
LESSON 3

FISHING FOR LIVING DINOSAURS

Activity 2: Spearing Sources

Students assess a series of provided resource materials and (1) identify whether each item is a primary source, secondary source, or tertiary source; (2) defend in writing why they believe the resource material is that source type; and (3) explain what they believe the purpose of each resource material is.

Activity Preparation

Key Vocabulary

Oral history: a method of documenting lived experiences using audio and sometimes also video.

Primary source: record of events or evidence that are presented without interpretation or commentary. Other research is based on primary sources.

Secondary source: a retelling of a primary source. It often includes interpretation or analysis of the original subject.

Tertiary source: a compilation of other sources, often in the form of lists without a main author.

Traditional knowledge: the collective knowledge of Indigenous and local communities, passed down through generations.

Files Needed

- Spearing Sources (handout)
- Spearing Sources (answer key)

Materials Needed

- 1:1 device for researching sources

Activity Steps

1. Review the definitions for primary, secondary, and tertiary sources.
2. Have students complete the "Sturgeon Sources" handout.

Objectives

After participating in this activity, students can:

Discriminate between primary, secondary, and tertiary sources and defend their rationale for labeling a particular resource with the designation they assert.

Explain what they believe the purpose of a particular source material is and the audience they believe it was intended for.

Wisconsin Academic Standards

Assessed

Social Studies

SS. Hist4.c.m

Covered

English Language Arts

W.6.1, W.7.1, and W.8.1

Great Lakes Literacy Principles

Principle 6

The Great Lakes and humans in their watersheds are inextricably interconnected.