Shortcuts for finding primary sources:

- Everything
- Audio Recordings
- Books/Printed Material
- Films, Videos
- Legislation
- Manuscripts/Mixed Material
- Maps
- Notated Music
- Newspapers
- Periodicals
- Personal Narratives
- Photos, Prints, Drawings
- Software, E-Resources
- Archived Web Sites
- Web Pages
- 3D Objects
Search Maps

- Amérique septentrion.lle [i.e. septentrionale]: composée, corigée, et augmentée, sur les journaux, mémoires, et observations les ...
  - Covers Canada, Hudson Bay region, and eastern United States. Shows lakes, rivers, villages, and other geographical features.

- Carte de la riviere Longue : et de quelques autres, qui se dechargent dans le grand ...
  - Carte de la riviere Longue ; Carte que les Gnacsitasares | Riviere Longue
  - Map 1 covers area of Minnesota River, Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, and Mississippi River south to Saint Louis. Map 2 covers the area west of the Minnesota River. Both maps drawn within...
Shortcuts for finding primary sources
Free to Use and Reuse: Maps of Cities

The Library's cartographic collections include a wide array of maps that depict everything from individual buildings to panoramic views of large urban areas. Among the featured maps this month are a 1884 map of the National Capital and an 1896 view of St. Louis, Missouri. Browse more content that is free to use and reuse.
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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.

Find Library of Congress lesson plans and more that meet Common Core standards, state content standards, and the standards of national organizations.

Search Our Classroom Materials by Standards  Common Core  State Content  Organizations

Classroom Materials

- **Online Office Hours for Education**: Every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:00 – 3:00 pm ET
- **Women's Suffrage Movement**: Idea Book for Educators from HISTORY
- **Webinar: Scientific Literacy, Citizenship, and Historical Primary Sources**: Register Now
- **Civics Interactives**: Congress, Civic Participation, and Primary Sources projects

**Teaching with the Library of Congress Blog**

**Teaching the Legislative Process with Primary Sources Using Congress.gov**
April 14, 2020 by Danna Bell

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The Library of Congress provides primary source-based, ready-to-use resources for teachers and facilitators:

- Guides for Facilitators: “Build and Deliver”
Teaching the Legislative Process with Primary Sources Using Congress.gov
April 14, 2020 by Danna Bell

This post is by Jan Reidel, the 2019-2020 Library of Congress Civics Teacher in Residence.

As a Civics teacher, I know the value of understanding the legislative process, but when I facilitate a bill-making simulation in my Civics and Law classes, I notice that students often find the process of how a bill becomes a law removed from, and irrelevant to, their lives.

One tool to make the process more engaging is to use the Library of Congress’ official site for federal legislative information, Congress.gov. The website offers a wealth of information that can help students learn The legislative process.
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Primary Source Sets
Sets of primary sources on specific topics.

Lesson Plans
Teacher-created lesson plans using Library of Congress primary sources.

Presentations & Activities
Media-rich historical context and opportunities for both teachers and students to explore.

Collection Connections
Historical context and ideas for teaching with specific Library of Congress primary source collections.
Primary Source Sets

Abraham Lincoln: Rise to National Prominence
Speeches, correspondence, campaign materials and a map documenting the free and slave states in 1856 chronicle Lincoln's rise to national prominence.

Alexander Hamilton
Manuscripts, images, and historic newspapers document the life and accomplishments of Alexander Hamilton.

American Authors in the Nineteenth Century: Whitman, Dickinson, Longfellow, Stowe, and Poe
A selection of Library of Congress primary sources exploring the topic of American authors in the nineteenth century, including Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Harriet Beecher Stowe, and Edgar Allan Poe. This set also includes a Teacher's Guide with historical context and teaching suggestions.

Assimilation through Education
Photos, early film footage, federal government reports, cartoons, and maps tell the complex tale of the efforts to assimilate Native Americans through education.

Baseball Across a Changing Nation
Photographs, sheet music, and newspapers allow students to use the history of baseball to explore changes in U.S. society.

Children's Lives at the Turn of the Twentieth Century
Images, film, and books shed light on the ways in which children worked, learned, and played around the year 1900. Especially suitable for early grades.

The Civil War: The Nation Moves Towards War, 1850-61
Conflict between abolition and slavery marked the 1850s, preceding the election of 1860 and the attack on Fort Sumter. The Kansas-Nebraska Act, Dred Scott, Harriet Beecher Stowe, John Brown, and secession in maps, newspapers.
Baseball Across a Changing Nation
Primary Source Set

Teacher’s Guide
Start here for historical context, teaching suggestions, links to online resources, and more:

Baseball Across A Changing Nation Teacher’s Guide (PDF, 1.48 MB)

To help your students analyze these primary sources, get a graphic organizer and guides:

Analysis Tool and Guides

Find out which standards this resource meets

Primary Sources
Click the thumbnail for the original item, the caption for information on the item, or download a PDF or MP3.

- A little pretty pocket-book
  - View PDF (293 KB)

- Union Prisoners at Salisbury, N.C.
  - View PDF (974 KB)

- Champions of America
  - View PDF (758 KB)

- Take Me Out to the Ball Game
  - View PDF (600 KB)

- The Ball Game
  - MPEG | MOV

- Three Indian Stars of Baseball

- The Ball Team

- Playground Baseball

- Armando Marsans - Chinese baseball team.
Teacher’s Guides and Analysis Tool

Analysis Tool for Students

Primary Source Analysis Tool
PDF version (56 KB)

Teacher’s Guides

Analyzing Primary Sources
(PDF, 56 KB)

Analyzing Motion Pictures
(PDF, 55 KB)

Analyzing Political Cartoons
(PDF, 83 KB)

Analyzing Books and Other Printed Texts
(PDF, 61 KB)

Analyzing Newspapers
(PDF, 91 KB)

Analyzing Sheet Music and Song Sheets
(PDF, 55 KB)
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The Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources program provides primary source-based staff development to teachers across the country.

Use PD Content

Explore the professional development content from the Library's professional development institutes and workshops.

PD Activities
Download and facilitate ready-to-present professional development modules.

PD Videos
Explore short videos on using resources and teaching strategies for using primary sources in the classroom.

Learn with the Library of Congress

Experts from the Library of Congress work directly with small groups of educators using material from the Library's Teaching with Primary Sources professional development program.

Online Office Hours
Every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:00 – 3:00 pm ET

Webinars and Workshops
Facilitated workshops by education resource specialists

Summer Teacher Institutes
Week-long programs at the Library of Congress

Work with Our Partners

Network with the Library’s educational consortium — schools, universities, libraries, and foundations from around the country.

Participating Partners
Find a partner near you

Grant program available
Learn about regional grants
Coming Soon: Major Exhibition on Rosa Parks

"Rosa Parks: In Her Own Words," the first exhibition of Parks' personal collection, opens Dec. 5.
Questions?

- Ask a librarian: http://www.loc.gov/rr/askalib/
- Teacher resources: http://www.loc.gov/teachers/
- Teacher blog: http://blogs.loc.gov/teachers/
- Cheryl Lederle: cled@loc.gov