# **Lesson Description:**

## **Lesson 3: Historical Evidence**

How do historians and archaeologists work with historical evidence?









Grade: 5

**Subject:** Social Studies

Unit: How do we learn about the Past?

**Driving Questions**: How do we learn about the past?



### **Curriculum Outcomes:**

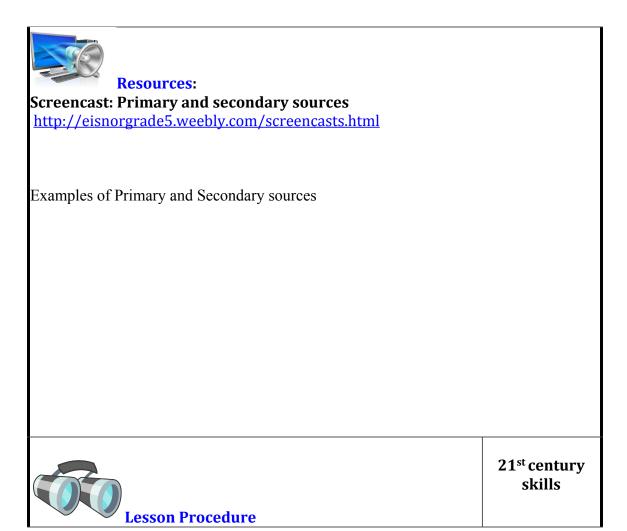
### **Social Studies:**

5.1.1 develop an understanding of how we learn about the past

(subtopics from *Investigating Past Societies*)

What is historical evidence?

**Expected Time: 45 minutes** 



Teacher does (I Do):  In the Grade 5 text, <i>Investigating Past Societies</i> , students turn to p. 6 "What is historical evidence?" Introduce the concept of primary and secondary sources.	<ul> <li>☐ find, validate</li> <li>☐ remember,</li> <li>understand</li> <li>☐ collaborate,</li> <li>communicate</li> </ul>
Word Wall: Identify "primary sources" as an original or first hand account such as diaries or letters, based on someone's experience. Artefacts such as spear points, pieces of pottery etc.  "Socondary sources" a book biography man powerager.	□ analyze, synthesize □ <b>critical thinking</b> □ evaluate, leverage
"Secondary sources" a book, biography, map, newspaper, magazine, or internet account, film or other item created by people who were not part of the original experience. These people often use primary sources	□ create, publish □ citizenship
for reference and research.  Show a collection of primary and secondary sources and have students identify which is which.	
Have students read the dialogue from the text, taking parts for the speakers.  Discuss – How do historians and archaeologists use oral history in their research? -identify good places for sites, learn about	
people, events and issues.  Why is oral history not always reliable? Details lost or changed during many retellings, translations or written down by someone outside the culture.	
Watch the screencast " <u>Primary and secondary sources</u> " to confirm their understanding.	

Individual student work (You Do):	☐ find, validate
Students pause the video in the appropriate places to quiz	□ remember, understand
themselves on the primary and secondary sources.	□ collaborate,
	communicate
	□ analyze,
	synthesize
	☐ critical
	thinking
	□ evaluate,
	leverage
	$\square$ create,
	publish
	$\square$ citizenship
Group work (We Do):	☐ find, validate
	$\square$ remember,
Discuss answers for video questions in screencast.	understand
	$\square$ collaborate,
Direct students to the Nova Scotia Virtual Archives site. This is	communicate
the same site as was used in the screencast examples. Give	$\square$ analyze,
students the handout "Nova Scotia Archives: Primary Sources".	synthesize
(See end of file) Direct them to work in partners or individually	<b>*</b> □ critical
to find 3 examples of primary source documents and write a	thinking
comment for each- What is it? What information can we learn	*□ evaluate,
from them?	<mark>leverage</mark>
	$\square$ create,
	publish
	☐ citizenship
	•

Class share (We Share):	☐ find, validate
Volunteers use airplay to share an example of their findings.	☐ remember, understand ☐ collaborate, communicate ☐ analyze, synthesize ☐ critical thinking ☐ evaluate, leverage ☐ create, publish ☐ citizenship
Lesson Wrap Up:	
Recap meaning and examples of primary and secondary sources  Differentiation/Modification/Enrichment:  For students with writing difficulties, students may use dictation	
record their findings.	
Assessment: Review the quizzes from the screen archive example responses - Do the students accurately reprofit the source and what we can learn from them?	-



# Nova Scotia Archives: Primary Sources

Halifax explosion Africville Don Messer Viola Desmond Shannon and Chesapeake World war I and II Bluenose Titanic

Choose some keywords from the box.

Search for 3 examples of primary sources from the Nova Scotia Virtual Archives site.

For each of the 3 items:

- 1. Use the ipad to screenshot a picture of each item and paste it in this answer file.
- 2. Write a short description telling the following:
  - a) What is the item?
  - b) What information can we learn from it?

Item 1:	Title		
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Picture:	
Description: Item 2: Title:	
Picture:	
Description:	
Item 3: Title:	
Picture:	
Description:	