



# TEACHING

WITH PRIMARY SOURCES MISSISSIPPI

## USING THE EXPLANATION GAME TO ENGAGE STUDENTS WITH PRIMARY SOURCES

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Kenneth V. Anthony, Nicole Miller, Paul Binford  
Mississippi State University  
<http://www.msstatetps.org/>



# TEACHING

WITH PRIMARY SOURCES MISSISSIPPI

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- Teaching with Primary Sources Mississippi is proud to be part of the Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Consortium.
- Teaching with Primary Sources (TPS) is the Library of Congress's premier educational program, focused on helping educators enhance students' critical thinking and analysis skills and content knowledge using their collection of millions of primary sources.
- What we do
  - Create and share classroom resources
  - Conduct PD in districts and schools
  - Conduct PD in cooperation with other organizations in the state
  - Conduct two week-long seminars each summer at Mississippi State University
  - Recruit and train TPS-Mississippi Instructional Coaches to conduct PD (2 elementary, 2 middle, and 2 high school per year)

# TEACHING WITH PRIMARY SOURCES

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- <http://www.msstatetps.org/>
- <https://www.loc.gov/teachers/>

# THE EXPLANATION GAME

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- Routine for introducing and exploring ideas.
- One of twenty-one routines in the book *Making Thinking Visible*.
- Three different types of routines:
  - Introducing and exploring ideas
  - Synthesizing and organizing ideas
  - Digging deeper into ideas

# THE EXPLANATION GAME

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- Use it to introduce a unique or novel topic
- Use it to introduce a familiar topic but from a different perspective
- Use it to help develop observation skills
- Use with visual primary sources (photographs, paintings) where there is ambiguity
- Let's give it a try!



# THE EXPLANATION GAME

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- Steps (p. 102):
  - Set up
  - Name it
  - Explain it
  - Give reasons
  - Generate alternatives
- Set up assessment criteria and use them to help push students to deeper thinking

# STEPS

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1. Set up
2. Name it
3. Explain it
4. Give reasons
5. Generate alternatives





WERE YOU  
RIGHT?

**JOHN L. SULLIVAN, Champion of the World.**

COPYRIGHTED BY THOS. PYE. 1889.

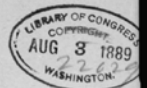


**THE SULLIVAN-KILRAIN FIGHT.**

**Seventy-fifth Round:---The knock-out blow. Sullivan hits Kilrain a moderate blow on the chest and Kilrain goes down for the last time.**

Copyrighted.

THOMAS PYE, Photographer,  
131 POYDRAS ST., N. O.



