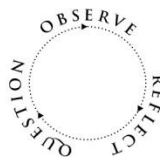


PRIMARY SOURCE TOOLBOX: OBSERVE/REFLECT/QUESTION



TEACHING WITH PRIMARY SOURCES AT DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

TEACHER'S GUIDE ANALYZING PRIMARY SOURCES



Guide students with the sample questions as they respond to the primary source. **Encourage them to go back and forth between the columns; there is no correct order.**



OBSERVE

Have students identify and note details.

Sample Questions:

What do you notice first? · Find something small but interesting. · What do you notice that you didn't expect? · What do you notice that you can't explain? · What do you notice now that you didn't earlier?

REFLECT

Encourage students to generate and test hypotheses about the source.

Where do you think this came from? · Why do you think somebody made this? · What do you think was happening when this was made? · Who do you think was the audience for this item? · What tool was used to create this? · Why do you think this item is important? · If someone made this today, what would be different? · What can you learn from examining this?

QUESTION

Have students ask questions to lead to more observations and reflections.

What do you wonder about...
who? · what? · when? · where? · why? · how?

FURTHER INVESTIGATION

Help students to identify questions appropriate for further investigation, and to develop a research strategy for finding answers.

Sample Question: What more do you want to know, and how can you find out?

A few follow-up activity ideas:

Beginning

Have students compare two related primary source items.

Intermediate

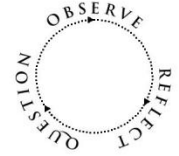
Have students expand or alter textbook explanations of history based on primary sources they study.

Advanced

Ask students to consider how a series of primary sources support or challenge information and understanding on a particular topic. Have students refine or revise conclusions based on their study of each subsequent primary source.

For more tips on using primary sources, go to

<http://www.loc.gov/teachers>



PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS TOOL

OBSERVE	REFLECT	QUESTION
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FURTHER INVESTIGATION



Entered in Clerk's Office A.D. 1854 July 28th 1854



RAIL ROAD COUNTY MAP OF

ILLINOIS

SHOWING
ITS
INTERNAL
IMPROVEMENTS
1854.

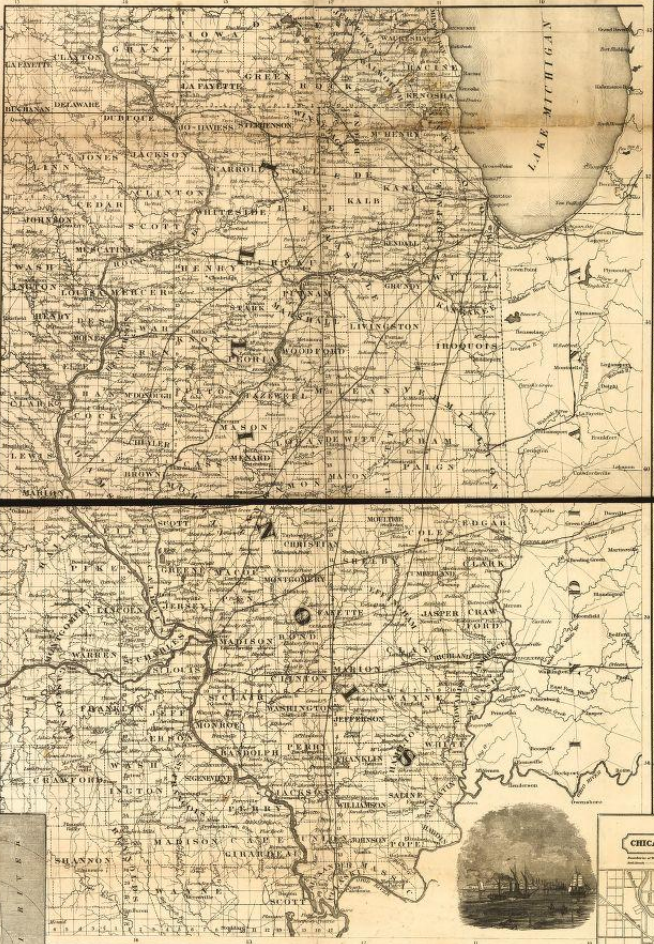


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GOVERNMENT.
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIONS.
NUMBER OF CITY PRICES.
PUBLIC LANDS.

SPECIAL LAWS.
MECHANIC'S LIEN LAW.
DEEDS.
RIGHTS OF MARRIED WOMEN.
RATES OF INTEREST.
LIMITATIONS OF ACTIONS.

MILITIA.
FOREST TREES.
OF ILLINOIS.



Population of Counties.

COUNTY	1850	1854
Adams	1,000	1,200
Albany	1,500	1,800
Alton	2,000	2,500
Amey	1,200	1,500
Anderson	1,800	2,200
Andrew	1,400	1,700
Angels	1,600	1,900
Appleton	1,300	1,600
Aurora	2,500	3,000
Bacon	1,100	1,400
Baldwin	1,700	2,100
Baldwin	1,900	2,300
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MORE ON OBSERVE/REFLECT/QUESTION

**Teaching with the Library of Congress Blog Round-Up:
“Using the Primary Source Analysis Tool”**

<http://blogs.loc.gov/teachers/2014/05/our-favorite-posts-using-the-primary-source-analysis-tool/>