B. Williams

After their home is destroyed by a fire, Rosa, her mother and grandmother save their coins to buy a really comfortable chair for all to enjoy.

Thread of Love by Kabir & Surishtha Sehgal

Three siblings enjoy the Indian festival of Raksha Bandhan — a celebration of the special relationship between brothers and sisters.

Marvelous Maravilloso Me and My Beautiful Family by Carrie Lara

Marvelous Maravilloso is a book about a young girl who finds joy in the colors of the world all around her. Her vantage point is particularly special as she comes from a bi-cultural family, and is able to appreciate the differences between her parents, as well as her own unique and beautiful color. As she is coming into her own identity and exploring what this means for her, she comes to appreciate how all families are uniquely beautiful.

Families, Families, Families! by Suzanne Lang

Moms, dads, sisters, brothers — and even Great Aunt Sue — appear in dozens of combinations, demonstrating all kinds of nontraditional families. Silly animals are cleverly depicted in framed portraits, and offer a warm celebration of family love.

Families by Shelley Rotner

This books focuses on real images of many faces of contemporary families. Big or small, similar or different-looking, there are all kinds of families. Some have one parent, some have two and many include extended family. An inclusive look at many varieties of families.

Love Is Love by Michael Genhart and Ken Min

When a boy confides in his friend about bullies saying he doesn't have a real family, he discovers that his friend's parents — a mom and a dad — and his two dads are actually very much alike.

This Is How We Do It: One Day in the Lives of Seven Kids from around the World by Matt Lamothe

This book follows the real lives of seven kids from Italy, Japan, Iran, India, Peru, Uganda and Russia for a single day.