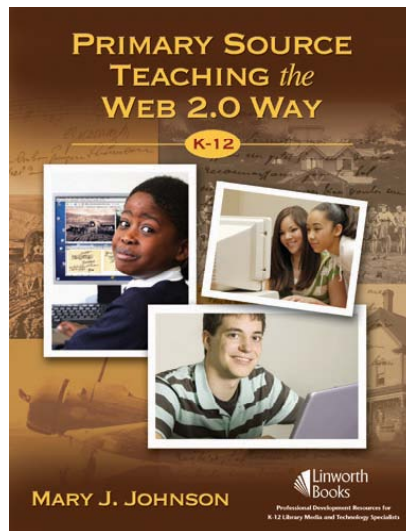


Primary Source Teaching the Web 2.0 Way An Action Plan

**Encyclo-Media Conference
Oklahoma City
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"The Primary Source Librarian" Wiki:
<http://primarysourcelibrarian.pbworks.com>

"The Primary Source Librarian" Blog:
<http://www.maryjjohnson.com/primarysourcelibrarian>

SAMPLE LETTER TO PARENTS

DATE _____

To THE FAMILY OF _____.

Your student will have multiple opportunities this year to work with primary sources—original historical documents, photographs, letters, films, sound recordings, eyewitness accounts, and oral histories. Increasingly, primary sources are becoming available online through local, state, and national digitization initiatives. New tools to study these primary sources in collaboration with peers and subject area experts are also available, just as they are in the 21st century workplace. In keeping with the district’s emphasis on 21st century skills, your student will carry out a number of primary source analyses in a collaborative online environment. In addition, your student will be encouraged to publish his or her findings via a variety of 21st century tools such as blogs, wikis, and podcasts that we hope to share with families.

To begin this year’s focus on primary source learning through 21st century tools, we will be setting up a “Classroom Primary Source Blog.” This blog (short for Weblog) is actually a Web page on which the class can post writing, comments, links to primary source collections, legal reproductions of primary sources, and projects. The blog will allow students to publish to a real audience of their families, peers, historians, archivists, and other interested groups. As apprentice historians, students will be expected to contribute their ideas, research findings, and conclusions via the blog.

Throughout the year, we will keep you informed of our progress through our own posts on the blog. We anticipate the regular need for updates and permission forms for additional collaborative or publishing applications, but for now, your student needs your permission to begin blogging. As the teachers and blog coordinators, we will discuss the ethical and safe use of online tools with your student, and we will require strict adherence to the district Acceptable Use Policy that you and your student signed during the registration process. We will also read all posts before approving them for publication.

Thank you for your support of this exciting and groundbreaking approach to learning with primary sources. We invite you to contact us by telephone or email if you any questions, concerns, or suggestions. Please return the permission statement below with signature and contact information to the school office or ask your student to return it directly to one of us.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Johnson, Library Media Specialist (Email address and telephone number)

Mr. Smith, Social Studies Teacher (Email address and telephone number)

Ms. Garcia, Technology Integration Specialist (Email address and telephone number)



I agree to allow my student, _____,
to participate in the Classroom Primary Source Blog project.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Signature (printed): _____

Date: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Email Address (if applicable): _____

Figure 3.2 Sample Letter to Parents

WEB 2.0 TOOLS AND PRIMARY SOURCES

ANIMOTO <<http://animoto.com>> is a Web application that automatically generates professionally produced videos using patent-pending technology and high-end motion design. Each video is a fully customized orchestration of user-selected images and music, including those from primary source collections. Students can incorporate a variety of primary source formats to create documentary-like work.



New York Children's Colony. British and German refugee children working side by side. 1942. Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, FSA-OWI Collection, [reproduction number LC-USW3-009958-E]

AUDACITY <<http://audacity.sourceforge.net>> is free, open source software for recording and editing sounds. It can be used to record live audio, convert tapes and records into digital recordings or CDs, edit various types of sound files, and cut, copy, splice, and mix sounds together. Excellent for multimedia productions from primary source sound files or with student narrations or oral histories. Often used to produce podcasts.

21CLASSES <<http://www.21classes.com>> is a free turnkey solution for creating a customized, multi-user Classroom Blog Portal. It can also be used to set up a Classroom Primary Source Blog Portal. The upgraded version available for a fee adds these features:

- Access to portal can be restricted to a single group of students
- Tag clouds
- Powerful full-text search
- Use of own domain
- 25 MB Web space per student (instead of 2 MB)
- Up to 100 student blog accounts (instead of 50)
- Upload of HTML files

BUBBLESHARE <<http://www.bubbleshare.com>> allows users to upload photos to share with friends, family, or the world, with unlimited storage. Add clipart, audio captions, or video captions to albums of primary sources, and choose from over 20 themes. Students can select and share primary source images, audio, and video sets on Bubbleshare.