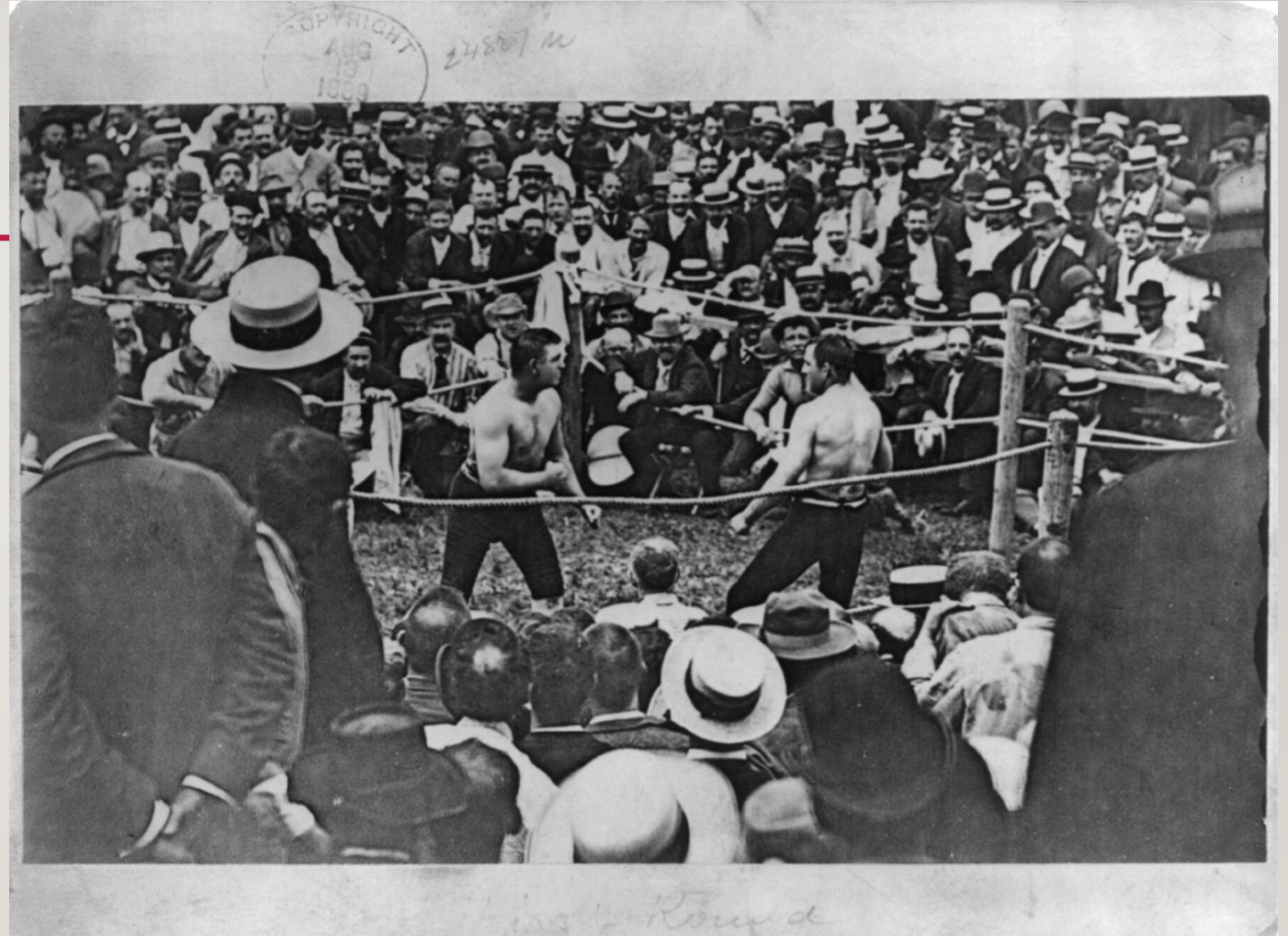


LAST BARE KNUCKLE  
FIGHT IN USA  
RICHBURG, MS

JULY 8, 1889  
JOHN L SULLIVAN V.  
JAKE KILRAIN

SULLIVAN WON IN 75  
ROUNDS

MATCH LASTED 2  
HOURS AND 18  
MINUTES



<https://www.paulbeston.com/blog/sullivan-v-kilrain-july-8-1889-last-bare-knuckle-boxing-match>

# JOHN L SULLIVAN INFORMATION FROM LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

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## Topics in **Chronicling America** - **John L. Sullivan, The Boston Strong Boy**

- *America's first heavyweight hero, John L. Sullivan, is brute force incarnate—his size and power are mythical. The “Boston Strong Boy” elevates bare-knuckle boxing to a mainstream sport and becomes the first great American boxer. He is the last world champion bare-knuckle boxer and the first glove boxing champion. Read more about it!*

# JOHN L SULLIVAN TIMELINE FROM LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

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- February 7, 1882. Sullivan knocks out Paddy Ryan in a bare knuckle match in Mississippi City, MS.
- November 13, 1886. Sullivan and Ryan meet again in the ring. Sullivan wins the gloved match in just three rounds.
- March 16, 1888 Sullivan fights Englishman Charley Mitchell to a draw in Chantilly, France.
- April 24, 1888 Sullivan returns home and announces his willingness to fight any man in the world for “any part of \$10,000.”
- December 1, 1888 Jake Kilrain issues a challenge to Sullivan for a \$5,000 bare-knuckle match. June 1889 Newspapers speculate about the outcome of the Sullivan v. Killrain bout.
- July 8, 1889 A crowd of 3,000 gathers in rural Mississippi to witness John L. Sullivan defeats Jake Kilrain. The fight gained national coverage and Sullivan was crowned champion. Sullivan declares that he will never enter the ring again.
- September 1889 Sullivan announces his intention to run for Congress. September 7, 1892 Sullivan loses his heavyweight title to Jim Corbett. Sullivan immediately retires.
- 1915 Sullivan begins to publicly advocate for temperance and speaks of his own struggles with alcohol.
- February 2, 1918 John L. Sullivan dies. He takes his heavyweight bare-knuckle title to the grave.



