

Sleuthing with Maps

Maps are windows to the cultural, political, and physical world around us. They capture a space in time and define it according to parameters set by the mapmaker for an intended audience. Who is that audience? What did they want to know? What did the mapmaker want to portray? Why? Delve into an exploration of historical maps and the surprises they yield.

Audience: teachers, curriculum specialists, staff development trainers, media specialists, librarians and university instructors

Objectives:

Participants will be able to:

- Understand the parts of a map and their relevance to historical investigation;
- Demonstrate improved observation and questioning skills based on the careful analysis of historical maps.

Tasks in brief:

- Identify the general parts of a map.
- Identify characteristics of a map that aid historical analysis.
- Use these characteristics to analyze pre-selected historical maps

Presentation Options:

Two-hour interactive workshop.

Resources:

- Learning Page Activity: [Zoom Into Maps](http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/maps/)
<http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/maps/>
- Exhibitions: [Language of the Land – Journeys Into Literary America](http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/land/)
<http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/land/>
- Exhibitions: [Rivers, Edens, Empires: Lewis & Clark and the Revealing of America](http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/lewisandclark/)
<http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/lewisandclark/>
- American Memory: [Map Collections](http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html)
<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html>
<http://www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/>
- Learning Page Lessons: [The Historian's Sources](http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/psources/pshome.html)
<http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/psources/pshome.html>
- Learning Page Lessons: [Lesson Framework](http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/fw.html)
<http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/fw.html>
- Learning Page Lessons: [Media Analysis Tools](http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/media.html)
<http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/media.html>
- Learning Page Lessons: [Using Primary Sources in the Classroom](http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/primary.html)
<http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/primary.html>
- Learning Page Handouts: [Why Use Primary Sources?](http://memory.loc.gov/learn/educators/handouts/prsrc.pdf)
<http://memory.loc.gov/learn/educators/handouts/prsrc.pdf>