BUBBL.US <<http://bubbl.us>> lets students brainstorm online. They can create colorful mind maps online, share and work with friends, embed mind maps in personal blogs or Web sites, and email or print mind maps or save them as images. A collaborative site for primary source projects.

CELTX <<http://celtx.com>> is a fully integrated solution for media pre-production and collaboration. It replaces old fashioned “paper, pen, and binder” media creation with an approach to writing and organizing that is more complete, simpler to work with, and easier to share. A good choice for collaborative primary source projects.

CLASS BLOGMEISTER <<http://classblogmeister.com>> is David Warlick’s free blogging software in which the teacher sets up the blog and student accounts, and students can add their own entries. The teacher reviews each post and either approves and publishes the entry or returns it to the student for editing before reviewing it again. Perfect for group primary source analyses.

CONCEPTSHARE <<http://www.conceptshare.com>> is an online design collaboration tool in which students can invite classmates to view their designs and make comments on their work. (Note: Free trial, but after that, a small subscription fee is charged.) Another group project tool, Creative Commons <<http://creativecommons.org>>, is an alternative way to provide creators and licensors with a simple way to say what freedoms they want their creative work to carry, reserving some rights while releasing others. An easy place to share, or build upon, creative work and to teach about intellectual property rights. Students can search for copyright released media to add to their primary source projects.

DELICIOUS <<http://delicious>> is a social bookmarking Web site. The main use of delicious is to store bookmarks online, which allows access to bookmarks from any computer, anywhere. Students and teachers can use tags to organize bookmarks of primary source collections, selected examples from those collections, and secondary source material.

FLICKR <<http://www.flickr.com>> is a free photograph management system that helps users import photos from the Web, mobile devices, home computers, and numerous photo management software packages. Users can also “push” their photos out from the Flickr Web site via RSS feeds, by email, and by posting to outside blogs. The process of organizing photos can be collaborative. In Flickr, users can give friends, family, and other contacts permission to organize shared photos—not just to add comments, but also notes and tags. Set-up options allow private viewing and sharing groups, or users can make all their photos publicly available. An excellent management system for primary source photos.

GLIFFY <<http://www.gliffy.com>> makes it easy to create, share, and collaborate using a wide range of diagrams and graphic organizers. An excellent tool for primary source project planning.

GOOGLE TOOLS: To use the four free online tools below, users must sign up for a Google account. This is just a small sampling of the available Google tools that might be useful for primary source units. Similar tools are available in Yahoo and other search services. Technically, Google Tools use a mix of Web 2.0 and traditional Web concepts.

- **GOOGLEDOCS** <<http://docs.google.com>> allow students to upload documents, spreadsheets, and presentations and edit them online with classmates. Can be used to complete primary source homework in groups.
- **GOOGLE ADVANCED SEARCH** <http://www.google.com/advanced_search> has a feature that allows students to select “Usage Rights” to find copyright-free images and other files to “use, share, or modify” without worrying about copyright infringement. Useful for teaching the ethical use of technology.
- **GOOGLE NOTEBOOK** <<http://www.google.com/notebook>> is a comprehensive solution for organizing information and adding clippings of text, images, and links from Web pages, including material from primary source collections. Students can organize notes, create

multiple notebooks, divide them into sections, and drag-and-drop notes. Work in Google Notebook can be publicly shared. Access to Google Notebook from mobile phones is now supported.

- **GOOGLE READER** <<http://www.google.com/reader>> aggregates Web content such as news headlines, blogs, or podcasts in a single location for easy viewing. Useful for collecting RSS feeds from primary source Web sites or by historical theme.

MYFAMILY.COM <<http://myfamily.com>> is a way to connect with family online and to do genealogy research. Family members can contribute news and comments, share photos, and tell family stories. An excellent choice for sharing and learning about personally owned primary sources such as artifacts, ephemera, and photographs.

PAGEFLAKES <<http://www.pageflakes.com>> enables users to personalize a Web page by “dropping Flakes” to match interests such as news, videos, photos, search, and interactive calendars. Can be used by individuals or teachers to display primary source collections or units.

PB WIKI <<http://www.pbwiki.com>> is a safe and easy wiki to get students collaborating. Teachers or library media specialists can add primary source files or suggest links as students collaborate on and edit a comprehensive and up-to-date document.

SCRAPBLOG <<http://www.scrapblog.com>> is an easy drag-and-drop way to tell stories and create beautiful multimedia scrapbooks from primary sources.

SECOND LIFE <<http://www.secondlife.com>> is a 3-D online digital world imagined and created by its residents. Potential for creating a student-managed primary source space, connecting to museum curators and collections, and attending classes taught by archivists and museum experts. Note that age restrictions apply, so classroom applications are limited at this time.