# FURTHER READING

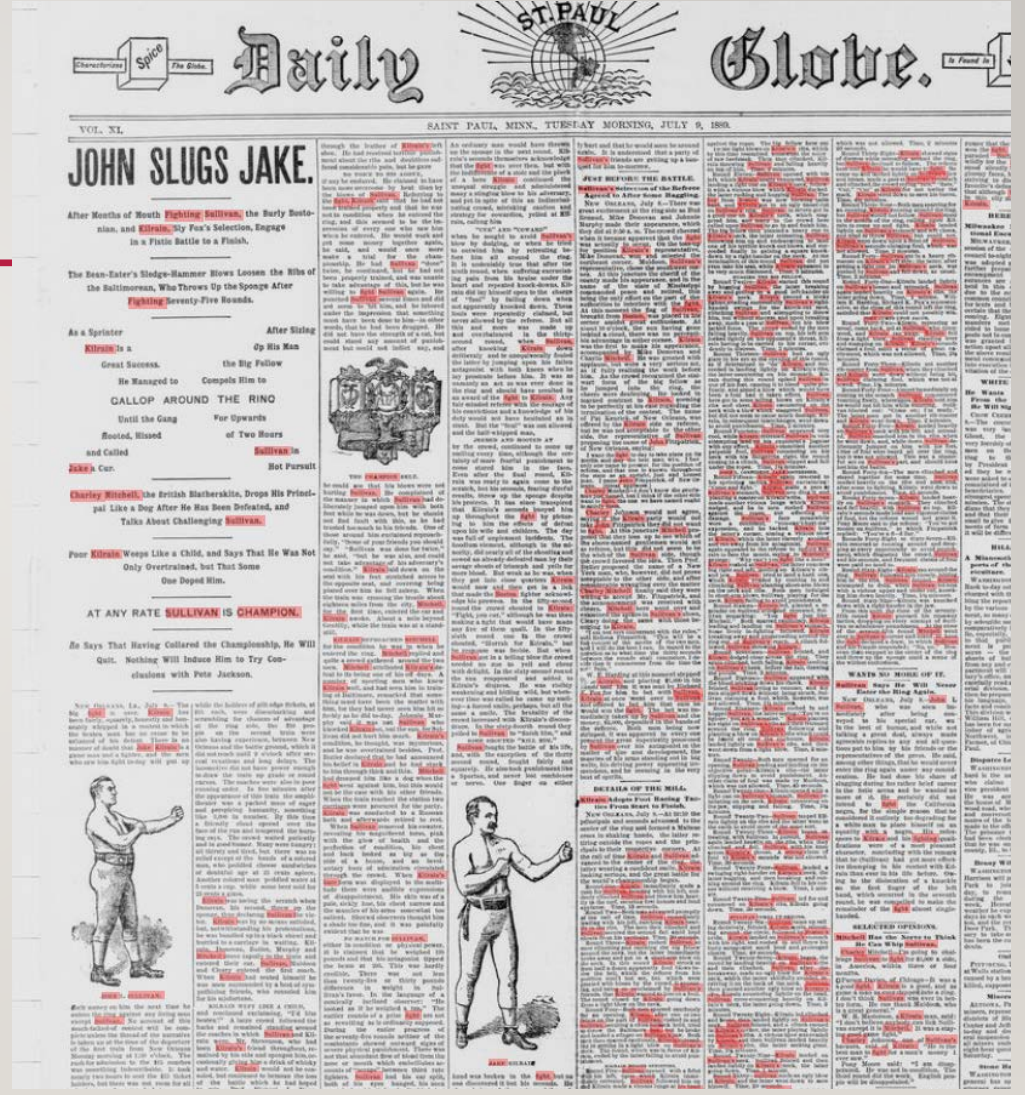
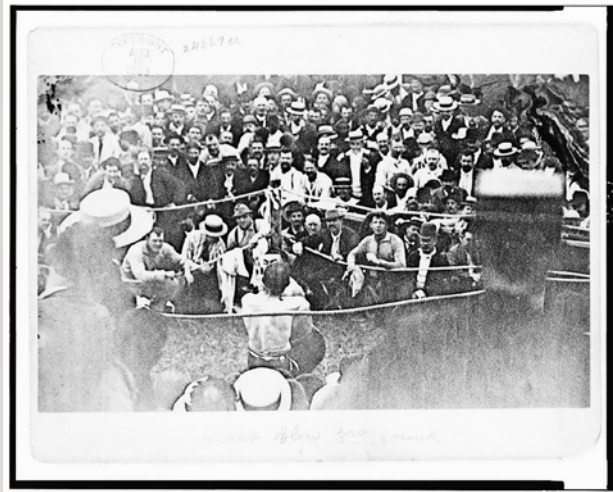
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- <http://www.boxinginsider.com/columns/bare-knuckle-brutality-sullivan-kilrain-fight/>
- [http://blog.syracuse.com/sports/2012/06/end\\_of\\_a\\_boxing\\_era\\_the\\_tale\\_o.html](http://blog.syracuse.com/sports/2012/06/end_of_a_boxing_era_the_tale_o.html)

