



TPS-UCF Newsletter

January 2016

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*If you want to understand today,
you have to search yesterday.*
~ Pearl Buck

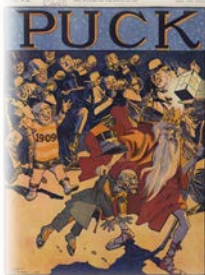
The lovers of romance can go elsewhere for satisfaction but where can the lovers of truth turn if not to history? ~Katharine Anthony

Happy New Year TPS Family!!!

The TPS-UCF staff hopes that your 2016 year is off to a healthy and happy start.

We are very excited about our upcoming SOURCES Annual Conference coming up on January 16th. Registration is still open. Info on registering can be found in this issue along with other worthwhile opportunities to be featured in TPS-UCF! We look forward to seeing many of you at the conference!

Enjoy the newsletter!



Today in History: January 7th

In Spirit of the Season... the Election Season!



George Washington

<http://goo.gl/uEqydn>

On January 7th, 1789, America's first presidential election was held. Voters cast ballots to choose state electors; only white men who owned property were allowed to vote. As expected, George Washington won the election and was sworn into office on April 30, 1789.

As it did in 1789, the United States still uses the Electoral College system, established by the U.S. Constitution, which today gives all American citizens over the age of 18 the right to vote for electors, who in turn vote for the president. The president and vice president are the only elected federal officials chosen by the Electoral College instead of by direct popular vote.

New from Library of Congress:

Welcoming Gene Luen Yang as the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature

On Monday, January 4th, the Library of Congress announced [Gene Luen Yang](#) as the 2016-17 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature. [The position](#) raises national awareness of the importance of young people's literature as it relates to lifelong literacy, education, and the development and betterment of the lives of young people.

Yang is the fifth to hold the position. Previous National Ambassadors for Young People's Literature are Jon Scieszka, Katherine Paterson, Walter Dean Myers, and most recently, Kate DiCamillo.

Yang's heralded work speaks to themes of growing up, sense of self, personal beliefs, identity within a group, cultural heritage, and stereotypes. Expressed in multiple media, the combinations of drawings and words make these themes even more accessible.

Watch Gene Luen Yang at the 2014 National Book Festival as he speaks about [the benefits of teaching with graphic novels](#) and [speaks to teens about his books and the state of graphic novels today](#).

By [Cheryl Lederle](#)



15th Anniversary National Book Festival Videos are Now Available Online!

This past year, the 15th annual National Book Festival was held in Washington, DC. To mark this special occasion, as well as the 200th anniversary of the Library's acquisition of Thomas Jefferson's personal library, the festival has as its theme Jefferson's quote, "I Cannot Live Without Books."

The author talks and panel presentations from the 2015 Library of Congress National Book Festival are now available online. Now you can catch those presentations you missed and relive the ones you had the chance to attend!

[Here's a list of all the videos.](#)

By [John Sayers](#)

TWEET! TWEET!

Teaching with the LC Twitter Account

[@TeachingLC](#)

Teaching with the Library of Congress. Primary sources, inspiration, ideas and opportunities for teachers from the world's greatest library.

Don't miss any updates...

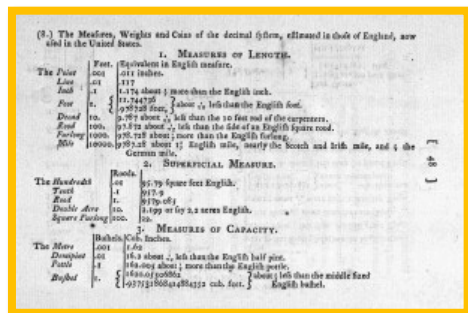
Sign-up for Twitter

Spread the Sourcing Fun!
Share the following with your
Science Teachers!

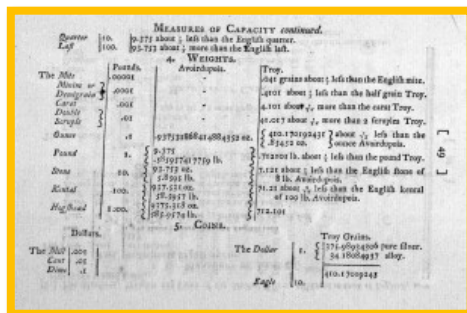
Primary Sources in the Science Classroom: Thomas Jefferson's Proposed System of Weights and Measures

Most of us know Thomas Jefferson as the primary author of the Declaration of Independence. Fourteen years later, on July 4, 1790, Jefferson followed up with another revolutionary document, [a report on weights and measures](#).