SLIDESHARE <<http://www.slideshare.net>> is a space where students can share primary source presentations on the Web. In “private sharing,” users control what, where, and how to share.

SPRESENT <<http://www.spresent.com>> is a free Web-based alternative to PowerPoint in which users can create and edit high-quality Flash presentations online, send presentations via email, or publish on Web sites or blogs. It allows easy primary source collaborations and presentations.

TAG CROWD <<http://tagcrowd.com>> is a Web application for visualizing word frequencies in any user-supplied text by creating what is popularly known as a tag cloud or text cloud. It allows users to copy and paste any text into a box to create a tag cloud. The words that recur the most are displayed in oversized text in the cloud, whereas those words used less frequently are smaller in size. An excellent tool for vocabulary analyses of primary source texts.

TOONDOO <<http://www.toondoo.com>> is a comic-creating tool. Just drag and drop primary source cartoons or click to create original comic strips. In another project, students can create editorial cartoons based on eras and events from history.

TWITTER <<http://twitter.com>> is a service for students to communicate and stay connected through the exchange of quick, frequent answers to one simple question: What are you doing (with primary sources)?

VIDDLER <<http://www.viddler.com>> allows quick and easy uploading, enhancement, and sharing of digital video inside a Web browser. Timed commenting supported. Ideal for digitized primary source films and documentary production.

VIMEO <<http://www.vimeo.com>> is a personal video sharing community that offers 500 megabytes of storage every week, support for high definition video, robust privacy controls, commenting, permanent storage, and a notably low level of commercialism. Ideal for student-produced documentary videos that incorporate primary sources.

VOICETHREAD <<http://voicethread.com>> is an online media album that can hold essentially any type of media (images, documents, and videos) and allows people to make comments in five different ways, using voice (with a microphone or telephone), text, video (with a webcam), and doodling. A VoiceThread allows group conversations to be collected and shared in one place, from anywhere in the world. An excellent shared space for commenting on primary sources within a student group or with outside experts.

WRITEBOARD <<http://www.writeboard.com>> is used to share work and to collaborate while saving separate versions each step of the way. (Similar to GoogleDocs.)

WUFOO <<http://www.wufoo.com>> is used to make online forms, surveys, and invitations for parents, students, and colleagues. Can be used as a marketing device for primary source units.

XSPRESSION <<http://www.xspression.com>> merges Web publishing and social networking to create opportunities for discussion and community building in the school environment. A good choice for discussion and group work based on primary sources. “Not free, but almost.”

YOUTUBE <<http://www.youtube.com>> is a free online video streaming service that allows anyone to view and share videos that have been uploaded by members. When not blocked by filters, a good choice for sharing student-produced videos incorporating primary sources.

ZOHO <<http://zoho.com>> is a comprehensive, free online collaborative environment in which students can work together on documents, spreadsheets, wikis, presentations, chat, email, Web conferencing, calendars, and databases. An open source replacement for other office suites, with the added advantage of online storage and open communication.

ZOTERO <<http://www.zotero.org>> is a free, easy-to-use Firefox extension to help you collect, manage, and cite research sources. (Similar to Google Notebook.)

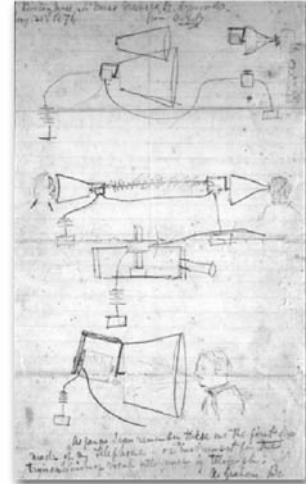
Figure 3.1 Web 2.0 and Primary Sources

FOCUS ON VOICETHREAD

WHAT IS VOICETHREAD?

< <http://voicethread.com>>

VoiceThread is a simple online media tool that displays images, documents, or videos and allows viewers to add comments in several different ways—by recording an audio or video comment, entering text, even drawing on the image itself. In short, VoiceThread is an *interactive* media album that can be shared from anywhere and with anyone. In addition, VoiceThreads can be embedded in a Web site (school, classroom, blogs) to support group collaboration. Winner of “2008 Webware 100” award.



Drawing of the Telephone by Alexander Graham Bell, 1876. The Alexander Graham Bell Family Papers at the Library of Congress 1862-1939. Library of Congress, Manuscript Division.

VOICETHREAD SUBSCRIPTION OPTIONS

- Free account allows audio commenting, text commenting, Web cam commenting, and doodling, but also includes advertising, limited file sizes, and only three VoiceThreads.
- Pro account (paid) increases capacity to create, control, share, store, and archive work.
- K-12 educator account <<http://ed.voicethread.com>> is a secure network that allows creation of student accounts without email addresses. Educators pay a small fee to join. Unlimited VoiceThreads; unlimited commentary; 4GB storage; all content created and vetted by registered members; educators control who can view, edit, and comment.
- Class and school paid subscriptions allow educators to give an individual account to each student. “Students can spend an entire year collaborating with other students anywhere in the world, creating digital stories and documentary, finding and honing their own voices, creating their very own portfolio of work to document their growth.”