# LIBRARY OF CONGRESS RESOURCES

## Chronicling America Newspapers

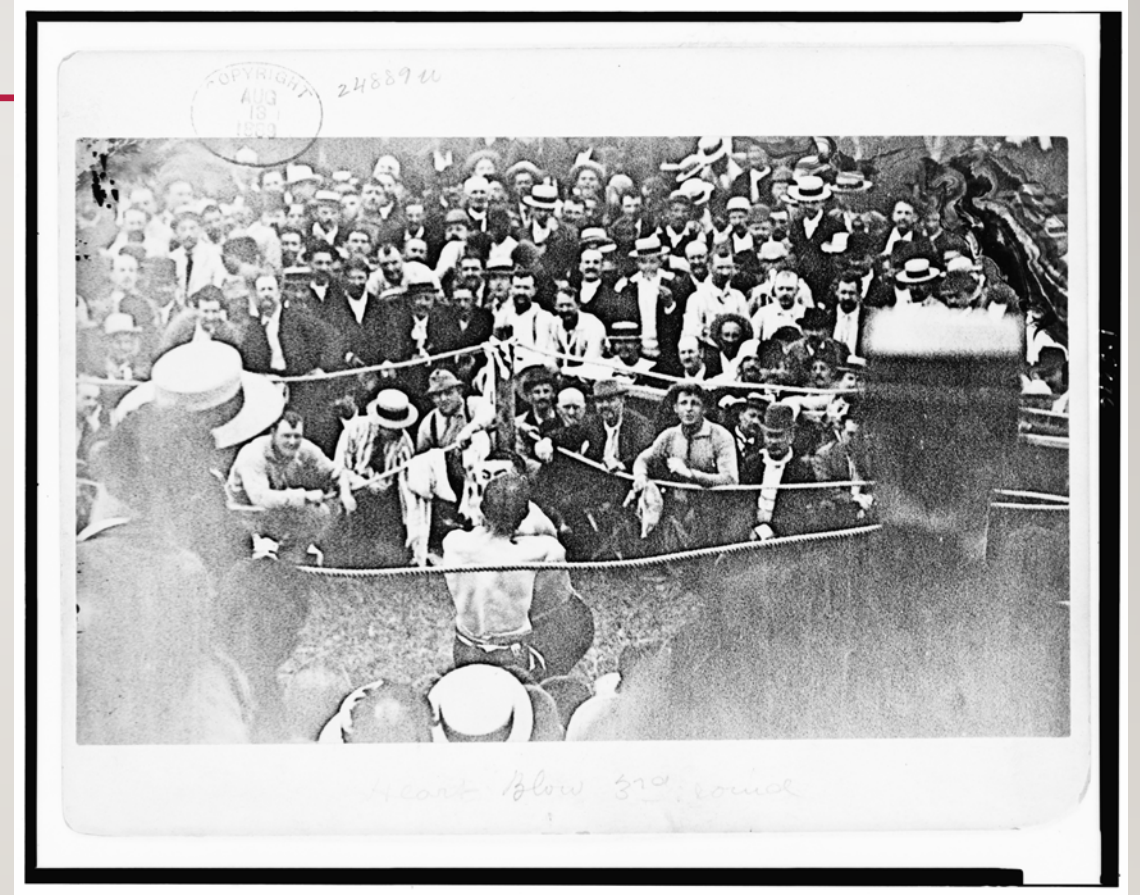
- <https://www.loc.gov/rr/news/topics/jsullivan.html>
- <https://www.loc.gov/item/92513862/>





# EXTENSION ACTIVITY

- PROVIDE WRITTEN ACCOUNT OF FIGHT
- PROVIDE A SET OF PRIMARY SOURCES FROM THE FIGHT
- HAVE THE STUDENTS CREATE A STORY BOARD OF THE FIGHT COMBINING THE TWO
- STUDENTS WRITE CAPTIONS FOR EACH PHOTOGRAPH USING THE WRITTEN ACCOUNTS PROVIDED