The House of Representatives had asked Jefferson, then the Secretary of State under George Washington, to submit a report on establishing a standardized system of weights and measures for the new nation.



Page 4 from "On Weights, Measures and Coins" report, January 10, 1791.



Page 5 from "On Weights, Measures and Coins" report, January 10, 1791.

Introduce students to Jefferson's ideas about measurement by facilitating an analysis of [page 1 from a published excerpt from the report](#). Withhold details about the document at first to encourage students to speculate:

What do the tables show?

What are the mathematical relationships among tables 1 – 4? (Students might notice that "Superficial Measure" [or area], "Measures of Capacity" [or volume], and "Weights" are each derived from "Measures of Length".)

Which units in the tables are familiar and unfamiliar?

The tables illustrate Jefferson's recommendation that a system of weights and measures could be related by powers of ten. This decimal-based system was the second of two options Jefferson presented: The first was to standardize the existing jumble of weights and measures that differed from state to state. Students might consider why a standardized system in general, and a decimal-based system in particular, would be useful and desirable both then and today.

Jefferson's interest in a logical system of measurement grounded in natural laws reflected the Enlightenment philosophies of the time. Provide students with a cropped image from [page 2 of Jefferson's handwritten report](#) to introduce Jefferson's recommendation for obtaining a standard measure of length upon which the rest of the system could be built.

What method is used today for measuring length in the International System of Units?

To help your students answer this question and dive further into science based primary sources continue the lesson [HERE!](#)

By: Danna Bell

This post was co-written by Trey Smith, the Library of Congress 2015-16 Science Teacher in Residence, with Sally Mitchell and Donna Volkman, 2015-16 Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellows.

Special thanks to Julie Miller in Manuscript Division at the Library of Congress for her help with Jefferson's papers.

◆◆◆ SOURCES Annual Conference ◆◆◆

University of Central Florida

Orlando, Florida

January 16, 2016

The Teaching with Primary Sources Program at the University of Central Florida (TPS-UCF) will be hosting the second annual SOURCES Annual Conference at the University of Central Florida on January 16, 2016. The SOURCES Annual Conference is a free opportunity available to any educators interested in the utilization and integration of primary sources into K-12 teaching. Presenters will focus on providing strategies for using primary sources to help K-12 students engage in learning, develop critical thinking skills, and build content knowledge, specifically in one or more of the following ways:

- Justifying conclusions about whether a source is primary or secondary depending upon the time or topic under study;
- Describing examples of the benefits of teaching with primary sources;
- Analyzing a primary source using Library of Congress tools;
- Accessing teaching tools and primary sources from www.loc.gov/teachers ;
- Identifying key considerations for selecting primary sources for instructional use (for example, student needs and interests, teaching goals, etc.);
- Accessing primary sources and teaching resources from www.loc.gov for instructional use;
- Analyzing primary sources in different formats;
- Analyzing a set of related primary sources in order to identify multiple perspectives;
- Demonstrating how primary sources can support at least one teaching strategy (for example, literacy, inquiry-based learning, historical thinking, etc.); and
- Presenting a primary source-based activity that helps students engage in learning, develop critical thinking skills and construct knowledge.

Registration is free and is now open for the SOURCES Annual Conference. Please complete the information on the following linked page to register for the SOURCES Conference: http://ucf.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_02M610hSrdTDGPb

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Registration Now Open

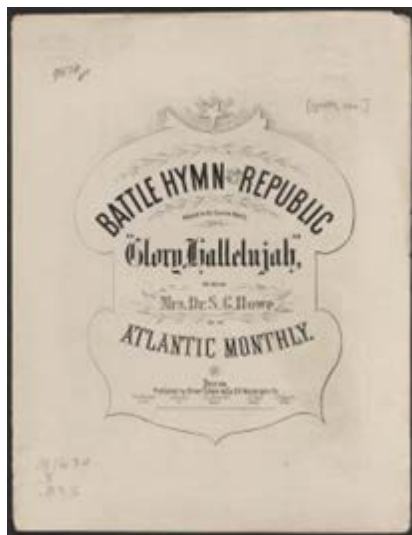
January in History with the Library of Congress

by Danna Bell

This post comes courtesy of Uhuru Flemming of the Library of Congress.