VOICETHREAD IN EDUCATION

- Ed.VoiceThread.com links to hundreds of examples of VoiceThreads at every grade level and in all curricular areas <<http://ed.voicethread.com/#q>>. Browse all, browse by date, or search by keyword. Examples include “What’s a VoiceThread?” and other useful tutorials.
- “VoiceThreads for Education”—demonstration by Michelle Pacansky-Brock <<http://voicethread.com/#q.b3352>>
- “Many Voices on Darfur”—critical thinking applied to political cartoons <<http://ed.voicethread.com/#q.b62276.i322457>>
- “Let’s Give These Women a Holiday”—5th grade project with a women’s history focus <<http://ed.voicethread.com/#q.b102565.i525720>>
- “The Journal of Scott Pendleton Collins”—a 5th grade book discussion <<http://ed.voicethread.com/#q.b109014.i577287>>

- “Jose the Bear Travels to Egypt”—a multigrade virtual tour of Egypt <<http://voicethread.com/#q.b7626.i56119>>

MANAGING A VOICETHREAD PROJECT

- Watch video tutorials to learn about features of VoiceThread <<http://voicethread.com/#c28>>.
- Read management tips and view examples on Bill Ferriter’s VoiceThread wiki: <<http://digitallyspeaking.pbwiki.com/Voicethread>>
- Register for a free account.
- Create a practice thread with colleagues or a small group of students.
- Start small. Experiment with a single image and each way of commenting.
- When ready, consider migrating to an Ed.VoiceThread subscription.
- Register students. (By default, a student identity/avatar shows only the student’s first name.)
- Discuss with students how to use the features of VoiceThread to produce an engaging, interactive project.
- For the first VoiceThread project, work in groups and limit the number of slides.
- Set expectations for quality and quantity of comments, both written and oral.
- Review and reflect on project organization, successes, and challenges. Plan for improvement.

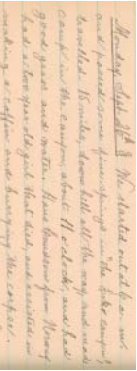
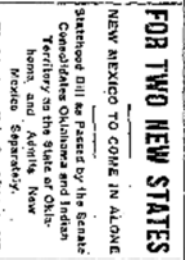

VOICETHREAD AND PRIMARY SOURCE ARTIFACTS AND EPHEMERA





- Post a photograph of an artifact or article of ephemera and ask students to respond to questions through voice recordings or text.
- Post a series of photographs of artifacts and ask students to guess their uses and time periods through comments.
- Invite students to bring in a family heirloom, photograph it, post it, and explain its place in the family story after they interview family members. Invite comments from families.
- After students complete a formal group analysis of artifacts or ephemera, ask them to upload images into VoiceThread and present their conclusions through comments.
- Have students find photographs of local artifacts, upload them to VoiceThread, and comment on the relationships of the artifacts to local history.
- Combine historical artifacts with storytelling, either as individuals or in a storytelling group.
- Use VoiceThread to set up a virtual museum of artifacts and ephemera around a theme. Share with museum archivists and invite expert comments.
- Record both images and comments from a field trip to a local historical museum.
- After recording an oral history, add the recording to images of artifacts and ephemera to illustrate the time period, then invite personal remembrances of the items to enhance the oral history project.

Figure 9.3 Focus on VoiceThread

Primary Sources & Web 2.0 Action Plan

Use this form to brainstorm and plan for your own primary source teaching and learning with Web 2.0 tools.

Primary Source Type	Collections	Web 2.0 Tools	Collaborative Partners
 <p>Text</p>	<p>Trails to Utah...Diaries (Amer. Memory)</p>	<p>Blogs</p>	<p>Mary Johnson</p>
 <p>Historic Newspapers</p>	<p>Colo. Hist. Newspapers</p>	<p>Citizen Journalism Sites Blogs</p>	
 <p>Photographs & Images</p>	<p>FSA Collection (LOC)</p>	<p>Flickr</p>	

Primary Source Type	Collections	Web 2.0 Tools	Collaborative Partners
 <p>Maps</p>	Map Collections (LOC)	Google Earth	
 <p>Sound and Film</p>	Prelinger Archives	Podcasting	
 <p>Artifacts and Ephemera</p>	Smithsonian Exhibitions	VoiceThread	
 <p>Multiple Primary Sources</p>	Story Corps	Digital Storytelling Tools	