# YOUR TURN

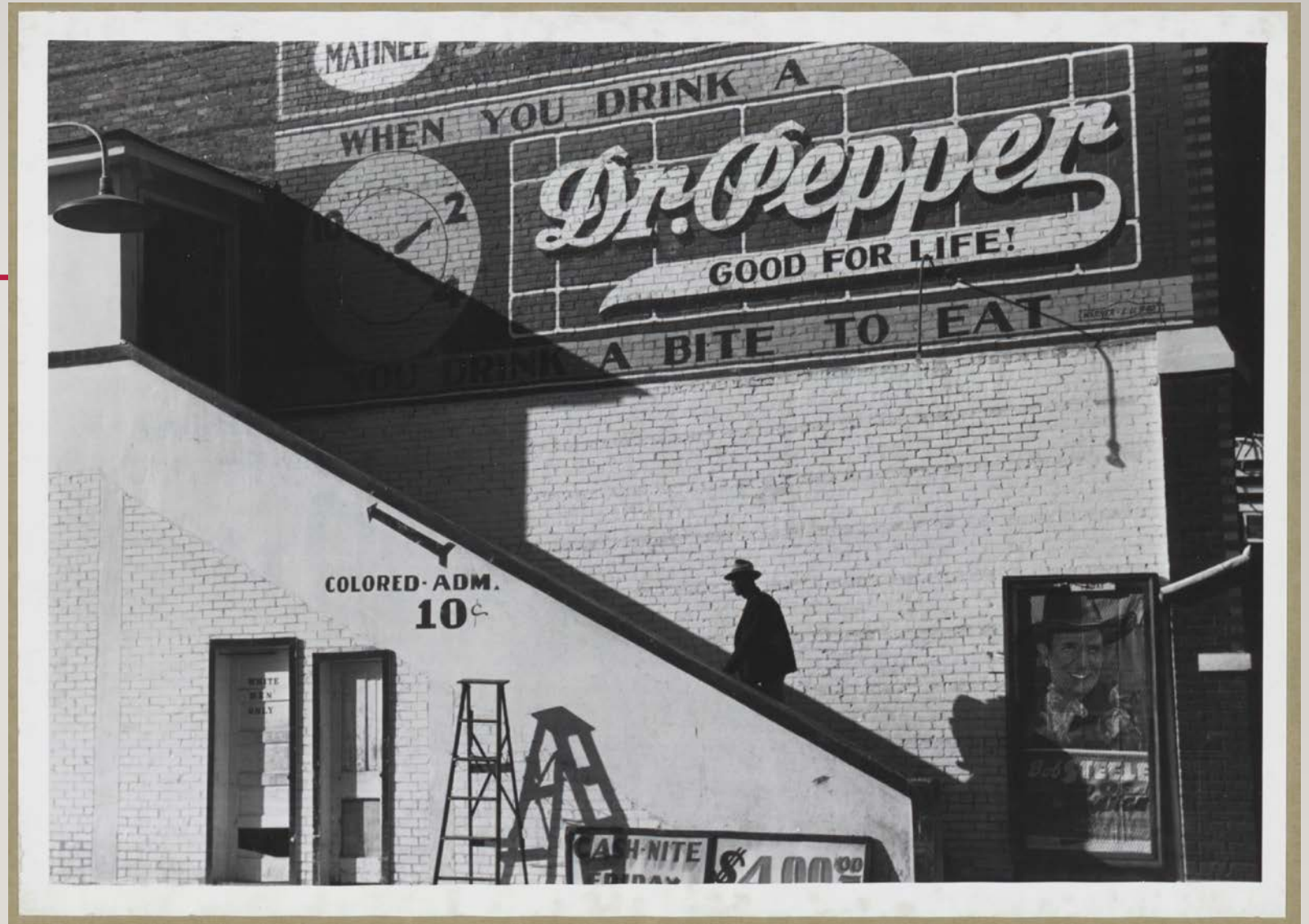
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- Go to <https://www.loc.gov/>
- Think of an interesting topic that you would like to teach using primary sources
- Find a photograph related to that topic to introduce using the Explanation Game
- How would you extend the lesson beyond the initial thinking routine

## STEPS:

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1. Set up
2. Name it
3. Explain it
4. Give reasons
5. Generate alternatives



# CONCLUSION

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- Use primary sources to hook and introduce your students to new topics.
- Be deliberate and use a thinking routine like the Explanation Game (there are many more to choose from).
- Go to TPS-Mississippi <http://www.msstatetps.org/> for more resources on teaching with primary sources.
- Consider participating in a Teaching with Primary Sources-Mississippi professional development either online or F2F.
- Consider becoming a TPS-Mississippi Instructional Coach.
- Apply for a \$20,000 TPS Regional Grant <https://teachingprimarysources.illinoisstate.edu/grant/>



# REFERENCES

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- Ritchhart, R., Church, M., and Morrison, K. (2011). *Making Thinking Visible*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
- [http://www.visiblethinkingpz.org/VisibleThinking\\_html\\_files/03\\_ThinkingRoutines/03a\\_ThinkingRoutines.html](http://www.visiblethinkingpz.org/VisibleThinking_html_files/03_ThinkingRoutines/03a_ThinkingRoutines.html)
- <http://www.msstatetps.org/>
- <https://www.loc.gov/teachers/>