Many teachers like to include mini-lessons or bell-ringers about “this day in history.” The Library of Congress offers two resources that recount what happened on a particular day using the Library’s collections of digitized primary sources: [Jump Back in Time](#) (introductory) and [Today in History](#) (advanced). Choose the one that best matches your students’ reading levels to build both content knowledge and research skills with primary sources in context

January highlights include the discovery of gold in California ([introductory](#); [advanced](#)) and the life of Dizzy Gillespie ([introductory](#); [advanced](#)), as well as milestones related to:



Battle Hymn of the Republic

Women in the Arts

January 13, 1884: Entertainer Sophie Tucker was born ([introductory](#); [advanced](#)),

January 16, 1964: Carol Channing debuted as Dolly Gallagher Levi in *Hello Dolly!* on Broadway ([introductory](#); [advanced](#)),

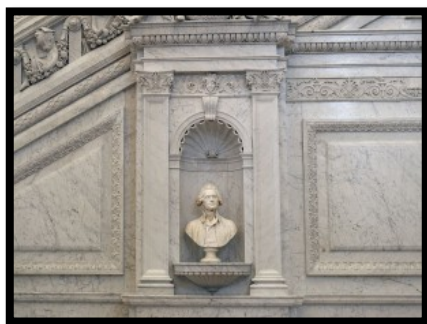
January 28, 1908: Julia Ward Howe, author of the Battle Hymn of the Republic, was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters ([introductory](#); [advanced](#));

WWI

January 18, 1919: Over a dozen diplomats met to discuss how to permanently end World War I ([introductory](#); [advanced](#));

The Library of Congress

January 30, 1815: President James Madison approved an act of Congress appropriating almost \$24,000 to purchase Thomas Jefferson’s library ([introductory](#); [advanced](#)).



Bust of Thomas Jefferson in the Great Hall of the Library of Congress. Carol Highsmith. 2007

To engage your students immediately, distribute or display one primary source from an entry and invite them to jot down a single detail they notice and then share. To draw your students deeper into analyzing the primary sources, ask them to record observations, reflections and questions on the Library’s [primary source analysis tool](#). Anne Savage offers tips in the [Blog Round-Up: Using the Primary Source Analysis Tool](#).

Use the list of additional resources at the end of each [Today in History](#) entry to search for additional primary sources.

Some of our favorite ideas for using these resources came in the comments reacting to [Primary Sources Every Day from the Library of Congress](#). Let us know how you use them!

Calling All Writers:



Be featured in the next TPS-UCF Newsletter!

The TPS-UCF Newsletter is proud to announce that we are putting the pen in our reader's hands! We are seeking contributions from education based professionals in the form of short articles (approximately 500 words).

The primary aims of the TPS-UCF Newsletter is to, 1) provide a forum for a diverse set of voices to share their expertise, experiences and ideas regarding the use of primary sources, 2) to create a valuable outlet for dissemination of knowledge on teaching with primary sources, and 3) to build a vibrant educational community of professionals and educational thought leaders from various fields.

We will consider various types of articles for publication in our monthly newsletter. The different article types are *academic*, *practice based*, *opinion* and *theory based*. The author of the article agrees that the work he/she is submitting is fitting to the aims of the TPS-UCF newsletter and does not infringe upon any copyright or intellectual property laws.

If you are interested in submitting an article to be reviewed and possibly featured in our upcoming newsletter, please e-mail tps@ucf.edu with the following:

1. the article itself (with appropriate citations and references),
2. a brief bio on yourself, the writer,
3. the article type you are aiming to publish (academic, practice based, opinion, or theory)



Guidelines

The article should be prepared according to the following guidelines:

- (1) The length of the article is normally greater than 400 words but should not exceed 800 words.
- (2) All citations should be in end notes and not in the text.
- (3) Font should be 11- point Arial, whether in normal, bold or italic, including endnotes. Please do not insert line breaks in the text or special spacing for formatting.
- (4) Include contact information (full name, number, and e-mail) in the body of the e-mail to tps@ucf.edu
- (5) Word files are preferred for submissions

Updates & Reminders

~ SOURCES 2nd Annual Conference.

DATE: January 16, 2016

We have created a website for the SOURCES Conference. This will give you access to program, times, presenters and summaries, maps, directions, parking permits, accommodations, and lunch options. We will update with important information on the upcoming conference as we get closer to the conference.

www.SOURCESConference.com



~ If you have completed any TPS-related activities, please do not forget to fill out a Qualitative Report.

https://jfe.qualtrics.com/form/SV_0DqHZhWLeOqIHEN

We greatly appreciate you taking the time to do this!!!

The challenge of history is to recover the past and introduce it to the present.

~David Thelen

If one could make alive again for the other people some cobwebbed skein of old dead intrigues and breathe breath and character into dead names and stiff portraits. That is history to me! ~George Macaulay Trevelyn

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UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA